

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

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February 6, 2023

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

Members Absent: Selectman Frederick A. Moffa

Others Present: Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager
 Kimi Cheng, Finance Director – Via Zoom
 Scott A. Nolan, Town Clerk

The Hon. Mark H. Fiorentino, First Selectman called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Selectman Kelly O. Rome led members of the Board of Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MINUTES

A. Approval of BOS Special Meeting with Planning & Zoning Minutes

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 Special Planning & Zoning meeting of January 24, 2023.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome which passed by a unanimous voice vote **(4/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

B. Approval of BOS Special Meeting – January 24, 2023

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 special Board of Selectmen meeting of January 24, 2023.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome which passed by a unanimous voice vote **(4/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

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III. APPOINTMENTS

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino noted that the Board of Selectmen had received recommendations from the Democratic and Republican Town Committees to fill numerous vacancies on Boards and commissions.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby appoints Victoria K. Dirienzo (D) to the Board of Assessment Appeal to fill the remainder of the unexpired term of Erik T. Lohr beginning effective immediately and ending November 14, 2023, as recommended by the Democratic Town Committee.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Mark C. Neumann which passed by a unanimous voice vote (4/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES**.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby appoints Susan K. Okie (R) to the IWWC for the balance of a four-year term beginning immediately and ending January 8, 2024, as recommended by the Republican Town Committee;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby appoints Mae Collins (U) to the Commission on Aging for a full two-year term beginning January 10, 2022, and ending January 12, 2024, as recommended by the Republican Town Committee;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby appoints Judith H. Jones (U) to the Commission on Aging for a one-year vacancy term beginning January 19, 2023, and ending January 08, 2024, as recommended by the Republican Town Committee;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby appoints Anthony McGovern (U) to the Park Commission for a full two-year term beginning January 9, 2023, and ending January 14, 2025.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome which passed by a unanimous voice vote (4/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES**.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. ARPA Update – Farmington Valley Health District

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Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager informed members of the Board of Selectmen about the Farmington Valley of Health District had put in a proposal to receive American Rescue Plan Act monies thru each participating municipality. Town Manager, Erica. P. Robertson introduced Jennifer Kertanis, Director of Health who gave an overview about the many of their mental health programs and initiatives and how the services they offered directly benefited the Town of Granby. Director Kertanis updated members on the allocation of funds that the assistance to the Farmington Valley Health District is essential to public health functions as the regional health department. Director Kertanis noted that funds will be used for staff training, IT infrastructure upgrades, a district vehicle, communication enhancements and community and mental health coordination for the district.

Answering questions from the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Erica. P. Robertson explained that their were further technology upgrades that were being worked on and that those technologies should come with more efficiency. Town Manager, Erica. P. Robertson gave a brief update on the library renovations that would improve carpeting, lighting, windows, and that the renovation would not include expansion.

B. Charter Revision Update

Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager updated members of the Board of Selectmen about the progress that the Charter Revision Commission is making and noted that their next regularly scheduled meeting is on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall meeting room.

C. Consideration of Holcomb Farm Investment Options

Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager updated members of the Board of Selectmen about the Holcomb Farm Investment Options and note3d that one of the primary components of the ling-term conservation and sustainability plan for Holcomb Farm was a gift from the Granby Land Trust. Through the Holcomb Farm Conservation Easement the Town of Granby accepted \$500,000 from the Granby Land Trust to create a restricted investment account to support the Farm's operations, maintenance, and capital expenses. Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager noted that their have been ongoing discussions with legal counsel and our investment advisor, Fiducient, to review investment options and further explained that generally, municipal investment options are limited in terms of how much they can earn due to the options are restricted to low-risk investments.

Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager explained to members of the Board of Selectmen that it was recommend that we pursue the trust fund option as it is the most advantageous option that we have for investment of the donation and that we requested that we have legal counsel draw up appropriate documents that would outline options put forward.

