

**Town of Greenville  
Board of Selectmen  
Minutes – February 12, 2020**

Call to order at the SAU 87 Mascenic Education Center, 16 School Street, Greenville at 5:30 p.m. Present: Chairperson Carla Mary, Selectmen Douglas Reardon and Margaret Bickford, and Town Administrator Tara Sousa.

**Meet with Rob Lauricella Re: Utility Partners Monthly Report**

Rob Lauricella, of Utility Partners, provided the Selectmen with the January 2020 operations report. He noted that there has been no communication from DES or EPA regarding the river study data or an alteration in the NPDES permit copper limit. Mr. Lauricella discussed the success of the project to change the media in the first of two filters, but noted there was a substantial amount of overtime, approximately 80 hours, due to the Utility Partners staff's work alongside the contractors (as planned, as a cost saving measure) and the manual backwashing needed to clean the new media. He explained that Utility Partners was going to absorb that additional cost, but wanted to provide notice that the Town may be responsible if similar overtime becomes necessary for the 2<sup>nd</sup> filter. Chairperson Mary suggested that the 2<sup>nd</sup> filter could remain offline for the weekend after it is rehabbed to reduce the overtime hours. Mr. Lauricella discussed the urgency with which the first filter needed to be put back in service, and a desire to get full fire protection back as quickly as possible, but agreed that the same urgency would not exist for the 2<sup>nd</sup> filter, as the Town would be running on the fully rehabbed filter during this time. He agreed to discuss measures to limit the overtime with the staff. Selectman Reardon questioned the rest of the Board if Mr. Lauricella would need to get approval, i.e. request a meeting of the Board, should substantial overtime become necessary. Chairperson Mary did not anticipate the need would arise, and Mr. Lauricella agreed that barring unforeseen complications, the overtime would be kept to a minimum.

Mr. Lauricella discussed a water break that had been identified and repaired at a commercial property downtown, and that there was a concurrent increase in sewer flow presumed to be tied to the same event. The Town Administrator confirmed that the water was metered, and would therefore the owner would be charged for both water and sewer. Chairperson Mary discussed the possible improper connection of a sump pump at that location, and asked Mr. Lauricella to have the staff make an appointment to inspect the sewer connections. The Town Administrator brought up a conflict Mr. Lauricella had for the date of Town Meeting, questioning if his presence would be necessary. Chairperson Mary asked Mr. Lauricella if he would be staying for tonight's Public Hearing, and he answered that he would. The Board agreed that his attendance at Town Meeting would not be necessary.

**Tax Impact/Public Hearing Handouts**

The Selectmen reviewed the Public Hearing handouts, including the Tax Impact Statement. The Town Administrator noted that she had added the audited 2018 unassigned fund balance, at Chairperson Mary's request, as that has been a common question at previous Budget Hearings and Town Meetings. Selectwoman Bickford complimented the Town Administrator's work on the handout.

### **Selectmen's Report (2019 Town Report)**

The Selectmen reviewed a draft of the Selectmen's report for the 2019 Town Report. There were no additions or revisions.

### **Upcoming Public Hearings**

The Town Administrator reminded the Board that an additional Public Hearing was required for the Dog Ordinance warrant article, as well as a corrective Public hearing for the acceptance of the insurance proceeds for the basement water damage. She discussed the need to increase the water rate this year, based on the increased budget and need to rebuild the Water Expendable Trust, and recommended that the Selectmen hold concurrent public hearings at their next meeting, February 26<sup>th</sup>. She explained that holding the hearing this early in the year, as opposed to the summer, would allow for notice to large water users 6 months before the first bills at the new rate would be received. It was noted that the water rate has not increased in over 10 years. The Selectmen briefly discussed recommending an increase of \$1.00 per thousand gallons.

### **Mill Street Mailbox Request**

The Town Administrator discussed a request by the gentleman who is under contract to purchase 32 Mill St., that he be allowed to have a mailbox at the property. According the prospective buyer, the Post Office told him he would need permission from the Town to erect a mailbox. The Town Administrator relayed that she had spoken with the Road Agent who, pending proper placement, did not have any objections to a mailbox being placed at the property. She noted that she was unsure if State DOT approval was also needed, due to the split responsibility for Mill Street, but that the gentleman could seek that approval if the Town had no objections.

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to allow a mailbox to be placed at 32 Mill Street.**

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

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

**Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to enter non-public session at 6:07 p.m. pursuant to RSA 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 6:29 p.m., and to seal the minutes for 99 years (pursuant to 91-a:3,III - matter of reputation).**

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

The Chair announced that no action was taken in non-public session.

