

**TOWN OF GRANBY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
DECEMBER 3, 2012**

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

PRESENT: John Adams, Ronald Desrosiers, Sally King, B. Scott Kuhnly, Mark C. Neumann, and William F. Smith, Jr., Town Manager and Student Liaisons Casey Buchholz and Sarah Wutka

I. PUBLIC SESSION

No public addressed the Board.

II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Kuhnly, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 19, 2012 as presented.

III. UNFINISHED OR TABLED BUSINESS

No unfinished or tabled business was before the Board.

IV. BUSINESS

A. Resignations and Appointments to be Considered

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Kuhnly, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to accept, with regret, the resignation of Edwin Boardman, as a member of the Granby Health Benefit Fund Advisory Committee.

First Selectman Adams indicated an interested volunteer with some background in health benefits could contact the Town Manager's office for further information. There is still one vacancy on the Development Commission as well.

B. Consideration of Action Concerning the Agreement Between the Granby Association of School Administrators (GASA) and the Board of Education Effective July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016

Board of Education member Edward Ohannessian was present this evening to provide the Board of Selectmen with additional information on the contract and to provide clarification if needed. Mr. Ohannessian stated this is a three-year contract and reviewed the cost share percentages for the Preferred Provider Plan (PPO) and for the Health Savings Account (HSA). The total wage increase, including any steps would be 2½% per year. Over the three-year contract period, that comes to an increase of \$98,000. Other topics reviewed were design changes in the health care plans and carryover vacation days.

Selectman Desrosiers questioned the projection of savings on the health care contract. Mr. Ohannessian indicated the Board of Education met with their health

care advisor, Robert Lindberg, to see what the trend is projected to be and it is said to be 10%. If the projection is actually lower than 10%, it is a savings.

Selectman Kuhnly asked if this contract is comparable to other surrounding towns and Mr. Ohannessian indicated it was. First Selectman Adams felt this is a favorable contract.

Selectman Desrosiers indicated he has no expertise in this area and therefore not qualified to endorse this contract.

Selectman Kuhnly indicated he feels everyone involved has done their research and therefore is comfortable with this contract.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Neumann, seconded by Selectman Kuhnly, the Board voted 4-1-0 (Selectman Desrosiers voting no) not to reject the contract thereby approving the Agreement between the Granby Association of School Administrators and Board of Education – July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016.

C. Consideration of Holcomb Farm, Inc. Amendment to By-laws

Holcomb Farm, Inc. Treasurer, Jim Lofink addressed the Board with an amendment that Holcomb Farm, Inc. (HFI) voted in the affirmative at their Board of Directors meeting on November 12, 2012. They moved to amend the By-laws changing the fiscal year end from June 30th to December 31st. He indicated some of the reasons for the change were bookkeeping issues and that it would be more easily understandable by laypersons.

Ratification by the Selectmen is required to make this change.

ON A MOTION by Selectman King, seconded by Selectman Kuhnly, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to approve Holcomb Farm, Inc. changing the By-laws to reflect fiscal year ending December 31st.

D. Consideration of Plus One Budget 2013-2014

Town Manager Smith presented to the Board a budget that will sustain town operations, including budget expectations for salary and wages for employees, as well as step increases; preliminary cost estimates for employee benefits, and items of a contractual nature or deemed important to properly maintain existing operations. Also included are "Add-Backs". These are items previously presented to the Board of Selectmen that reflect town service needs.

Overall, the minimal requirements for existing town operational needs in 2013-2014 would require an increase of \$331,300. The Plus One budget is 4.73%, including two add-back items, Police Operations and Services Investigator/Youth Officer (\$93,000) and Library Services (\$10,000) beginning to restore cut backs, for a total of \$434,300 above the present operating budget.

First Selectman Adams reviewed the projected increase for solid waste and recycling. The decision of whether to stay with the current contractor is still undecided and will need to be finalized sometime next year.

First Selectman Adams asked Town Manager Smith about the debt payback program. Mr. Smith indicated the first two years would be interest only. The plan is to not have spikes of high new debt. It will be blended in over the years as we have done in the past.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Kuhnly, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to accept and forward the Plus One Budget 2013-2014 to the Board of Finance for review.

V. TOWN MANAGER REPORTS

No reports.

VI. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORTS (John Adams)

First Selectman Adams reported the Granby Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a holiday tree lighting ceremony on Saturday, December 8, 2012. Tree lighting and evening festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Merchants Way.

VII. SELECTMAN REPORTS (Sally King, Vice Chairman, Ronald Desrosiers, B. Scott Kuhnly, and Mark C. Neumann, and Casey Buchholz and Sarah Wutka Student Liaisons)

Selectman Kuhnly congratulated student liaison Sarah Wutka as the new captain of the girl's varsity soccer team for next year.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION by Selectman Kuhnly, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Smith, Jr.
Town Manager