

**TOWN OF GRANBY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
MAY 4, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by First Selectman B. Scott Kuhnly at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: B. Scott Kuhnly, Ronald Desrosiers, Sally King, Mark Neumann, Edward Ohannessian, William F. Smith, Jr., Town Manager and Student Liaison Mark McDermott

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. PUBLIC SESSION

No public addressed the Board.

III. MINUTES

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted 4-0-1 (abstention Desrosiers) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 20, 2015.

IV. UNFINISHED OR TABLED BUSINESS

No unfinished or tabled business was before the Board.

V. BUSINESS

A. Resignations and Appointments to be Considered

ON A MOTION by Selectman Ohannessian, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to accept the resignations, with regret, of the following persons: Neil Kraner, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission; Benjamin Perron, Board of Education; and Russell St. John, Greater Hartford Transit District. Town Manager Smith thanked them for their years of service to the town.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to appoint John L. Laudati (D), 79 Lakeside Drive, to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Neumann, seconded by Selectman Ohannessian, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to appoint Stephen P. Royer (R), 5 Morningside Drive, to the Board of Education.

First Selectman Kuhnly reported there are two vacancies on the Agricultural Commission and two vacancies on the Holcomb Farm Board of Directors. Anyone who has interest in serving as a member for one of these vacancies should contact the Democratic Town Committee Chairman Jim Lofink, Republican Town Committee Chairman Mark Neumann, or Town Manager's office.

B. Consideration of Granby Water Pollution Control Authority (GWPCA) Setting Sewer Use Rates for 2015-2016

First Selectman Kuhnly recessed as the Board of Selectmen and opened as the Granby Water Pollution Control Authority (GWPCA) at 7:41 p.m.

The GWPCA held a public hearing earlier to receive comments on the proposed sewer use rates for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. No written or verbal comments were received.

The proposed rates for residential users are: minimum \$190.58 per year for the cost of the average residential gallons used per year (55,000 gallons) and commercial/industrial: minimum \$266.70 per year for up to 100,000 gallons. All gallon usage for residential and commercial/industrial above the minimum is recommended to be charged \$.0062 per gallon.

ON A MOTION by Selectman King, seconded by Selectman Ohannessian, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to set the sewer rates for residential users at a minimum of \$190.58 for average gallons (55,000 gpy) used per year and \$266.70 per year for commercial/industrial users (100,000 gpy). All gallon usage for residential and commercial/industrial above the minimum will be charged \$.0062 per gallon.

Chairman Kuhnly adjourned as the GWPCA and reconvened the Board of Selectmen at 7:44 p.m.

C. Consideration of Transfers to Suspense

Town Manager Smith reported that each year taxes go unpaid (uncollected) for various reasons, for example people moving out of state, deaths, and property foreclosures. The Collector of Revenue prepares a list of potentially uncollectible taxes, which are recommended to be transferred to the Suspense Book to clean off the books for audit purposes. The amount to be transferred is \$22,911.28.

Selectman Ohannessian thought the dollar amount was a large jump from last year and questioned how old these uncollected taxes were. Town Manager Smith responded some go as far back as 2006. We do have a collection agency to handle some of these. It's like chasing a ghost once they go into suspense. Town Manager Smith was not sure on the collection history. Taxes due on the list remain collectible if the parties can be found. Those who are on the list for motor vehicles will likely not be able to re-register their vehicles in Connecticut.

ON A MOTION by Selectman King, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to approve the transfer of \$22,911.28 to be moved to the Suspense Book.

D. Consideration of Funding Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days

Granby has partnered with the towns of Simsbury, Avon, and Canton for the last three years to collect household hazardous waste from our residents. It is scheduled to take place again this year on two separate occasions. The first collection is

scheduled for June 13, 2015 at the Simsbury Department of Public Works, 66 Town Forest Road in Simsbury from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The second date is scheduled for November 7, 2015. A total amount of \$5,000 is requested for both collection days.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Neumann, seconded by Selectman King, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to appropriate \$5,000 from the Solid Waste Fund for both Household Hazardous Waste Collection days.

E. Consideration of Application for High Risk Rural Roads Speed Enforcement Grant

The State is offering a speed enforcement grant to specified municipalities for high risk rural roads for the second time. It offers 100% reimbursement for overtime in speed enforcement efforts for specified dates 7/1/15 through 8/31/15. It also provides reimbursement for the purchase of up to two speed measuring units (radar or laser) that the Police Department needs. The application is due June 17, 2015. The maximum grant amount is \$34,500 which is the same as last year's request. This program will run through the Police Grants Fund once approved.

ON A MOTION by Selectman King, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to participate in this speed enforcement program and to make application to the Department of Transportation for the High Risk Rural Roads Speed Enforcement Grant. Also, to appropriate the grant amount of \$34,500 from the Police Grants Fund.

VI. TOWN MANAGER REPORTS

A. Update of Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings

Town Manager Smith reported the "Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings, 2013-14" report represents an analysis of traffic stop data supplied by all police departments from October 2013 to October 2014. The report makes it clear that it is limited to finding apparent disparities and does not prove that racial profiling is occurring at any police department, including Granby.

Town Manager Smith and Chief of Police Rosensweig met with the researchers to further investigate the report findings. The data was run again. The researchers said that Granby was originally on the cusp of being identified. When correcting the duplicate entries, they were less confident in the results but still maintained there were disparities. "The Veil of Darkness utilizes a natural experiment to evaluate the existence of racial disparities that centers principally on seasonal patterns of solar variation". This analysis reviews stops before and after sunrise and sunset. If more minorities are stopped in daylight when an officer is more likely to be able to see the driver, race may possibly be a factor. This is the only area that showed a disparity in Granby.

The police department has been very proactive both before and in response to this report. This report is taken very seriously and the police department values the analysis and input. There is no evidence to indicate officer bias. Chief Rosensweig

has re-issued all policies regarding racial profiling and all officers have received more training. They will continue with their in-house policies.

VII. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORTS (B. Scott Kuhnly)

A. Paper Shredding Event is May 16, 2015 from 9 a.m. to noon at Public Works, 52 North Granby Road. This event is open to Granby residents only.

B. Koffee with Kuhnly is scheduled for May 18, 2015 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

First Selectman Kuhnly acknowledged the upcoming 20th year anniversary celebration of the Granby Youth Services Bureau Advisory Board by reading a proclamation.

VIII. SELECTMAN REPORTS (Sally King, Vice Chairman; Ronald Desrosiers, Mark Neumann, and Edward Ohannessian; Paige Holden and Mark McDermott, Student Liaisons)

Student Liaison Mark McDermott congratulated the Granby Youth Services Bureau Advisory Board on their upcoming 20th year anniversary. He is proud to be a member of this Board. SAT's were held last weekend.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Ohannessian, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Smith, Jr.
Town Manager