

**TOWN OF GRANBY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2014**

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, Sally King, Mark Neumann, Edward Ohannessian, William F. Smith, Jr., Town Manager and Student Liaisons Paige Holden and Mark McDermott

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. PUBLIC SESSION

A. Student Liaisons Introduction

First Selectman Kuhnly introduced newly appointed Student Liaison Paige Holden, a high school senior active in student government and a member of the National Honor Society. Also introduced was Mark McDermott, a high school junior and captain of the football team. Both students have expressed an interest in learning about local government.

B. Registrar of Voters Report

Democratic Registrar of Voters Laura Wolfe and Republican Registrar of Voters Sarah Thrall reported activities in their department to the Board. Their job is to maintain the voter registry and to administer elections. They explained about the postcards residents recently received in the mail from the State of Connecticut. The state is reaching out to people registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles who are not registered voters in their town, in hopes of increasing voter registration before the upcoming election. The Registrars reviewed the process of poll worker training and the complexity of the job, as well as reviewing the upcoming ballot and explaining the constitutional question that is on this year's ballot.

Upcoming deadlines were reviewed, including October 21, 2014 as being the postmark deadline for mailed voter registration applications, as well as the new Online Voter Registration. Tuesday, October 28, 2014 will be a Special Voter Registration Day from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Registrar of Voter office, which is the last day to register in person. Some exceptions apply. Same day (Election Day) registration is also available this year but residents must prove identity and residency to register and vote that day. Residents are encouraged not to wait until Election Day to register to vote.

The Registrars expressed their gratitude to the many volunteers that work at the polls. It is a big money saver for the town.

Granby resident Chris Klemmer, 14 Winhart Drive, addressed the Board expressing an interest in high speed broad band that he feels the whole town would benefit from and the Board should look into. He presented some written information to the Board for their review. He also inquired about the status of the Lee Cemetery located in North Granby. Town Manager Smith responded that the Cemetery access is still being contested.

III. MINUTES

ON A MOTION by Selectman Ohannessian, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (4-0-0) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 6, 2014, as presented.

IV. UNFINISHED OR TABLED BUSINESS

No unfinished or tabled business was before the Board.

V. BUSINESS

A. Resignations and Appointments to be Considered

No resignations or appointments were received.

B. Discussion Concerning Uses of Town Owned Land

First Selectman Kuhnly indicated the town owns various properties, some of which were obtained as gifts, others were obtained through grants and may have restrictions as to use. It has been suggested to the Board to consider establishing a study committee to look into potential uses on some of these lands.

Selectman King responded the town went through this before. She feels the property that needs to be studied is the Evonsion Farm (107 East Street) and it should be done along with Planning and Zoning.

The Board discussed the need to engage different groups of people to get feedback and ideas. We need as many new fresh ideas as possible. The idea of including all the town properties in the discussion, as well as Holcomb Farm was suggested. That way we all understand the uses of the properties.

First Selectman Kuhnly asked Town Manager Smith to develop a charge for the committee for further review. The Board decided the committee membership will be made up of five members. Also requested is an inventory of the properties from Fran Armentano including their uses.

First Selectman Kuhnly indicated people can send their names to the Town Manager's office or the Republican and Democratic Town Committee Chairmen to let them know they are interested to be on the committee. There will be specific public sessions scheduled to gather input and ideas from the community. We want public feedback.

VI. TOWN MANAGER REPORTS

A. Budget Operations – September 2014

Town Manager Smith reported tax collections to be at 55%. Building permits are ahead of what was received the last few years.

B. Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board and Granby Prevention Council Combining

The Granby Prevention Council (GPC) was formed as a requirement for a grant application. The application was not funded.

The Granby Prevention Council and the Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board share the same mission and vision for Granby. In an effort to more effectively utilize the time and talent of the volunteers, it was decided to combine the two boards into one, and keep the name Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board. All future grant applications will reflect the Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board as the designated Local Prevention Council.

VII. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORTS (B. Scott Kuhnly)

A. 2014 Household Hazardous Waste Collection – November 1, 2014

First Selectmen Kuhnly reminded everyone Saturday, November 1, 2014 is Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. It will be held from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road (off Stratton Brook Road). This is open to residents of Simsbury, Avon, Canton, and Granby. Contact the Granby Department of Public Works with questions (860) 653-8960.

Thank you to folks that came to “Koffee with Kuhnly” this week.

A reminder to everyone that Halloween is next week, be safe.

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

No reports.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION by Selectman Ohannessian, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (4-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Smith, Jr.
Town Manager