



TOWN OF GRAFTON
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

August 8, 2016
Grafton High School Auditorium
7:00 p.m.

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CALL TO ORDER: At 7:01 PM. Mr. Spinney called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order. In attendance: Bruce Spinney, Sargon Hanna, Brook Padgett, Tim McInerney, Doug Willardson and Laura St. John-Dupuis. Absent: Jennifer Thomas and Craig Dauphinais

Attend Special Town Meeting

The Board of Selectmen attended Special Town Meeting. See the Town Clerk for meeting minutes.

Joint Meeting with DPW Building Facility Committee

At 7:15 PM the Board began its joint meeting with the DPW Building Facility Committee.

Mr. Bechard addressed the Board to get a sense of the Board's position and brainstorm regarding the DPW building. Mr. Bechard stated that he felt the DPW Building Facility Committee has fulfilled their charge.

Mr. Spinney stated that he his sense of what the committee has put together is the best option for the Town whether or not is passed at Town Meeting. Mr. Spinney also feels that we need to either remarket, or scrap this plan.

Mr. Hanna stated that the Committee may need to change something to make it pass.

Mr. Bechard stated the Committee feels the Board never really took a stand on this project. They would like some support from the Board and feels that because there was a lack of support that may have contributed to the failure of this to pass.

Mr. Hanna responded by saying that he understands the committees sense of frustration but feels we can get the building to pass if we cut costs.

Mr. Clarke asked for direction from the Board and Town Administration.

Mr. Fair stated that they only have one cost estimate and that they can hire a cost estimator.

Mr. Clarke clarified by saying the committee did not get a cost estimate as the building was not approved.

Mr. Hanna suggested the committee go back to the consultant to see how/where to cut costs.

Mr. Padgett stated that this happens a lot, Town Meeting says no, and then we can come back with a revamped proposal. This building project was supposed to have been brought up in a few years. This project did not get support for the Board member who was part of the committee.

Mr. Clarke stated the committee was formed in 2012 and that the committee didn't move the project up, the Board moved it up.

Mr. Padgett responded by stating that whomever was a fault, the article failed. We can either make it less costly or go back with the same plan.

Ms. Robbins stated that the Board cannot give us a dollar figure. The Committee will have to go back and see what we can do to make a difference.

Mr. Padgett stated that people who don't want the DPW building feel this is being shoved down their throats. It is what people think when taxes go up. We need to have a better presentation, but look at a cost savings no matter what.

Ms. Robbins asked if the Board supports the Hennessey II site.

Mr. Padgett answered by saying that if it was possible to put the new building on Upton Street that's a better. If it has to be Hennessey property, that is alright. We could build and \$8 - \$10M building at the Upton Street site that is inadequate.

Mr. Clarke asked if the Board is setting a president for the Board of Selectmen presenting options.

Mr. Bechard stated that the Committee could present to the Board the options that they looked at and then the Board would vote on what would be brought to Town Meeting.

Mr. Padgett said the Board will still need a time line of what will be rolling off the debt service and an analysis. Mr. McInerney stated that the Police Station is coming off in 2016 and the Fire Station 2019.

Mr. Willardson stated that the Library will probably ask to have an article for the May Town Meeting.

Mr. Spinney stated that we need to find out how much it is going to cost. The Board needs to make the decisions as to what is going on and off of the debt service. The Board has to be completely on Board with the project. Mr. Spinney asked the Committee what they need from the Board.

Ms. Robbins asked if the Board was asking the committee to come in October with a warrant article for funds to do specs.

Mr. McInerney stated that October is too soon.

Mr. Padgett explained that \$20m is \$215 per household per year for over 20 years. And that he feels the \$215 per year will finish all of our capital projects for the next 15 years. Mr. Padgett stated that the Board needs to be prepared to bring these warrant articles in May and that we have to do our due diligence.

Mr. Padgett stated there should be a joint meeting in mid-September along with the Library to make a coordinated effort.

Mr. Spinney suggested the third week in September to have that meeting.

Mr. McInerney stated that in the meantime look for property and look at selling the Upton Street sight, which could offset some costs.

ADJOURN

At 8:06 PM Mr. Hanna made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Padgett seconded. All were in favor.

For more information, this and other meetings can be viewed on Grafton Television. www.Graftontv.org.


Jennifer Thomas – Chair

9.6.2016
Date


Laura St. John-Dupuis, Recording Secretary