

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

Minutes

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March 13, 2023

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

Others Present: Erica P. Robertson, Town Manager
 Kimi Cheng, Finance Director
 Scott A. Nolan, Town Clerk
 Michael B. Guarco, Jr., Board of Finance, Chairman
 Kevin F. Hobson, Board of Finance
 Nancy Scheetz, Visiting Nurse Association, CEO
 Judy Guarco, Library Board Chairman
 Rhonda Gilbert, Interim Library Director
 Kristine Vincent, Director of Recreation & Leisure Services
 Kirk A. Severance, Public Works Director
 Carl Rosensweig, Police Chief

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Selectman Mark C. Neumann, called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Selectman Mark C. Neumann led members of the Board of Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Town Manager, Erica P. Robertson, addressed members of the Board of Selectmen about their follow-up questions that they had at the last budget meeting explaining that Nancy Scheetz, Visiting Nurse Association, CEO was present and available for questions.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby amends the Board of Selectmen agenda to add a discussion about the Visiting Nurses Association Budget to the Board of Selectmen agenda of March 13, 2023.

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

A. Visiting Nurse's Association Budget Presentation Follow-up (Added Agenda Item)

Nancy Scheetz, Visiting Nurse Association, CEO gave a brief overview and presentation of the Visiting Nurse Associations budget explaining that the organization has not asked for an increase from any of their partnering municipalities in the last 15 years and that at the direction of the Visiting Nurse's Association's Board of Directors, CEO Scheetz has made the request for the additional appropriations. Ms. Scheetz goes on to further elaborate all the different services that are provided to Granby residents and that the Visiting Nurses Association puts on a wide variety of programs and that the money allocated to them is spent and programs that have the greatest impact. Ms. Scheetz further explained the various funding levels that each municipality contributes and informed members of the board of selectman that funding levels did not always impact the level or number of programs the Visiting Nurses Association was able to put on that they do the best they can with the resources they have to meet the needs of the public.

B. Parks & Recreation

Kristine Vincent, Director of Recreation & Leisure Services addressed members of the Board of Selectmen about the 2023 - 2024 budget proposal for Parks & Recreation noting that the goals of the department are to meet as many of the needs and interests as possible directly affecting the quality of life of members of the Granby community and; the needs of the community in the areas of social and cultural activity; promoting active and passive recreation as essential and healthy aspects of everyday life in the community by promoting the individual, community, economic, and environmental benefits of an active recreational lifestyle. Kristine Vincent, Director of Recreation & Leisure Services further explained that there were no significant changes to the department's budget request and that the program events fund was established as a fiduciary fund in which the town as agents for program activities holds the assets and that the money is expended to conduct a variety of programs, events, or recreation facility enhancements. Kristine Vincent, Director of Recreation & Leisure Services also informed members of the Board of Selectmen about the many highlights that the youth activities, youth sports leagues, and especially the adult activities programs had over the recent budget year. Further discussion took place regarding follow-up questions regarding the 2023 - 2024 budget proposal for Parks & Recreation.

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C. Libraries

Town Manager, Erica P. Robertson, Judy Guarco, Library Board Chairman, & Rhonda Gilbert, Interim Library Director addressed members of the Board of Selectmen about the 2023 - 2024 budget proposal regarding the libraries explaining that Libraries serve the informational and recreational needs of the community with a strong collection of books, audiobooks, movies, magazines, music, digital resources, and databases to support that intellectual freedom and the rights of individuals to read, learn, and gather together in a safe, friendly and welcoming environment. & Rhonda Gilbert, Interim Library Director noted that in a growing community that is striving to preserve its small-town individuality, the Granby Public Library is committed to becoming the community crossroads where all generations can meet to freely exchange ideas and information.

Answering questions from the Board of Selectmen, Judy Guarco, Library Board Chairman further explained to members of the Board of Selectmen the breakdown of programming fees and where the revenue/ donations from programs get attributed to. Mrs. Guarco explained that there is no line item for programming in the library budget as that money is donated by private donors such as Friends of the Library who were able to donate ~\$45,000 to the library for capital projects and programming needs.

D. Department of Public Works

Kirk A. Severance, Public Works Director addressed members of the Board of Selectmen about the 2023 - 2024 budget proposal for the Public Works Department and explained that on average the department does ~1,200 work orders a year which includes, everything from major events to minor repairs, painting, events-setup, maintaining trees, vehicle maintenance, sewer pump maintenance, managing contract pickups with Paynes, and so much more. Kirk A. Severance, Public Works Director also noted that some of the utility prices such as diesel in gasoline are locked in to prevent them from fluctuating up and down. Kirk A. Severance, Public Works Director informed members of the Board of Selectmen regarding the staffing levels with the department noting that there are 16 employees, but that there has been an increase in the milage of roads to maintain, the number of catch basins, along with the number of Town-owned facilities (134 properties), and yet, the department has not seen an increase in staffing. Kirk A. Severance, Public Works Director also explained that increase in the Water line item as there has recently been a rate increase due to the vendor's audit of how much water was being supplied to Town owned pipes. Kirk A. Severance, Public Works Director also updated a member of the Board of Selectmen about the tipping fees associated with trash pickup.

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E. Police Department Administration

Carl Rosensweig, Police Chief addressed members of the Board of Selectmen about the 2023 - 2024 budget proposal for the Police Department Budget noting that the Police Department has 16 sworn police officers, 4 full-time dispatchers, 3 part-time dispatchers, 1 Animal Control Officer, and 1 administrative assistant. Police Chief Carl Rosensweig further explained that there are no major changes in the Police Department budget presentation this year with the exception of a few small changes to the temporary/part-time staffing needs. Further discussion took place regarding contractual obligations such as the cleaning of uniforms, office supply expenses, and police officer overtime and the possibility of reducing overtime hours by hiring an additional full-time officer.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

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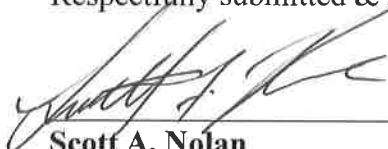
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V. ADJOURNMENT

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 7:15 p.m., which was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome and passed by a unanimous voice vote. **(5/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

Respectfully submitted & attested,



Scott A. Nolan
Town Clerk

Received for Record March 15, 2023, at 8:16 AM
By SCOTT A. NOLAN, Town Clerk