

**Town of Greenville
Board of Selectmen
Minutes – May 12, 2021**

Call to order in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 46 Main Street, Greenville at 3:30 p.m. Present: Chairperson Carla Mary (participating remotely via conference call), Selectmen Douglas Reardon and Margaret Bickford, and Town Administrator Tara Sousa.

Old Business

Sewer Abatement Request; 36 River St

The Selectmen reviewed pictures of the plumbing repair submitted by the owner of 36 River St. at their request, as well as the receipt for the replacement spigot.

Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2nd by Selectwoman Bickford, to abate 2,000 cu ft of sewer on the 2021 1st issue billing for Map 5 Lot 26 (36 River St.).

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

New Business

School Board Letter of Interest

The Selectmen reviewed 1 Letter of Interest for the School Board vacancy, received from Kenneth Mayne, as well as multiple letters from residents and non-residents supporting his appointment.

Motion by Chairperson Mary to appoint Kenneth Mayne to serve as Greenville's School Board Representative until the next election.

Selectmen Reardon expressed that he was not comfortable appointing someone he had not met to this important position, and that he would want to have Mr. Mayne come in to meet with the Board.

Selectwoman Bickford stated that she was willing to appoint Mr. Mayne "on the strength of the recommendations."

Selectwoman Bickford seconded Chairperson Mary's motion.

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

The Board discussed and agreed that they would like to meet with Mr. Mayne and directed the Town Administrator to invite him to their next meeting.

Plumbing Repair Invoice: 8 Dunster Ave

The Selectmen reviewed an invoice for a plumbing repair to clear blocked water service lines submitted by the owner of 8 Dunster Ave. The Town Administrator relayed the history of complaints regarding brown water at that location, and her efforts to mitigate by notifying the owner any time there is advanced notice of an event which might cause this issue, such as flushing or a water plant shut-down. Selectwoman Bickford, whose home is in the same area, relayed her experience with occasional brown water but not debris, which was resolved with the installation of a whole-house filter. Chairperson Mary discussed the existence of a screen at the meter which should be catching debris of a certain size and larger. She discussed a possible resolution, if warranted, as being the one-time installation of a whole-house filter, which the owner would then become responsible for filters, maintenance, etc. The Selectmen felt they needed additional information before acting on the request. The Town Administrator will contact the property owner for additional invoices incurred and Brian Golec of H2O Innovations for additional information. The Board agreed to table the matter.

Health Insurance Policy Revisions

The Town Administrator reported that she was working on revising the health insurance section of the personnel policy and asked for feed back from the Board regarding the addition of an insurance opt-out as a cost-saving measure. She explained that currently every benefits-eligible employee is enrolled in some level of health insurance coverage, so there is no risk of increased cost by offering such an option. She explained that many towns have been able to achieve substantial savings by offering a generous opt-out, such as a set dollar figure or a percentage of avoided cost of a single plan. Selectwoman Bickford expressed that she did not want employees to forgo coverage, and the Town Administrator explained that proof of alternate coverage would be a condition of receiving the opt-out benefit. She gave the example that a \$5,000 opt-out would net the Town roughly \$7,000 in savings for single coverage, and more for 2-person or family plan. She explained that due to FLSA rules regarding calculating the regular rate for overtime, such an opt-out would increase the overtime rate for those who receive the benefit, but that cost did not outweigh the financial benefit to the Town. Chairperson Mary expressed that she supported adding an opt-out to the policy for the Board's consideration. There were no objections.

Schedule Public Hearing for Hazard Mitigation Plan Acceptance

The Town Administrator explained the requirement to hold a public hearing for acceptance of Hazard Mitigation Plan update, which is required under FEMA every five years. She proposed a 7:00 p.m. hearing on either May 26th or June 9th, with the business meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m., pending assessment of the needed time for the business meeting agenda. The Selectmen selected May 26, 2021. The Town Administrator noted that she had forwarded the full plan document to Selectwoman Bickford at her request, and would send to the other Board members for their review.

Miscellaneous

The Town Administrator reported that the Town would receive approximately \$210,000 through the American Rescue Plan, with the funding objectives, and therefore allowed uses being Covid response efforts, revenue replacement, immediate economic stabilization of households/businesses, and systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the inequal impact of the pandemic, and that as a non-entitlement unit of government, the funds would come through the State. She expected to have more information by the next or following meeting.

Selectwoman Bickford asked the Town Administrator how many hours she and her husband had spent on the basement renovation, and the Town Administrator answered 100+. Chairperson Mary asked what the cost of the vinyl floor had been when it was done before the flood incident. The Town Administrator believed it was roughly \$3,500. The Selectmen discussed compensating Mr. & Mrs. Sousa some amount below that in acknowledgement of the time invested and costs saved by the Town. The Town Administrator responded that they could not accept any compensation, due to the real or perceived conflicts of interest. Chairperson Mary offered 1 week of comp time, and the rest of the Board expressed support for such. The Town Administrator asked to have time to consider if she could accept before the Board acted on that suggestion.

Selectwoman Bickford asked if the Town had any received any preliminary census numbers, as they were needed for the Joint Police Board's contract discussions. The Town Administrator reported the Town had not received anything, and she was unaware of any publicly accessible data down to the individual Town level, but that it was her understanding that numbers are supposed to be formalized by September.

Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2nd by Selectman Reardon, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2021 meeting.

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

Signature Folder

The Selectmen:

- Reviewed, discussed, and approved the minutes of the April 28, 2021 meeting.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved check manifests for accounts payable and payroll.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved Purchase Orders: GGB, Fire Dept.
- Review, discuss, and approve a Pay Rate/Appointment: D. Madden.

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2nd by Selectwoman Bickford, to adjourn the meeting at 4:04 p.m.

Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.

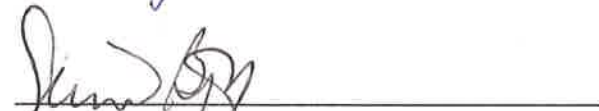
Submitted by: Tara Sousa/Town Administrator

Approved by:

Carla C. Mary/Chairperson



Douglas A. Reardon/Selectman



Margaret Bickford/Selectwoman