

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

Minutes

Page 1

November 6, 2023

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

Members Absent: Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple

Others Present: Scott A. Nolan, Town Clerk
 Kimi Cheng, Finance Director – Via Zoom
 Kirk A. Severance, Public Works Director

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 15 North Granby Road, Granby, CT 06035.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

II. MINUTES

A. Approval of Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes – October 16, 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 Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of October 16, 2023.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly O. Rome which passed by a voice vote of **3** ayes (First Selectman Fiorentino, Selectmen Neumann, and Rome) **0** nays, and **1** abstention (Selectman Moffa).
MOTION CARRIES.

III. APPOINTMENTS

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that no recommendations had been received to take action on.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

No old business took place.

(Continued on Next Page)

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

Minutes

Page 2

November 6, 2023

V. BUSINESS

A. Presentation of Paintings from Sally Sargent Markey and Marty Wilmot

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino introduced works of art produced by Sally Sargent Markey and Marty Wilmot that were being donated to the Town of Granby to be displayed permanently at Town Hall. Ms. Wilmot further explained that the print piece being donated was a print from the Granby Bicentennial that was honored in 1986 and explained how the piece came together.

B. Presentation from Conservation Commission on Sustainable CT

Conservation Commission Chairman, David W. Roberts and Vice Chair Melinda Gould gave a presentation and an update on the Sustainable CT state program explaining that the Board of Selectmen passed a resolution nearly two years ago requesting that the Conservation Commission get involved in Sustainable CT. Conservation Commission Chairman, David W. Roberts explained that Sustainable CT is a voluntary certification program that recognizes thriving and resilient Connecticut municipalities and that 130 of 169 towns have signed on to the program. Conservation Commission Chairman, David W. Roberts further explained that every two years municipalities need to re-apply to become certified and that Granby is a bronze-certified community. Vice Chair Melinda Gould explained that in order to stay certified the Town needed to score well in certain categories such as; Inclusive and equitable Community Impacts, Thriving Local Economies, Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources, Vibrant and Creative Culture Ecosystems, and Dynamic and Resilient Planning along with others. Vice Chair Melinda Gould informed members of the Board of Selectmen that it was important to reach for low-hanging fruit along with establishing long-term goals to keep these initiatives moving forward.

C. Presentation from FVHD Director of Health Jennifer Kertanis

Farmington Valley Health District (FVHD) Director, Jennifer Kertanis updated members of the Board of Selectmen regarding the health status of the community. Director Jennifer Kertanis highlighted some of the most pressing issues regarding health and the assessment results of Adult Mental Health noting that:

- 23% of FVHD respondents reported between one and seven days poor mental health in the last 30 days
- 12% of FVHD respondents reported at least eight days of poor mental health in the last 30 days
- High rates in females, younger individuals, and those earning lower incomes
- 15.7% of FVHD residents report even having been diagnosed with a depressive disorder

(Continued on Next Page)

TOWN OF GRANBY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Page 3

November 6, 2023

- Females 19.2%, individuals aged between 18-44 years old, 18.4% and individuals earning less than \$75k 20% reported higher rates of depressive disorder diagnosis
- Rates of suicide in FVHD as well as in CT are higher in males.

Farmington Valley Health District Director, Jennifer Kertanis further noted that among Youth Mental Health statewide:

- 30.6% of high school students experience persistent sadness or hopelessness
- Just under 50% of high school students do not usually or never get the help they need when they feel sad, empty, hopeless, angry or anxious
- 15.4% of students engaged in self-harm behaviors
- 12.7% seriously considered suicide
- 6.7% attempted suicide

Farmington Valley Health District Director, Jennifer Kertanis further explained the challenges related to mental health explaining that 1 in 5 U.S. adults experience mental illness each year and that the average delay between onset of mental illness symptoms and treatment is 11 years, and that at least 8.4 million people in the U.S. provide care to an adult with mental or emotional health issues.

D. Update On ARPA Project List

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino updated members of the Board of Selectmen regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects and that Kimi Cheng, Finance Director has been updating the Board of Selectmen each month on the running totals of the various projects. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino further explained the status of the many projects on the ARPA Project List approved 6-20-23 and noted;

STATUS AS OF 10/23/2023

1. Completed.
2. Partially complete. The project generally includes three phases:

Phase 1: Background infrastructure includes firewalls, cabling, access points, etc. This phase is mostly complete. Expected final completion by year end.

