

**TOWN OF GRANBY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 2, 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, Ronald Desrosiers, Sally King, Mark Neumann, Edward Ohannessian, and William F. Smith, Jr., Town Manager

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. PUBLIC SESSION

Department and Commission Activity Reports

Kelly Marszycki, Director of Library Services, reported on the many services the libraries have to offer. The libraries hold a total of 71,000+ items including books, DVDs and Blu-rays, audiobooks, magazines, and music. Databases offered include foreign language training for adults, teens, and children; job/career training; early literacy for preschoolers; continuing education training; financial investment, and genealogy research.

E-readers (Kindles and Nooks) are circulated fully loaded with about two dozen books on each. Seventeen computer stations are available for public use as well as WiFi. Also available are two early literacy stations. Free downloadable eBooks are available through the program OverDrive.

The Libraries joined the LCI Consortium in a new integrated library system. Thirty libraries are members and share over 3.5 million items with a 48-72 hour delivery time. Patrons may pay their fines and fees online with a credit card.

Enhancements for the future may include an online magazine database; another online genealogy database; online events registration; and a Museum Pass registration program that will enable patrons to print out their pass rather than drive to the library. Upgrading public computers, as well as early literacy stations, and creating an outdoor reading terrace for patrons, are in the plans for the future.

KerryAnn Kielbasa, Director of Social Services, as well as Human Resources, Senior Services, and the Youth Service Bureau, reviewed programs and activities. Emergency Assistance requests include rental and mortgage assistance, utility-shut-off protection, emergency housing, food assistance, assistance with medical and prescription cost, and scholarship assistance. Over \$30,985 in donations to the Local Assistance Fund were generously received through the Granby Community Fund Special Assistance Fund, Salvation Army, many individuals and families, churches, businesses, civic organizations, and youth groups to be used specifically for Holiday Sponsorships, Camperships, Summer Shoe Program, Housing Assistance, Child Care Subsidies, Prescription and Medical Care, and Crisis Assistance. Seventy four households were provided over \$22,700 of emergency assistance. The fuel fund is separate and does not come from these donations. In addition, it is noted that the General Fund does not support these programs. Also, emergency assistance is given only to those that meet certain criteria.

Human Resources activity in the past year included: promotional process for Sergeants, recruitment for certified Police Officers, part-time Dispatcher, part-time Records Clerk, two part-time Assistants to the Town Clerk, two Library Assistants, and two part-time Custodians.

Senior Services is the focal point of services and activities for seniors. It is run by five staff members and a variety of programs include a Congregate Meal Program, exercise classes, billiards league, camera, art and needle working groups, educational and health programs, Men's Breakfast, Women's Breakfast, and the Senior Club. Special programs include AARP Drivers' Course, Medicare counseling, and tax preparation assistance. Van transportation is available for medical appointments, personal care appointments, grocery shopping, senior center activities, and daytrips. Operating expenses are supported through grants, membership fees, donations, and funding from the Granby Community Fund. Van services provided 6,642 trips for 185 registered riders in the last fiscal year.

A newly renovated Health Clinic and Counseling Small Group Room, as well as grief and loss and Alzheimer's Support groups, are now offered along with many other new programs.

Youth Service Bureau is a prevention agency providing short-term counseling and support services for Granby youth and their families, as well as educational programming and opportunities for youth leadership and development. The Town of Granby receives \$14,000 per year from the State of Connecticut Department of Education to administer the Youth Service Bureau. In addition, the town receives \$2,400 from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to fund primary prevention programs.

The Town of East Granby contracts with the Town of Granby Youth Service Bureau for clinical services and programming.

First Selectman Kuhnly asked if anyone would like to comment on any agenda items.

Resident Jim Lofink, 3 Juniper Drive, addressed the Board with concern that the agenda for the Special Meeting held on August 18, 2014 was not posted on the town website. Maybe it was posted on the sign board but he feels it should also be posted on the website like regular meeting agenda's.

III. MINUTES

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted 4-0-1 (abstention Selectman Desrosiers) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 18, 2014 with a correction noted by Town Manager Smith. Section II, paragraph beginning with Tom Tyburski, last sentence should read: Solar panels on the Recreation Center were activated on May 26, 2014 and they have saved the town over 1,635 **kilowatt hours** (not dollars) to date.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted 4-0-1 (abstention Selectman Desrosiers) to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 18, 2014.

IV. UNFINISHED OR TABLED BUSINESS

A. Further Discussion and Consideration of Proposed Holcomb Farm Parking Lot

The Board agreed to the location of the new parking lot at the last meeting. The configuration has again been reviewed by the Town Engineer and our Town Planner. It is designed to meet standards to assist with most activity at the farm in a safe and appropriate manner, as well as leaving a grass area to the west for overflow parking.

The extension of the existing parking was shown on a map. Existing grades and vegetation will shield the lot from the surrounding area. Some modification to the original design has been made after further study and public comment. It now has 43 paved parking spaces and provides an open grass area where an additional 40 cars can be accommodated. The design allows vehicles to softly flow through the parking areas, minimizing vehicular movements and conflicts. The lot shows six lights that will be manually operated as needed.

Selectman Ohannessian asked if the town has the money to do this project. Town Manager Smith indicated the estimates conform to the money we have for this project.

Kirk Severance, from the Department of Public Works, indicated the paving for the parking lot could begin this fall, although letting the soil have time to settle before paving would be better. Paving next spring may be the better option. The plan is to have much of the work done in house and use some outside contractors as needed.

ON A MOTION by Selectman King, seconded by Selectman Desrosiers, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to accept the plan of the proposed Holcomb Farm Parking Lot and to move forward with the project.

V. BUSINESS

A. Resignations and Appointments to be Considered

No resignations or appointments were received.

B. Consideration of Authorizing Application for 2015 Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant

The town has been advised that the state is accepting applications for the 2015 STEAP grants. The maximum amount is \$500,000 and applications are due by November 28, 2014.

Town Manager Smith indicated there are several projects that are under consideration. 1. Providing for Streetscape enhancements from the Town Center to Salmon Brook Park that would include street lighting along Route 10 as an enhancement to the town's existing sidewalk project. Also, extend lighting and walkway into Salmon Brook Park and construct access to the Salmon Brook Street field area, south of the park. 2. Install sidewalks/bike path along Route 10 from Hunt

Glenn/Chatsworth to Floydville Road connecting to existing bike path. 3. Install sidewalks and street lights along Mill Pond Drive.

Town Manager Smith indicated we need to decide on projects in order to determine cost estimates.

Selectman Ohannessian inquired whether this type of grant could be used for solar. It was asked if this is solar economic development or is it just cost savings? Town Manager Smith indicated that solar is probably more of a cost savings than economic development.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to authorize the Town Manager to make an application for a 2015 STEAP grant.

VI. TOWN MANAGER REPORTS

A. Budget Operations – July 2014

Town Manager Smith reviewed budget operations for the first month of the new fiscal year. Collections are just slightly above previous years. We are on target with other revenue coming in.

VII. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORTS (B. Scott Kuhnly)

First Selectman Kuhnly announced the forms to apply for the Student Liaison Program can be obtained from the principal's office at the high school. Candidates should contact Kristen Thornton, Secretary to the High School Principal Mary Gadd.

VIII. SELECTMAN REPORTS (Sally King, Vice Chairman; Ronald Desrosiers, Mark Neumann, and Edward Ohannessian)

Selectman Neumann reminded everyone of Open Farm Day that will take place this coming weekend, Saturday, September 6, 2014.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Smith, Jr.
Town Manager