

**TOWN OF GRANBY  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
JUNE 4, 2012**

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

**PRESENT: John Adams, Ronald Desrosiers, Sally King, B. Scott Kuhnly, Mark Neumann, William F. Smith, Jr., Town Manager and Student Liaisons Tyler Dowling and Nicole Kuhnly**

First Selectman Adams gave a preamble to the agenda for this evening. He explained two of the items on the agenda. The first item is the discussion of traffic study (III. Unfinished or Tabled Business – Item A.) – public comment or questions will be conducted then. Secondly, charter report (IV. Business – Item B.) is for receipt of the report only, public comment or questions will be heard at the Board of Selectmen’s public hearing.

**I. PUBLIC SESSION**

Terry Wright of 83R Northwoods Road thanked the First Selectman for his explanation of the agenda for this evening and made the following comment. He wished to send condolences to the deceased Springfield Police Officer’s family who was killed while on duty. Also he thanked all police officers for the job they do as they are always putting their lives on the line.

Jerry Ledger of 89 Bushy Hill Road, and a member of Board of Directors for the Farmington Valley Trails Council, addressed a potential safety hazard with crossing the road at Floydville Road and Route 10/202 now that a deli market will be open for business soon. The deli is located near the bike trail and he expects people using the bike trail may stop at the deli for purchases.

Jim Glenney, 33 Glen Road, commented that the charter report being presented to the Board does not satisfy the petitioner’s request for a town referendum on the annual town budget. He said the town meeting voting process does not work and it is anti-democratic when less than 300 people decide on a budget and there are 7,000 voters. He finished by asking the Board to please keep in mind the petitioners’ views during the public hearing and the November ballot.

Len Murray of 11 Sawmill Road commented that allowing for a town budget referendum would be a good representation by the people for voting on the budget to pass or not. He believes the method on how the budget is voted and passed is not a good way.

No other public input. Public session was closed.

**II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING**

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Kuhnly, the Board voted (4-0-1) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 7, 2012, as presented. Selectman Desrosiers abstained.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Desrosiers, seconded by Selectman Kuhnly, the Board voted (4-0-1) to approve the minutes of the Granby Water Pollution Control Authority (GWPCA) public hearing of May 7, 2012, as presented. Selectman Desrosiers abstained.

### **III. UNFINISHED OR TABLED BUSINESS**

#### **A. Ordinance Limiting Commercial Motor Vehicles on Town Streets (discussion of traffic study)**

Town Manager Smith reported Chief Rosensweig has recently conducted traffic studies on Day Street to learn more about truck traffic. The complaint is more truck traffic, noise, and speeding on Day Street. It may be that the GPS navigation system used by drivers has diverted the traffic to avoid the center's hairpin turn resulting in more traffic on Day Street and other streets.

Chief Rosensweig explained about the traffic studies conducted on Day Street. Two different studies were conducted. The first study was done using road sensors that measure the number of passenger vehicles and trucks and the average speed of both. The second study was done using a radar speed and traffic counting device. The total number of vehicles (609 / 734), and speed (33 / 38 mph) were relatively similar. To designate "no through truck" is a lengthy process with the state recognizing the street to be unsuitable for through trucks. If established as a "no through truck" street, it would be difficult to enforce, and an alternative route must be identified. Chief Rosensweig indicated that work continues to encourage the state to provide for a better alignment at Route 20 and Route 10/202.

When asked about placement of stop signs to discourage speeding and slow traffic, the Chief responded that stop signs cannot be used for speed controls and if placed in an odd spot, not everyone stops. There is potential for rolling stops and accidents will happen. It was asked if the speed could be reduced from 35 mph, which Chief Rosensweig indicated the state traffic control commission must approve the change. The collection of data so far does not support a change in the speed limit.

Chief Rosensweig commented to Mr. Ledger that the Floydville Road and Route 10/202 corner section he asked about earlier this evening did not warrant traffic control in the past years, however, a traffic control study is again being requested now.

### **IV. BUSINESS**

#### **A. Resignations and Appointments to be Considered**

No resignations or appointments were received. First Selectman Adams reminded the public that there is one vacancy on the Agricultural Commission as well as on the Conservation Commission. Anyone interested in serving on a board should contact Town Manager Smith's office or one of the town committee

chairmen, B. Scott Kuhnly (R) or Margaret Chapple (D). You need not be registered with a party to serve on a board.