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V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the 2020 Neglected Cemetery Account Grant Program

Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager updated members of the Board of Selectmen regarding the Neglected Cemetery Grant from 2020 and explained that at that time the Board of Selectmen had authorized the Town Manager to apply for the grant for work to be done on Cooley Road and Lee Cemeteries. Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager noted that the grant application submitted in 2020 was successful and that the Town was awarded \$3,332.00 and that the work under the 2020 grant had been completed, however, the State of Connecticut is requesting a new resolution as the previous Town Manager was the only authorized signer on file for the 2020 Neglected Cemetery Grant award.

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 Town Manager, Erica P. Robertson, to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary for the 2020 Neglected Cemetery Account Grant Program award for \$3,332.00.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome which passed by a unanimous voice vote (4/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES**.

B. Budget Update and Grand List Review

Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager updated members of the Board of Selectmen on the Budget and the Grand List Review. Town Manager, Erica P. Robertson explained that the Board of Finance proposed the preliminary budget for both the municipal bid and the education budget were on target, however, the spending increases were capped at 3.99% and 4.99% respectively. Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager explained that this was a significant decrease from the proposed Plus One Budget and that the budget worksheet being discussed assumes a mill rate increase of 1.74% for FY24.

C. Board of Selectmen Calendar

Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager updated members of the Board of Selectmen about the new proposed Board of Selectmen meeting calendar explaining that each year the Boards and Commissions file a list of regular meeting dates with the Town Clerk per Connecticut General Statutes and that historically, the Board of Selectmen hold their budget meetings in March and that by filing these meets on the calendar they are considered regular meetings rather than special meetings. Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager noted that a new meeting schedule is on file in the Town Clerks office.

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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 change to the regular Board of Selectmen meeting schedule on file with the Town Clerk and moves the regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting from June 19, 2023, to June 20, 2023, as on file with the Town Clerk's office.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome which passed by a unanimous voice vote (4/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES.**

VI. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager reported to members of the Board of Selectmen about the School Building Committee and noted that there was a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new GMHS kitchen and commons space on January 19, 2023. Town Manager, Erica P. Robertson noted that the music and industrial arts including, culinary, areas are also being used by the students and that it was a nice event with delicious appetizers and desserts provided by the district's food services provider.

Town Manager, Erica P. Robertson also informed members of the Board of Selectmen that the Town Librarian Director, Amy McCue has submitted her resignation and will be leaving the Granby Public Library as of February 20, 2023, as she was offered a position with the Town of Glastonbury. Town Manager, Erica P. Robertson took an opportunity to publicly thank Amy for all of her hard work and for her fantastic leadership with the library over the last 4 years.

VII. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that they will be holding an informal "Open House" on Monday, February 13, 2023, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino noted that only a few members of the Board of Selectmen will be present to keep the meeting informal.

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino also asked members of the Board of Selectmen to keep the Oats Family in their thoughts and prayers as Jim Oats had recently passed away. First Selectman Mark H. noted that Jim Oats had been a fearless and tireless public servant to the Town of Granby and that he had served on numerous Boards and Commissions along with being a former First Selectman.

VIII. SELECTMAN REPORTS

No reports were given.

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IX. PUBLIC SESSION

No Public Input was offered.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Consideration of a Real Estate Transaction

Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:59 p.m. for the consideration of Real Estate Transaction as permitted by Connecticut General Statutes Section § 1-225(a) for the following purposes as allowed by Section §1-200(6), that is: Discussion of the selection of a stie or lease, sale or purchase of real estate by a political subdivision of the state when publicity regarding such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction would cause a likelihood of increased price until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated or abandoned; and invited Members of the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, and the Town Attorney into Executive Session.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome which passed by a unanimous voice vote (4/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES.**

Following Executive Session, Members of the Board of Selectmen resumed their meeting at 8:26 p.m.

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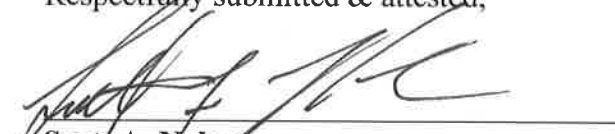
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XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to come before the meeting, Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 8:27 p.m., which was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome and passed by a unanimous voice vote. **(4/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

Respectfully submitted & attested,



Scott A. Nolan
Town Clerk

Received for Record February 9, 2023 at 3:25 PM
By SCOTT A. NOLAN, Town Clerk