

**TOWN OF GRANBY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING**

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February 3, 2025

Members Present: First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino
Selectman Mark C. Neumann
Selectman Frederick A. Moffa
Selectman Kelly O. Rome
Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple

Others Present: Mike Walsh, Town Manager
Scott A. Nolan, Town Clerk
Zainab Zafar, Student Liaison
Ben LaVigne, Student Liaison

At 7:00 p.m. First Selectman, Mark H. Fiorentino called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order in the Town Hall Meeting Room 15 North Granby Road, Granby, CT 06034.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Zainab Zafar, Student Liaison led members of the Board of Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance. After the Pledge of Allegiance, First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino requested an amendment to the agenda to add agenda items VII. First Selectman's Report, VIII. Select members Reports, IX. Public Input, and X. Executive Session.

Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby amends the February 3, 2025, Board of Selectmen agenda to add agenda items VI. First Selectman's Report, VII. Select members Reports, VIII. Public Input, and IX. Executive Session.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Frederick A. Moffa at which time the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote (5/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES**.

II. MINUTES

A. Approval of Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2025

Selectman Kelly O. Rome made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby approves the minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of January 21, 2025.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Mark C. Neumann at which time the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote (5/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES**.

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B. Approval of Three Board Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2025

Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby approves the minutes of the Three Board meeting minutes of January 21, 2025.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple at which time the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote (5/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES**.

III. APPOINTMENTS

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen there were currently no vacancies on any boards or commissions.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

No old business took place.

V. BUSINESS

A. Department of Public Works Supervisor Job Description Approval

Mike Walsh, Town Manager informed members of the Board of Selectmen that related to the reorganization of the Public Works Department that took place on July 30, 2024, that the Deputy Director position was eliminated, and its place is now five supervisor positions and that these new positions are supervisors for General, Fleet, Grounds, Roads, and Facilities. Mike Walsh, Town Manager further explained that the purpose of this reorganization was to flatten the organizational structure, provide more training and promotional opportunities, create smaller spans of control with direct supervision provided by existing employees, and enhance daily communication and autonomy. Mike Walsh, Town Manager also noted that recently, the Town completed a competitive interview to fill the last of the five positions with the Facilities Supervisor and as a result, Rich Thomas has been promoted to the Facilities Supervisor position. Mike Walsh, Town Manager further noted that accordingly a motion was needed to allow this job description to be officially accepted by the Board of Selectmen.

Selectman Frederick A. Moffa made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby approves the new supervisor job description for Facilities as provided in the attached memo from Human Resources Director Krista Shaffer dated January 16, 2025.

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The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome at which time the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote (5/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES.**

B. Outside Council Request

Mike Walsh, Town Manager informed members of the Board of Selectmen that as they were aware the KCE Battery Project was recently approved by the Connecticut Sitting Counsel over the objections of the Town of Granby and that the Town desires to explore all its options including an appeal of the approval. Mike Walsh, Town Manager further explained that accordingly in order to fully explore the Town's rights we need to seek a qualified attorney/law firm that specializes in such an appeal process.

Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the hiring of an attorney/law firm to assist the Town in legal matters related to the possible appeal of the KCE Battery Project matter and to direct Town Manager Mike Walsh to execute an engagement letter with the firm that is in the best interest of the Town of Granby and further, report back to the Board of Selectmen on the progress of this initiative at the February 18th meeting.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome at which time the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote (5/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES.**

C. Scott Nolan Communication

Mike Walsh, Town Manager informed members of the Board of Selectmen that he has received a Letter of Resignation from Town Clerk Scott Nolan and that it goes without saying that Scott his attention to detail, professionalism, and work ethic will be missed. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino thanked Town Clerk Scott Nolan for his service to the Town of Granby afterward members of the Board of Selectmen took an opportunity to wish him well.

Scott Nolan noted that while his time working for the residents of Granby has been short, it has certainly been both enjoyable and rewarding and that in a short amount of time, he was able to quickly become a part of an amazing team of municipal leaders, town staff, and a member of truly dedicated public servants which has made my decision to leave all the more difficult. Town Clerk Scott Nolan took an opportunity to extend his utmost appreciation to Assistant Town Clerks Jini Ruscitti and Laura Milne, along with First Selectman Fiorentino, and members of the Board of Selectmen, and the Town Hall staff for this rewarding opportunity to serve the residents of Granby for which he was genuinely grateful. Town Clerk Scott Nolan further wished members of the Board of Selectmen and the Town staff the best of luck in all their future endeavors and that he is confident that the more than 11,000 Granby residents they serve are in good hands under their leadership.