**B. Presentation of Charter Revision Commission Draft Report**

Francis Brady, Chairman of the Charter Revision Commission 2011, presented the amendments to the Charter to the Board of Selectmen. He recognized the commission members who attended this meeting, which were Terri Hahn, Annie Hornish, James Lofink, and David Russell. The Commission studied all aspects of the Charter through four separate working groups and input from Town Boards, Commissions, Committees, Officials, and residents. He indicated the Commission held 21 meetings, two public hearings, and one public input session. The amendments are reflected in the document entitled "Revised Charter (Depicting Revisions) (June 4, 2012)", a copy of which is filed with the Town Clerk's office for public viewing.

Chairman Brady further explained the report was approved by the Commission on a 5-4 vote. The principal point of difference concerned the process of adopting the annual town budget as outlined in Section 10-5. The majority favored continuing with the town meeting with the significant modification that, if the increase in the proposed annual budget were to exceed a threshold of four percent over the current tax levy, it would go directly to referendum. The minority view was to the effect that the proposed annual budget should go directly to referendum in all instances without reference to any threshold increase.

There was a consensus of the Commission in support of the proposed changes other than as to Section 10-5. Accordingly, it was the further consensus of the Commission that, if the Board of Selectmen were to endorse the Commission's report for consideration by the voters on the November 6, 2012 ballot, the Commission's recommended changes should be divided into two questions. The first question would be addressed to the proposed changes outlined in all sections except for Section 10-5. The second question would be addressed to those proposed changes outlined in Section 10-5.

The Board of Selectmen received the amendments to the Charter for their review and scheduled a public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment regarding proposed amendments to the Town Charter.

ON A MOTION by Selectman Kuhnly, seconded by Selectman Desrosiers, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to hold a public hearing on June 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior Center Community Room.

**V. TOWN MANAGER REPORTS**

**A. Budget Operations Report – April 2012**

Town Manager Smith reported tax collections are exceeding 100%. Approximately \$13,000 was received under the account Manufacturing Machines

Equipment/Revenue Sharing. This was extra, as it was not budgeted. A local revenue under Miscellaneous has been received in excess of the budgeted amount due to CIRMA rebates and a Cossitt Friends gift. The Cossitt Friends gift of money was used for additional hours of operation at Cossitt Library. Equipment Maintenance and Building Maintenance and Town Grounds may need transfers due to the work needed to be done at Holcomb Farm and the rising cost of fuel.

When asked if reimbursement from the October 2011 storm has been received, Town Manager Smith responded no, and he has no firm time as to when it might be coming. He indicated that we have just been notified of the approval reimbursement for Hurricane Irene, which occurred in August 2011.

**B. Capital Projects Activity Update**

The Capital Projects Activity report was tabled until next meeting.

**VI. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORTS (John Adams)**

**A. Announcement of the Taste of Granby at Holcomb Farm**

First Selectman Adams announced the Taste of Granby event was scheduled for Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Holcomb Farm, 113 Simsbury Road, West Granby from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Funds raised will benefit the Chamber of Commerce scholarship program and the Holcomb Farm's CSA Fresh Access Program.

**B. Update from Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority Municipal Advisory (CRRA) Committee Meeting**

First Selectman Adams is keeping abreast of the activities of CRRA. He has attended several meetings and highlights are:

- The results to sell power generated by the Mid-Connecticut trash-to energy plant were disappointing. The low price was due to a drop in the price of natural gas, which fuels most electric generation in New England. Another factor, though probably a much less significant factor, was the lack of tonnage committed to the Mid-Connecticut system.
- CRRA is looking at alternatives for dealing with the sudden loss of revenue and expects that CRRA will be able to honor all municipal service agreements (MSAs.)
- Designating trash-to-energy plants as Class 1 renewable sources would impact CRRA's finances. It would make up for the low power price and obtaining that designation is CRRA's top legislative priority.

**VII. SELECTMAN REPORTS (Sally King, Vice Chairman, Ronald Desrosiers, B. Scott Kuhnly, and Mark Neumann, and Tyler Dowling and Nicole Kuhnly, Student Liaisons)**

Selectman Kuhnly announced Granby Memorial High School Senior Graduation will be held on June 13<sup>th</sup>. He noted both the student liaisons received awards and scholarships and should be commended.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

ON A MOTION by Selectman Kuhnly, seconded by Selectman Neumann, the Board voted unanimously (5-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Smith, Jr.  
Town Manager