



TOWN OF TOWN OF GRAFTON
GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER
30 PROVIDENCE ROAD

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

February 2, 2016
Municipal Center, Conference Room A
7:00 p.m.

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK
GRAFTON, MA
2016 JUN 13 PM 11 56

CALL TO ORDER

A regular Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. Present: Craig Dauphinais, Jennifer Thomas, Bruce Spinney, Dennis Flynn, Brook Padgett, Tim McInerney, Doug Willardson and Laura St.John-Dupuis.

SCHEDULE

Vote to approve the issuance and details of bonds and notes to the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust under Financing Agreement Nos. CW-15-14-A and CW-15-14 and a vote of the Town passed October 20, 2014 (Article 15), and sign related documents.

Mr. Spinney read the Vote of the Board of Selectmen which became the motion. Mr. Padgett seconded. All were in favor.

RESIGNATIONS

Barbara Lapoint – Council of Aging

Mr. Flynn made a motion to accept the resignation of Barbara Lapoint from the Council on Aging. Mr. Padgett seconded. All were in favor.

Carrie Ann Hogan – Library Board of Trustees

Mr. Spinney made a motion to accept the resignation of Carrie Ann Hogan from the Library Board of Trustees. Mr. Padgett seconded. All were in favor.

APPOINTMENTS

One Provisional Lieutenant – Neil Minardi

Two Provisional Sergeants- Crosby & O'Rourke

Mr. Spinney made a motion to appoint Mr. Neil Minardi to provisional lieutenant and James Crosby and Liam O'Rourke to provisional sergeants. Mr. Thomas seconded. All were in favor.

Vote to Sign Chapter 90 Adams Rd & Institute Road Drainage Design

Mr. Spinney made a motion to sign Chapter 90 for Adams Road & Institute Road drainage design. Ms. Thomas seconded. All were in favor.

Sign Warrant for the 2016 State Primary

Mr. Spinney made a motion to sign the warrant for the 2016 state primary. Mr. Padgett seconded. All were in favor.

SELECTMEN REPORT

Mr. Flynn stated he had been notified about topsoil that had been removed from the Old Westboro Road fields and stated that he was advised that the soil was being used to complete a project at the Lion's Club pool and would like more information. Mr. McInerney stated that 80,000CY of material came from the lot that is where the high school is now located. The Lion's Club is using about 5,000CY of material. This soil has a small trace of arsenic in it. Mr. McInerney further stated that per state law, this soil cannot be moved out of Worcester County due to the arsenic being present in the soil.

Mr. Phil Brooks of 21 East Street addressed the Board. Mr. Brooks stated that the loam was hauled up to Old Westboro Road and was being used to fill in the old swimming hole. Mr. Brooks stated that he feels that the Town is using good loam for fill and feels it is a big waste. Mr. Dauphinais asked if Lion's Club is filling in the swimming hole and the pond. Mr. McInerney stated he asked Brian Szczurko about the cost for this. Mr. Szczurko informed Mr. McInerney that it was about \$180K. If we wanted them to bring in their own material it would be \$300k. Mr. Dauphinais stated the material is free to the Town because it is our material. The Town would have to be a separate business to sell the loam, someone would have to manage it.

Mr. Dauphinais stated that the the Town should look to see what's left and move the loam somewhere to hold it so that the Town can use it for the DPW building if we ever get there.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. McInerney provided his report:

Town Meeting, February 8th at 7pm in the High School Auditorium for Electricity Aggregation

The Affordable Housing Trust will have a workshop meeting with entire community on March 3rd 7-9:30 at the South Grafton Community House.

The Stowe Road project is being developed in terms of its design, stormwater layout and basins. The Town hopes to go out to bid in May or in June.

The Board will have a meeting February 11th at 7pm Fire Safety Analysis with Town Council.

Mr. Willardson reminded the Board of Thursday night's meeting for School Department.

CORRESPONDENCE

Board & Committee Vacancies

Mr. Spinney read the list of Board & Committee Vacancies.

DISCUSSION

Spectra Energy – Pipeline Concerns -Dennis Flynn

Mr. Flynn stated that the Board received correspondence from Town Council regarding the Algonquin pipeline and wondered if Town Council provided a report yet. Mr. Willardson stated that he attended the open house with Spectra Energy/Algonquin Gas on McGill Drive at the Country Club and spoke to Mr. Jon Bonsall who was at the meeting.

Mr. Willardson further stated that Town Council's main point was the AG report that was conducted stating the pipeline may not be needed. However, after speaking to Mr. Bonsall of Spectra Energy/Algonquin Gas, the AG report does not address the laterals, which is what would be coming through Grafton. The study is kind of an outlier and the AG's office report recommends burning more coal on peak days.

Mr. Flynn asked if Mr. Willardson was advised by an expert in the field. Mr. Willardson stated the AG's report recommends burning coal. Mr. Flynn stated he's more interested in the follow up that Town Council was going to provide, such as environmental concerns, cost to residents and possible power sources out of Canada. Mr. Willardson stated that Spectra Energy/Algonquin Gas is working with FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) and will look at the need and environmental concerns. They are in the pre-filing process now and will go into the filing process in November.

Mr. Dauphinais asked if the AG report was talking about this pipeline or the main trunk. Mr. Willardson stated yes, the lateral coming through Grafton is not in that report. Mr. Dauphinais asked if Spectra is talking about tapping into an existing line that is here.

