# Town of Greenville Board of Selectmen Minutes – August 29, 2018

Call to order in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 46 Main Street, Greenville at 4:30 p.m. Present: Selectmen Douglas Reardon and Margaret Bickford, and Town Administrator Tara Sousa. In the absence of the Chair, Selectman Reardon conducted the meeting.

## Utility Partners Update - Meet with Dave Brennan and Rob Lauricella

Dave Brennan and Rob Lauricella of Utility Partners provided the Selectmen with updates of ongoing projects and other operational issues. They reported on the ferric pilot and cold weather plans for heated storage and feeding to accommodate a permanent shift to ferric and magnesium hydroxide. Mr. Brennan reported that his department is actively seeking the source of what he believes to be a water leak, as the plant has been unable to top-off tanks in the last two weeks. He discussed communications with Greenville Estates and Pilgrim Foods to eliminate those large users as the source of the increased usage. They have had other tips from residents due to a post on the Town website, and have tested multiple incidences of groundwater for chlorine, but have as of yet been unsuccessful in finding any leaks. Mr. Brennan also reported that, due to the recent wet weather, the lagoon dredging he had planned to contract in the fall will not be able to be done.

### Meet with Heather Schoff and Stephanie Bouley Re: Pumpkinpalooza

Heather Schoff and Stephanie Bouley met with the Selectmen to propose October 13<sup>th</sup> (Rain date 10/14) as the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Pumpkinpalooza. They discussed funds still available in the Arts & Grafts (youth programs) budget, as well as efforts to obtain donations from businesses to support this event. They presented a detailed plan of the field layout, games, and food. Mrs. Schoff discussed efforts to create a small hayride or maze. They intend to continue the theme of the Peanuts "Great Pumpkin" and hope to incorporate a gift to young attendees of donated books in keeping with the literacy component of their summer program. Organization of volunteers is already underway. The Selectmen voiced full support of the plan as presented.

Ms. Schoff expressed her intent to continue the lighting contest started last year through the Greenville NH Historic Community Facebook page, and perhaps host a Christmas event, such a movie or craft, in the meeting room.

#### Old Business:

### Old Home Day

The Selectmen discussed the success of the Old Home Day, and expressed their praise and thanks to the committee that organized the event as well as the volunteers who gave their time to make it possible. Highlights included the well-received food and band, all the games and activities, as well as the visit from our own Mr. and Mrs. Claus. The Selectmen expressed their support for making this an annual event. The Town Administrator relayed that the committee planned to meet to discuss this year's event and consider options for a daytime event without fireworks.

### TGPD Joint Board - Detail Starter Funds

The Town Administrator discussed the minutes Chairman Mary had asked to review at the last meeting. She explained that regardless of any efforts, negotiations, or agreements to return the Detail Revolving Fund seed money to Greenville, the vote of Greenville's Town Meeting which established the fund specified the method of return of those funds, and cannot be changed by the Joint Board. The Town Administrator indicated that this must be addressed at the Joint Board meeting. She agreed to attend the next meeting at the Selectmen's request.

#### **Commercial Water Disconnection**

The Town Administrator relayed that she negotiated weekly payments which will resolve the outstanding commercial water account with a pending order to be disconnected, noting that the Town is in receipt of the first 2 of 5 payments.

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to temporarily suspend the previously signed commercial water disconnection order pending payment in full as negotiated. Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

### **Meeting Room Flooring**

The Town Administrator reported that the Highway Department staff had taken up a portion of the basement floor and determined that there is concrete under a 2x4 and plywood subfloor. She recommended that the subfloor be removed to determine the extent of the moisture issue. Per the contractor, the original flooring quote would be increased by \$25/hour for a few additional hours for the subfloor removal. The Selectmen agreed that they wanted to proceed with the subfloor removal.

#### **New Business:**

### Copy Fees for 91-a Requests

The Town Administrator reported that in conjunction with a recent Right-to-know request under RSA 91-a, she determined that the single copy price of \$1.00, as approved by the Selectmen in 2010, resulted in an unreasonable amount that was not in keeping with the intent of the law. She explained that 91-a specifies that only actual cost may be charged for copies related to such a request, yet the statute is silent on how actual cost is to be calculated. She had calculated the actual cost to provide copies is \$0.18 per page. Selectman Reardon expressed that the Town Administrator could bring a revised price list for the Board, and that his only concern was that the Town recoup its cost.

#### Letter Regarding Condition of Batchelder/Richardson Road

The Selectmen reviewed a letter from a Peterborough resident regarding the poor condition of Richardson Road. Selectwoman Bickford concurred with the description of the condition, noting that she travels the road regularly. The Selectmen reached consensus to direct the Road Agent to perform work to improve the condition of the road, and to bring a plan for their approval if any substantial investment was required.

The Town Administrator noted that the large pile of veteran's credits to be signed were the result of Kelly Fitzwater's hard work to ensure our files are in good order ahead of a Department of Revenue audit later this year (which will be conducted in conjunction with the full revaluation). She found that decades old credits (which were still valid) did not have a place on the old form for the Selectmen to sign

at that time. She has been re-verifying credits and curing any defects in paperwork to ensure a positive review of our procedures and recordkeeping.