Phase 2: Replacement of phone system. Most of the cost of this phase is funded outside of ARPA, but there may be some minor crossover. Most phones are installed and are being tested. Transition plan is being implemented and expect completion by the end of 2023.

(Continued on Next Page)

TOWN OF GRANBY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Page 4

November 6, 2023

Phase 3: Replacement of computer hardware. Preliminary assessment of needs completed. Expect to complete needs assessment and obtain pricing by end of first quarter of 2024.

3. BOS approved \$59,200 to retain HVAC consultant to: 1). Analyze existing systems in Town Hall, Library, Police Services and Senior Center; 2). For each building, provide recommendations on improvements, both “optimal” and “least expensive” options; 3). Create RFP and construction documents for all buildings; and 4). Provide inspection services for all projects we proceed with. The first two tasks have been completed, so it is time for the town to identify which projects to pursue. Amber Wyzik, Kirk Severance and First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino recommend that we reallocate approximately \$338,000 from Library Renovations (Line 4) to Town Hall Campus HVAC (Line 3) for use on Town Hall and Library HVAC improvements. Kirk will then make recommendations to the Board on which HVAC projects to pursue.
4. Current cost estimates to complete the project significantly exceed the original estimate (by approximately \$100,000). There is also a concern that work done as originally contemplated may need to be redone during HVAC improvements. Amber Wyzik, Director of Library Services, has solicited a proposal to do a space needs and feasibility study to help guide decisions related to non-HVAC library renovations to ensure they are done thoughtfully and efficiently and that they contemplate future expected needs. The cost of the study should not exceed \$15,000. Accordingly, Amber and I recommend that we reallocate the funds set aside for renovations as follows: Not to exceed \$15,000 to remain in Library Renovation (Line 4) to do space needs/feasibility study. Remainder (approximately \$338,000) reallocated to the Town Hall campus HVAC project (Line 3).
5. Completed.
6. This line was intended to allow for contingency funds to cover situations where project cost more than originally estimated.
7. Completed.
8. Website upgrade completed. Evaluating whether other contemplated projects are warranted.
9. Completed.
10. Completed.

E. Discussion and Possible Action to Reallocate Funds Between Identified Projects

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that pursuant to the ARPA update provided in Agenda item D, Amber Wyzik, Kirk Severance, and First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino recommended reallocating funds identified for Library Renovations to be allocated as follows:

(Continued on Next Page)

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

Minutes

Page 5

November 6, 2023

- Utilize not to exceed \$15,000 to do a space needs/ feasibility study for the main library.
- Move the remainder (approximately \$338,000) to the Town Hall Campus HVAC.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby 1) reallocate funds identified on the ARPA project list as outlined above; and 2) authorize the Director of Library Services and/ or the Town Manager to utilize up to \$15,000 to obtain a space needs/ feasibility study of the main library.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Frederick A. Moffa which passed by a unanimous voice vote (4/0/0) **MOTION CARRIES.**

VI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that the Town Managers Report included various reports from the Town Departments for the Board of Selectmen to review and inquired if any of the Selectmen had questions. Selectman Mark C. Neumann inquired about the Sewer study from the Department of Public Works and whether or not the flow study was independent of the quoting of the new pump facility at Salmon Brook Park.

VII. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino thanked and welcomed our new Police Chief, Scott Sansom, and is looking forward to working alongside him and thanked Captain Laflame for all of the work he did while serving as the Interim Police Chief.

VIII. SELECTMAN REPORTS

No reports were offered.

IX. PUBLIC SESSION

No Public Input was offered.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session took place.

(Continued on Next Page)

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

Minutes

Page 6

November 6, 2023

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to come before the meeting, Selectman Frederick A. Moffa made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 8:11 p.m., which was seconded by Selectman Mark C. Neumann and passed by a unanimous voice vote. **(4/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

Respectfully submitted & attested,



Scott A. Nolan
Town Clerk

Received for Record November 16, 2023, at 9:15 AM
By SCOTT A. NOLAN, Town Clerk