

**Town of Greenville  
Board of Selectmen  
Minutes – January 8, 2020**

Call to order at the SAU 87 Mascenic Education Center, 16 School Street, Greenville at 3:30 p.m. Present: Chairperson Carla Mary, Selectmen Douglas Reardon and Margaret Bickford, and Town Administrator Tara Sousa.

**Old Business:**

**Basement Restoration**

The Town Administrator brought paint swatches for a decision on the color(s) for the meeting room. Chairperson Mary suggested that the meeting be recessed at the end of the agenda so that the members could travel to Town Hall and view the completed floor for color-coordinating purposes. There were no objections.

**Water Plant Filter Rehab**

The Selectmen briefly discussed their visit to the Water Treatment Plant to view the filter media replacement project. Chairperson Mary reported that the plant was much improved from the conditions that very observed roughly a year ago.

**CCS Server Lease**

The Town Administrator reported that although she had been given authority at the previous meeting to sign the one-year contract with Certified Computer Solutions, which included the annual cost for the 5-year server lease, the Equipment Lease Agreement had only just been provided. She explained that the proposed lease agreement does not include a buy-out provision at the end of the 5-year term, and she wanted confirmation that the Selectmen very satisfied with those terms. Chairperson Mary reiterated a previous Board discussion regarding their preference that the Town not own the server, in the event the hardware fails, and noting that it will be obsolete in 5 years.

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Reardon, to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Certified Computer Solutions Equipment Lease Agreement.**

**Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.**

**Sewer Abatement – Hill**

The Town Administrator presented calculations which recommended an abatement of \$88.70 for 2019 sewer. She explained that the customer's history included a previous usage anomaly, the value for which she had not included in the calculation of the average.

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to abate \$88.70 of 2019 sewer for Map 6 Lot 88 (Hill)**

**Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.**

**Town Hall Water Heater**

The Selectmen reviewed a revised bid from Wild Dogs Plumbing & Heating for the replacement of the Town Hall water heater. The revision included a specific brand of water heater, as recommended by Selectman Reardon at a previous meeting.

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Reardon, to accept the quote of \$1,200 by Wild Dogs Plumbing and Heating for replacement of the Town Hall water heater.**

**Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.**

**New Business:**

**Letter from Edward White Re: Retirement from the Fire Department**

The Selectmen reviewed a letter from Ed White indicating his intent to retire from the Fire Department effective December 31, 2019, with clarification that he was not resigning his elected position as Fire Ward, nor his appointed position as Deputy Fire Warden.

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to accept the retirement of Edward White from the Greenville Fire Department.**

**Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.**

The Town Administrator reported that the Fire Chief is investigating options for covering the fire inspection duties that will need to be reassigned, including communicating with the Code Enforcement Officer as a potential solution for coverage of some duties.

**2020 Warrant Decisions & Meeting Schedule**

The Selectmen reviewed the Town Administrator's recommendations for the 2020 warrant articles for transfers or additions to the Town's capital reserve accounts and expendable trust funds. Her recommendations included transfers from year-end water and sewer fund balances of \$20,000 and \$30,000 respectively. Chairperson Mary questioned if 20K was the most that was available to transfer from water, and the Town Administrator indicated that, at this time, that amount is the maximum amount of cash that will be available for transfer. The Town Administrator recommended an increase of 10k to be added to the green bridge fund, for a total of 20K, and redistribution of the amounts to be added to the expendable trusts. She discussed the Police Cruiser fund having Greenville's portion of the next cruiser fully funded, and near funded for the following purchase. Chairperson Mary expressed support for the recommendations, so long as any additional amounts over the prior year be funded with unassigned fund balance. The rest of the Board concurred.

The warrant article for the Fire Department SCBAs was discussed in conjunction with the potential need for additional funding for the water sludge removal. The Town Administrator recommended allocating the approximate 39K of 2020 State Aid to the SCBA purchase, with the remainder being funded with unassigned fund balance, and an additional article to appropriate additional fund balance, if needed, for the water sludge removal. Chairperson Mary advocated for fully funding the SCBAs with unassigned fund balance, and allocating the State Aid for the water sludge. The Town Administrator expressed that she would need to confirm that the State Aid could be used against the tax rate, or that it would drop into fund balance, if it was not needed due to a reduction in the project cost through the retesting of the sludge. She expressed that either arrangement of warrant article would have the same effect on the tax rate. The Selectmen agreed to proceed as recommended by the Chair.