### **Miscellaneous**

The Selectmen reviewed an email from Heather Schoff requesting approval for a date to host a 2<sup>nd</sup> annual egg hunt. She proposed April 5<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>, in order to avoid other local events already scheduled.

Chairperson Mary expressed her preference for April 11<sup>th</sup>. The Selectmen expressed their approval for the event to be held.

The Selectmen recessed at 6:33, and returned from recess at 6:51 p.m.

#### **Wilton Recycling Proposed Hours Change – Feedback Requested**

Selectman Reardon read a letter submitted via email to the Selectmen by the Wilton Recycling Center Manager Carol Burgess, which detailed changes in hours she is recommending, in order to give employees of the facility 2 consecutive days off. The proposed changes would have the center closed on Sundays, but would extend hours two evenings weekly. Other small shifts to opening and closing times were also included in the recommendations. He asked the residents present if they utilize the Recycling Center, and for their feedback on the proposed changes.

James Lambert noted that he had used the Recycling Center for many years, but recently change to have pick-up by a service. Pedro Sousa commented that he uses the center regularly, and expressed that the increased evening hours seemed a fair trade-off for the loss of Sundays. The Town Administrator discussed the wording of the current 5-Town agreement, which specifies hours will be available on Sundays, and explained that a revision would need to be adopted by each of the towns. Chairperson Mary questioned when the feedback was needed by, suggesting that Town Meeting would present an opportunity for additional residents to weigh in on the proposed changes.

#### **Signature Folder**

##### **The Selectmen:**

- Reviewed, discussed, and approved the minutes of the February 5, 2020 meeting.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved check manifests for accounts payable and payroll.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved an Eversource Pole License.

#### **7:00 p.m. – Public Hearing on the 2020 Budget and Warrant Articles**

Chairperson Mary opened the public Hearing at 7:00 p.m., indicating the available handouts, and requesting people present sign in on the attendance sheet. Selectwoman Bickford and Selectman Reardon presented Article 3, reading the proposed budget amounts for the individual departments and purposes as list in Parts A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H. There were no questions. Chairperson Mary presented the warrant articles.

In response to a question about the purpose of Article 11, Police Chief James McTague explained that the Police Department's enforcement actions against dog owners, whose dogs are loose or bite someone for example, were limited by the current ordinance, in that the maximum fine is \$10. He explained that adopting the State's Dog Control Ordinance would allow for progressive fines. The Town Administrator noted that although the Town's current dog Control Ordinance was based on the same RSA, is specified what was perhaps the law's language at the time, versus the proposal, which would change as the law changed. James Lambert, Town Moderator, asked why a ballot vote was indicated, and the Town Administrator answered that it is required by statute

Regarding Article 15, Ed White questioned why the Town would again spend money to study making the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Town Hall accessible, when substantial money had been spent in the past and nothing ever moved forward. Chairperson Mary explained that the Town Administrator had been looking at grant

funding possibilities which might provide as much as a million dollars or more for the actual construction, but that this preliminary work would be necessary. The Town Administrator explained that the \$5,000 of Town funds would be used as matching funds for planning grants. James Lambert expressed support for the Town pursuing the reopening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Town Hall.

Regarding Article 18, Ed White questioned the need for a warrant article allocating the insurance funds received after the basement suffered water damage in 2019. The Town Administrator explained that this article was presented to correct a defect in the acceptance of the funds in 2019, which were not able to be fully expended in the year that the loss occurred. She explained that the Town should have had a Public Hearing regarding the funds received, so that they would not drop into fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. Helen Burke questioned what would happen if voters voted down the article, and the Town Administrator answered that the Town would not be able to complete the repairs. Mr. White questioned if that would be insurance fraud, if the Town did not spend the money to repair the damages. The Town Administrator answered that it would not, as it would be akin to receiving insurance for a car accident, and opting not to fix the car involved.

Regarding Article 20, Mr. Lambert noted that there was no Selectmen's recommendation, and Chairperson Mary answered that a recommendation was not required, and that the Selectmen opted not to make a recommendation on this petitioned article.

Chairperson Mary referred attendees to the estimated tax impact document, which estimated the tax increase to be \$0.28. There were no questions. Mr. Lambert complimented the job that was done to pave Temple Street last year. Road Agent Tom Plourde stated that the State DOT did that project. Mr. Lambert complimented the Board on their efforts to limit the budget increases and tax impact. Chairperson Mary announced the closure of the Public Hearing at 7:35 p.m.


**Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.  
Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.**

**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