

**Greene Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
January 26, 2004**

Minutes will not become official until accepted at the next Regular Selectmen's Meeting January 26, 2004.

Members present: Ronald Grant – Chairman, Timothy Doyle (arrived 7:11 PM), Kevin Mower, Maurice Levasseur, Mark Christman (arrived 6:49PM), Stephen Eldridge – Town Manager (arrived 8:15 PM), and Sally Ann Hebert – Recording Secretary.

Members absent: None.

Others present: George Courbron, Robert Valentine, Rebecca Laliberte, George Schott, Paul Chabot.

Planning Board & Board of Selectmen Joint Meeting

Ron Grant, Board of Selectmen, Chairman, called this joint meeting to order at 6:30 PM. This meeting is done annually for the Boards to communicate to each other.

Robert Valentine, George Courbron, George Schott and Rebecca Laliberte were in attendance from Planning Board.

This was a productive meeting with feedback from both Boards. Among the many items discussed were:

Communication between the Planning Board and Land Use Ordinance Review Committee

Communication between the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen

Timing of posting Planning Board Agenda

Use of Common sense when working with the Ordinances

Planning Board procedure has changed by adopting procedures for filing applications

Have one member of Planning Board on Land Use Ordinance Review Committee

The Planning Board praised Bruce Tufts, Code Enforcement Officer on the work he is doing.

I. Call to Order

Ron Grant called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Ron explained that the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board met jointly before tonight Board of Selectmen's meeting.

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II. Public Discussion

There was none discussed at this meeting.

III. Acceptance of Minutes – January 12, 2004

Timothy Doyle motioned to waive the reading of the minutes, to approve the acceptance of the minutes of the January 12th meeting upon signature of Chairman, Ronald Grant. Kevin Mower 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

IV. Unfinished Business

a. **Treasurer's Report**

Ronald Grant reported the balance as of January 26th is \$676,173.55.

Steve Eldridge, Town Manager is attending a meeting in Lewiston tonight.

b. **Roads**

Kevin Mower reported that he contacted MDOT regarding the ledges on Sawyer Road and they took care of the ice buildup.

c. **Annual Report Dedication**

Ron Grant reported that Steve is working on this.

d. **Meeting with the Governor/Feb 4th**

The Board will discuss next week on what they would like to discuss with the Governor. Maurice Levasseur, Ronald Grant, Stephen Eldridge, and Chris Trenholm from MSAD 52 will be attending. Jane Wheeler from Leeds sent her concerns to Steve.

e. **Other**

There was none discussed at this meeting.

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V. New Business

a. Revisit Budget

Ron Grant attended the budget meeting for Tim Doyle and made notes for Tim.

The Budget Committee has the following concerns:

Planning Board employee collecting unemployment should be coming out of Planning Board expense not Unemployment
Drop tax discount from 5% to 2% and to appropriate \$60,000 instead of \$143,000

Tax Payments be due semi-annually instead of annually to improve the cash flow

Keep budget flat – school is projecting a 12% increase

State of Maine is cutting school funding, School Board of Directors are projecting 16% increase in their budget

The Board unanimously agreed to take the Planning Board unemployment out of Unemployment Expense Account.

The Board agreed to not do anything with semi-annual payments at this time whereas the Town accepts prepayments at any time.

Maurice Levasseur motioned to support the Budget Committee recommendation of 2% discount. Mark Christman 2nd the motion Vote for the motion – Maurice Levasseur. Vote against the motion – Mark Christman, Kevin Mower and Timothy Doyle. Motion failed.

Timothy Doyle motioned to place an additional article in the warrant to see if the town's people will vote to set the tax discount at 2% or 0% for the following year (2005). Mark Christman 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. This article is to be placed ahead of the 5% article in the warrant.

Ron Grant expressed his concern on expenses for Equipment Repair and if the expenses are within the 3/12 budget until March Town Meeting.

b. Fire Station Construction

Ron reported that the walls are bowing out on the new Fire Station and there is an odor coming from the septic system. The Plumber is meeting with Bruce tomorrow. Glen Builders is hiring their own engineer to review the engineering.

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c. **Annual Report Printing Bid**

Ron announced that there was only one bid received from five sent out. Maurice Levasseur motioned to accept Park Street Press Bid at \$ 1.92 per copy. Kevin Mower 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Timothy Doyle asked that the Town Report be placed on the web site.

d. **Legal**

Ron reported that there is going to be a joint meeting with Town Manager, DECD, GE and MPAC to settle the matter of back personal property taxes.

e. **Other**

Ron Grant read a request written from Paul Chabot to place an article on the town meeting warrant to vote to have a casino or racino in Greene. The Board discussed this at length with Paul. Timothy Doyle motioned to deny the request for the 2004 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Kevin Mower 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

The Town Manager is to explore if this can be voted on at a special town meeting or ballot box vote.

VI. Committee Reports

Ron reported that the Budget Committee has completed the expense and revenues for 2004 Budget.

Steve reported that the GE&CDG met with 4 members in attendance. They discussed the Annual Business Meeting held at Sedgley Place in February or March. The Board suggested inviting the Governor.

VII. CEO Report

Ron reported that 32 building permits were issued for new homes in 2003 vs. 28 in 2002.

VIII. Assessment Questions & Abatements

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There was none at this meeting.

IX. Announcements

Ron Grant read the announcements aloud.

Sally Ann Hebert announced the Historical Books for Androscoggin County are available at the Greene Town Office.

Sally Ann Hebert announced that advertisers are needed for the Community Guide.

Sally Ann Hebert announced that WGLT is broadcasting live a program with the Maine State Police on "Thin Blue Line" series regarding winter safety.

Brenda Theriault announced that Project Graduation is accepting donations for the annual auction to be held on March 20th. The seniors are also having comedian "Bob Marley" on March 14th.

X. Selectmen Acceptance & Signing of Weekly Warrant

Timothy Doyle motioned to accept and sign the Fire Department Building Warrant for \$5,837.00. Mark Christman 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Timothy Doyle motioned to accept and sign the Capital Reserve Fire Truck Warrant for \$150,529.00. Kevin Mower 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Timothy Doyle motioned to accept and sign the Julia Adams Morse Library Warrant of \$ 505.56. Kevin Mower 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Timothy Doyle motioned to accept and sign the Town of Greene Warrant of \$ 42,571.93. Mark Christman 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

XI. Executive Session

This was none discussed at this meeting.


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XII. Adjournment


Mark Christman motioned to adjourn. Maurice Levasseur 2nd the motion.
Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

The Board adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Sally Ann Hebert
Recording Secretary

Approved and accepted,


Ronald Grant, Chairman
Board of Selectmen