**Abatement for Fire Damage: Map 1 Lot 70-46**

The Selectmen reviewed a recommendation by Evan Roberge of Avitar to approve an abatement for fire damage at 46 Old Ashby Road.

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to accept the recommendation of Avitar and abate \$600 of 2019 property taxes for fire damage loss of use.**

**Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.**

#### **Business Listing Project & Website Work for Economic Development**

The Town Administrator discussed an idea to create a pamphlet of Greenville businesses, which had come out of discussions at the business roundtables hosted by the Citizens for Greenville's Economic Development. The pamphlet would also become part of an eventual website page geared toward economic development. She requested authorization for her office to work on this community-inspired project. There were no objections.

#### **Wilton Budget Committee Meeting Re: Recycling Center**

The Town Administrator informed the Board about the upcoming Wilton Budget Committee meeting, January 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., where the Recycling Center's budget would be reviewed. She expressed her intent to attend. Selectwoman Bickford expressed that she would try to attend.

#### **Warrant Decisions (Continued)**

The Selectmen discussed what amount to put forward for the optional service-connected total disability credit. The Town Administrator relayed that the maximum credit now allowed was \$3,000. Chairperson Mary questioned the current number of residents receiving the credit, and the Town Administrator answered she believed there were 5 or 6. Selectman Reardon expressed support for the maximum credit, in recognition of their sacrifice. The Selectmen agreed to put forward a warrant to increase the credit to \$3,000.

The Selectmen discussed creating a warrant article for some type of exemption for solar panels. The Town Administrator discussed the range of current assessments for solar panels in town, and the option for a warrant article. Selectman Reardon expressed his objection to any exemption, feeling that installing solar panels is a choice which increases the value of your home. Chairperson Mary expressed that exempting solar panels is a philosophical effort to encourage solar for environmental purposes. The Selectmen agreed not to pursue a warrant for a solar exemption this year.

#### **Non-public Pursuant to 91-a:3,II (a & c)**

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to enter non-public session at 4:17 p.m. pursuant to 91-a:3,II (a & c).**

**Motion carried by roll call vote: C. Mary, yes; D. Reardon, yes; M. Bickford, yes.**

(sealed non-public)

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to re-enter public session at 4:25 p.m., and to seal for 99 years.**

**Motion carried by roll call vote: C. Mary, yes; D. Reardon, yes; M. Bickford, yes.**

No action was taken in non-public session.

### **Miscellaneous**

The Town Administrator asked if the Selectmen supported seeking a temporary seasonal employee to clear snow from sidewalks after snowstorms. She noted that clearing hydrants presents another manpower issue. Chairperson Mary questioned if property owners adjacent to fire hydrants can be required to clear hydrants. The Town Administrator expressed that the Town could encourage such, but that the liability for an inaccessible hydrant would be the Town's. The Selectmen discussed the amount of snowfall that should trigger calling in this additional worker, and agreed that 6 inches or more was an appropriate threshold.

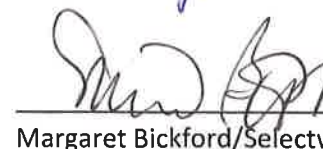
The Town Administrator notified the Board that the budget public hearing would be February 12, 2020, with a snow date of February 13<sup>th</sup>. She noted that she may need to ask the Selectmen to call a meeting February 5<sup>th</sup> to finalize the budget and the warrant.

Chairperson Mary announced a recess at 4:34 p.m., and the meeting was reconvened in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 4:40 p.m. Selectman Reardon did not attend the reconvened session. The Selectmen present discussed the variable surface, and that it did not meet their expectations for a smooth walking surface for a public space. They directed the Town Administrator to contact the contractor to come back to further fill the low spots. Paint colors were considered and chosen.

**Chairperson Mary adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.**

**Submitted by:** Tara Sousa/Town Administrator

**Approved by:**

  
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Carla C. Mary/Chairperson  
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Douglas A. Reardon/Selectman  
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Margaret Bickford/Selectwoman