Mr. Jon Bonsall of Spectra Energy /Algonquin Gas Transmission addressed the Board and stated that Spectra Energy is in the process of gathering information in order to

minimize the impact on landowners and local communities and the environment. We have significantly narrowed the area of impact the project will have. Assuming it gets approval. The AG report was not specific to this project. Overall the project is called Access Northeast. The AG report takes no position on any laterals, what they were looking at were pipeline constraints primarily Tennessee Gas and whether or not there needed to be facilities to be built. The Access Northeast cost at about \$3B. It is estimated that during peak periods rate payers would save \$1b -\$2.5b in electric rates, which averages out to be about \$400M per year. It will depend upon what the winter is like. What is interesting on the AG's report, it basically says you don't need address the constraints on the interstate pipeline system and to rely on other fuels.

ISO (Independent System Operator) New England has prepared a report that there is a lot of coal and oil used to generate power, the AG report saying to burn fossil fuel both coal and fuel oil instead of putting investment in the interstate gas pipeline system and instead of having the savings. The AG's report came out in the middle of November. On December 1st ISO New England put out a report that there are 400,000 Megawatts of electricity that are at risk of lacking fuel for this winter. Last week ISO New England provided an update saying electric generation is on tenterhooks because of the existing constraints on the interstate pipeline systems.

Mr. Bonsall also stated that there are probably 15 other studies that were done. Each one has identified the need for significant increases in natural gas in this region and to address gas being available during peak periods. Rate payers are already paying rate hikes. ISO New England is concerned saying the winter peaks may soon spread to the summer during the hottest periods. The AG reports have components that individuals have taken to suggest that you don't go forward and expand; one key is that they rely on additional fuel oil. They are talking about bringing in LNG and relying on that. NE Gateway is an off shore platform that was built, there were two. One has been decommissioned as it was not used. Another was used last winter because LNG is a worldwide commodity it follows price, our prices got high enough to attract LNG to the region. Mr. Bonsall further stated that you can burn more fuel oil and pay more for LNG or invest in a project like Access North East.

Mr. Dauphinais asked Mr. Bonsall how many communities has he gone to. Mr. Bonsall stated 8 or 9 each one has given permission to survey. Town of Shrewsbury went to Special town meeting to oppose the project. The ballot failed 131 to 30.

Mr. Padgett asked Mr. Bonsall if Spectra Energy is just getting permission to survey. Mr. Bonsall stated that is exactly right and that the town is not taking a position on the project itself.

Mr. McInerney stated that Town Council gave us something to review. Town Council is not a commodities expert; she's a lawyer, not sure if she will give us anything meaningful.

Mr. Padgett asked what precipitated Town Council to do a report. Mr. Willardson stated that Town Council met someone at the MMA Conference and sent the information over.

Mr. Flynn stated that he asked for an update and thinks that Mr. Bonsall addressed everything that was listed in the that email.

Mr. Willardson stated that we should let the federal agency determine whether or not it is appropriate and we can reassess at that time.

Mr. Flynn stated he will re-read the email from Town Council. Mr. Flynn stated that he wasn't looking for more information from Algonquin; he is more interested in the information from Town Council and believes it's more of the legal issue.

Mr. Padgett asked if this would this have something to do with allowing Spectra Energy to do a survey. Mr. Willardson stated that he will get clarification.

Mr. Spinney asked about how other boards besides the Executive Board contact Town Council and would like to send out a memo from Mr. McInerney how to go about contacting Town Council. Mr. McInerney stated any requests to speak to Town Council the committee/board must fill out a form and then through the Town Administrator's office coordinate that meeting if necessary. Additionally, Town Council and Labor Council, if contacted will direct the person to contact the Town Administrators office to ask to speak to Town/Labor Council. Therefore, Town/Labor Council will not be accepting phone calls.

Mr. Dauphinais asked Mr. McInerney if he had drafted a letter regarding the Village Dairy revocation of liquor license and sent it to Senator Moore and Representative Muradian. Mr. McInerney confirmed that the 3 page letter was sent off to both Senator Moore and Representative Muradian to try to take corrective action. Mr. McInerney stated a copy of the letter would be send to the Board of Selectmen.

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Spinney made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of 1/19/16 as presented. Ms. Thomas seconded.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:01 Ms. Thomas made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of litigation update. Mr. Spinney seconded. All were in favor. By roll call: Spinney, aye, Padgett, aye, Thomas, aye, Flynn, aye and Dauphinais, aye.

MGL Chapter 30A, Sec. 21(3)

Litigation Update

Litigation Strategy

Union Negotiations

Land Negotiation

Non Union Negotiations

Strategy for Negotiations

Minutes

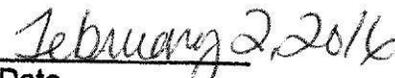
ADJOURN

At 8:27 PM Mr. Spinney made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Thomas seconded. All were in favor.

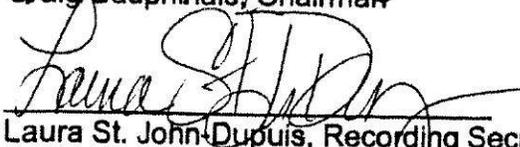
For more information, this and other meetings can be viewed on Grafton Television.
www.Graftontv.org



Craig Dauphinais, Chairman



Date



Laura St. John-Dupuis, Recording Secretary