### **NHMA Legislative Policy Conference**

The Selectmen reviewed the NHMA's Legislative Policy Conference agenda. Selectwoman Bickford expressed interest in attending as the Town's voting delegate.

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to appoint Selectwoman Bickford as the voting delegate to the 2018 NHMA Legislative Policy Conference.

Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

### **ZBA** Resignation

The Selectmen reviewed a letter from David Orgaz, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, offering his resignation from the ZBA effective December 31, 2018, due to his anticipated move out of town next spring. The Town Administrator noted that the ZBA is currently short one member.

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to accept with regret David Orgaz's resignation from the Zoning Board effective December 31, 2018.

Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

The Selectmen directed The Town Administrator to post a request for volunteers to serve on the Zoning Board.

### **Bid Opening for Dump Body**

The Selectmen opened and reviewed one bid received for the Ford dump body.

Motion by Selectwoman Bickford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Reardon, to accept David Lord's bid of \$250.00 for the dump body.

Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

# Non-Public: Tax Deed Payment Agreement

The Selectmen tabled discussion of a tax deed payment agreement pending information from the Town attorney.

#### Miscellaneous

Thomas Barrett, of 34 Old Ashby Road, voiced concern about the speed limit on Route 31. Selectman Reardon noted that the speed limit is controlled by the State.

(Recess)

### Public Hearing - Water and Sewer Rates

Selectman Reardon opened the public hearing for water and sewer rates at 6:00 p.m. by reading the public notice. He opened discussion on the Greenville Estates (GEVD) sewer rate, indicating the rate per the contract formula would be set at \$9.33. Rose Thibault, of 84 Temple Road, asked why the rate for GEVD does not match the Town rate. Selectman Reardon discussed the long-term contract entered into by a former Selectboard. He explained that the current Board sought negotiations, which yielded some changes to the contract roughly 2 years ago. The contract remains in effect until 2046. Marshall Buttrick, of 240 Adams Hill Road, asked if Pilgrim Foods was still connected to the wastewater plant. The Town

Administrator responded that they are only connected for domestic uses, and their billing is based on a settlement agreement that charges a fixed amount per employee. Mr. Buttrick asked about the status of the wastewater plant's permit compliance. The Town Administrator answered that the Town is currently under an administrative order from EPA/DES, but has achieved some success meeting or getting closer to permit limits by piloting different chemicals. There were no other questions regarding the proposed GEVD rate.

Selectman Reardon discussed the Board's proposal to increase the Town rate by \$1.00, to \$20.00/1,000 gallons. He indicated that the incremental increases have allowed the sewer department to cover its expenses without being subsidized by the general fund. Referencing the handout which showed calculations of the Town's current position, Selectmen Reardon expressed that the proposed increase, along with staying under budget, should allow sewer to operate in the black. Mr. Buttrick expressed support for the Selectmen's decision to increase the rate, as non-users of the system have been subsidizing sewer operations through the general fund for many years. Mr. Barrett, Chairman of GEVD, asked about the term of the contract with Utility Partners. The Town Administrator was unsure of the exact end date, but believed the Town was a couple years into a renewed 5-year contract. Ms. Thibault asked how bills were calculated for Greenville Falls, and if minimum usages applied to the individual units in those buildings. The Town Administrator answered that the buildings each have a water meter, and that the minimum charge is not assessed based on the number of units. Ms. Thibault also questioned the current payment in lieu of taxes arrangement for that facility, as there were now children living there and attending our local schools at a substantial cost. As the question was unrelated to water and sewer, there was no comment. There were no further questions regarding the proposed Town sewer rate.

Selectman Reardon indicated that the Town water rate will remain unchanged, at \$6.50/1,000 gallons. Mr. Buttrick questioned the water fund deficit reported in the 2017 Town report. The Town Administrator responded that the deficit was due to uncollected revenues. Mr. Buttrick questioned if the level of uncollected charges is normally as large as in 2017. The Town Administrator answered that the amount is not the norm, and she does not anticipate a similar deficit in 2018. It was asked if the Town disconnects water for non-payment. Mr. Barrett noted that it has been effective for collections in Greenville Estates. Selectman Reardon answered that the Town can and will disconnect if necessary. Hearing no further questions, the Selectmen closed the public hearing at 6:18 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to increase the GEVD sewer rate to \$9.33/1,000 gallons.

Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

GEVD's Administrator Laura Luoma asked when the rate change would be effective, and the Town Administrator answered that it would be in effect for the upcoming billing.

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to increase the Town sewer to \$20.00/1,000 gallons.

Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

#### Signature Folder

The Selectmen:

- Reviewed, discussed, and approved the minutes of the August 8, 2018 meeting.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved check manifests for accounts payable and payroll.

- Reviewed, discussed, and approved a purchase order: Highway Frost Farm.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved Veterans' Credits (Previously Approved).
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved an Intent to Cut: Taft (Supplemental).

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

Submitted by: Tara Sousa/Town Administrator

Approved by:

Carla C. Mary/Chairperson

Douglas A. Reardon/Selectman

Margaret Bickford/Selectwoman