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D. Kearns Developer Vote

Mike Walsh, Town Manager reminded members of the Board of Selectmen that the Town of Granby issued an RFP in mid-2024 seeking interested developers of the Kearns School site for the purpose of Senior Housing and that on January 13, 2025, two capable developers gave detailed presentations to the Board of Selectmen, the Commission on Aging, and the residents of the Town who participated in person or via zoom. Mike Walsh, Town Manager further elaborated that in a Special Meeting held by the Commission on Aging the week of January 20, 2025, they voted in support to proceed to work with New Samaritan/7 Summits in search of an agreement to develop the Kearns School as Senior Housing and that the commission also provided a list of priorities. Mike Walsh, Town Manager further noted that a motion was needed in order to enter into an agreement.

Deborah Holcomb (*Commission on Aging Member*) – addressed members of the Board of Selectmen regarding her concerns related to Senior Housing noting her concerns of what the assessed impact is on the Town of Granby, sewer usage, goals of the property, and the draw on other town resources. Commissioner Holcomb further expressed her concerns on the recourse for the Town should the development not meet their obligations. Further discussion took place.

Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby directs Town Manager Mike Walsh to begin working with New Samaritan/7 Summits in order to create a development agreement for the Kearns School Senior Housing Initiative with an emphasis on the listed priorities as provided by the Commission on Aging and the Board of Selectmen; and further to return to the Board of Selectmen no later than April 30, 2025 to provide either an update of the progress on the development agreement or an agreement for the Board of Selectmen to consider for approval.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple at which time the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote (5/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES**.

VI. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Manager, Mike Walsh updated members of the Board of Selectmen regarding the various department reports which included; obligation of all ARPA funds by the 12/31/2024 deadline, the “Church” meetings are ongoing with possible uses of the building being explored, held the kickoff meeting with GZA (the P&R facilities/ master plan consultant), the assessor’s office is working on the grand list and is looking to finalize it January 31st, the Building Official and the Fire Marshal have final inspections scheduled for Building 6 at Sation 280 and it is anticipated that a C/O will be issued for this building and after six of the seven buildings will have C/Os, Granby Police Department Challenge Coin competition was established through Granby memorial High School with a

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scholarship for the winner, officer Abalan and officer Deloy rescued an owl after being struck by a vehicle, public works picked up over 400 Christmas trees, on January 12 DPW received a call to report a sewer backup from Bank Street to RT 10, the library renovation project is complete, Cossitt library has a new makerspace technician, Human Resources has assisted with the roll-out of VCS timekeeping system and has attended a sick leave webinar sponsored by ConnPELRA to gain a better understanding of the new sick leave law, Human Services is kicking off the Park Study with GZA, and the Town Clerks office has been working on digitizing maps. Mike Walsh, Town Manager also reported about the new room use policy which seems to be working well. Mike Walsh, Town Manager also informed members of the Board of Selectmen that the Aquarian water sale had gone through, and a meeting will be taking place shortly to assess the impact. Mike Walsh, Town Manager also informed members of the Board of Selectmen regarding some recent donations that the Town of Granby has received.

VII. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the public that he is entering a period of time that he will be traveling a lot for work and that he intends to be back and forth a few days before each Board of Selectmen meeting.

VIII. SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Mark C. Neumann informed members of the public that he had stopped by the library and that the renovations came out great and really brightened the library up.

Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple informed members of the public that she and an opportunity to attend several of the concerts that the schools have hosted and commented on what a wonderful job the staff was doing with our young musicians.

Zainab Zafar, Student Liaison informed members of the public that today high school students were given an opportunity to job shadow any profession of their choosing and that Zainab Zafar, Student Liaison was able to shadow a teacher and is considering a career in education.

Ben LaVigne, Student Liaison further explained that he also took an opportunity to job shadow a professor at Trinity College and found it very interesting. Ben LaVigne, Student Liaison also informed members of the Public that semester two has started and that seniors are looking forward to their Senior events and Graduation is set for June 10, 2025. Ben LaVigne, Student Liaison also took an opportunity to thank first responders for all of their efforts in regards to the recent lockdowns that took place in the schools.

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IX. PUBLIC SESSION

Maureen Eberly (*Silkey Road*) – addressed members of the Board of Selectmen taking an opportunity to thank Town Clerk Scott Nolan for all of his work for the Town of Granby and wished him well noting that the Town Clerk had helped on numerous occasions finding information and getting her familiar with the Town vault.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:41 p.m. to discuss potential litigation and invited members of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager into Executive Session.

The motion was scheduled by Selectman Frederick A. Moffa which passed by a unanimous voice vote. **(5/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

At 8:25 p.m. Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion to end the Executive Session which was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome which passed by a unanimous voice vote **(5/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

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XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to come before the meeting, Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 8:26 p.m., which was seconded by Selectman Frederick A. Moffa and passed by a unanimous voice vote. **(5/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

Respectfully submitted & attested,



Scott A. Nolan
Town Clerk

Received for Record February 5, 2025, at 11:37 AM
By SCOTT A. NOLAN, Town Clerk

