

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

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August 21, 2023

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

Members Absent: Selectman Kelly O. Rome

Others Present: Scott A. Nolan, Town Clerk
 Kimi Cheng, Finance Director
 Charles Orluk, Student Liaison

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. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby adds the appointment of Sandra Yost and Joan Kuhnly to the Farmington Valley Health District to the Appointment portion of the agenda.

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

II. MINUTES

A. Approval of Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes – August 7, 2023

Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple 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 August 7, 2023.

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

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III. APPOINTMENTS

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino noted that the Town is a member of the Farmington Valley Health District and that due to some transition both representative seats happen to be vacant and that two recommendations were coming before the Board of Selectmen for consideration.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby appoints Joan Kuhnly as a representative on the Farmington Valley Health District for a three-year term beginning effective immediately and ending September 1, 2026, and;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby appoints Sandra Yost as a representative on the Farmington Valley Health District for a three-year term beginning effective immediately and ending September 1, 2026.

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

IV. OLD BUSINESS

No old business took place.

V. BUSINESS

A. Notification of STEAP Grant Applications for Senior Services, Library Services, and Park & Recreations Department

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino noted that the Town of Granby Departments of Senior Services, Library Services, and Parks & Recreation requests approval of the submission of the STEAP Grant application from the State of Connecticut for the following projects and that the grant is provided through the Small-Town Economic Assistant Program (STEAP), which is a State-run program that delivers grants to small towns for capital projects. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino explained that on behalf of the Granby Parks & Recreation Department, Director Kristine Vincent requests approval of the submission of the STEAP Grant application from the State of Connecticut for the renovation and reconstruction of the existing basketball courts at Salmon Brook Park into a multisport court that can accommodate a variety of different activities including basketball, volleyball, floor hockey, badminton, pickleball and more. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino further explained that the Town currently has two paved asphalt basketball courts that were constructed years ago at Salmon Brook Park and that these courts are decades old and are cracked, uneven, and have become a major safety hazard. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino also noted that the STEAP Grant application from the

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Parks & Recreation Department requested a grant award of \$210,000 in state funding with a proposed match of \$42,000 (20%) from the Town's Recreation Fund for a total project cost of \$252,000 and that an additional appropriation request will be presented to the Board of Selectmen for approval if the STEAP grant is approved by the State.

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino explained on behalf of the Granby Public Library, and Director, Amber Wyzik that an application for the STEAP Grant had been submitted for the replacement of the existing sidewalks at the F.H. Cossitt Library as they are crumbling, cracked, and difficult to maintain in the wintertime and become dangerous for our patrons, especially those with disabilities or the elderly. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino further noted that the STEAP grant application from the Granby Public Library is requesting a grant award of \$45,000 and that this amount would fund the project in its entirety and would not require any matching municipal funds.

Lastly, First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino explained that on behalf of the Granby Senior Services Department and Sandra Yost, a STEAP application grant had been submitted for the upgrade of the Senior Center kitchen and that currently, the kitchen lacks an adequate sanitation system which requires the usage of single service articles which is presenting an environmentally unfriendly situation. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino noted that an improved sanitation system might include a three-bay sink, commercial grade dishwasher, stainless steel countertops, grease interceptor, and the relocation of the hand washing sink and that the STEAP grant application requests a grant award of \$126,800 with no matching needs from the municipal funds.

B. FY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program – Municipal Memorandum of Agreement of Region 3

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that the Capital Region Council of Governments (CROG) has requested that Granby enter into an agreement with the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and that the purpose of this agreement would be to pool the Department of Homeland Security Grant to allow the purchase of specialized equipment by CROG, including barricades, stair climbing robots, and pole cameras, for example. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino noted that the equipment would be available for use within Region 3 for the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and that CROG also uses the funding to staff the Capital Region Emergency Planning Council (CREPC), to fund contractual support for updates of regional plans, to provide reimbursement for training for individual towns.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Granby Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection,

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Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents with it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mark H. Fiorentino, as First Selectman of the Town of Granby is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Granby Board of Selectmen and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

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

C. Update on New Phone System Project

Kimi Cheng, Director of Finance informed members of the Board of Selectmen that at the August 16, 2021, Board of Selectmen meeting and the August 23, 2021, Board of Finance meeting, the boards approved a \$55,000 appropriation from the Communication Fund to upgrade the Town's antiquated phone system and that the communication fund was closed in FY23, and the funding was transferred to the Capital Nonrecurring Expense Fund for the project.

Kimi Cheng, Director of Finance further explained that the project was on hold due to the lack of IT infrastructure needed to support a VOIP phone system and that with the new and upgraded IT infrastructure, which was installed and completed in July 2023, the new VoIP phone system project is ready to move forward. Kimi Cheng, Director of Finance also noted that the sales agreement in the amount of \$52,173.25 was received from American Business Telephone and Technologies (ABTT) the same vendor that installed the Board of Education's current phone system a few years ago.

D. Consideration of Explanatory Text for Ballot Question Regarding Proposed Revisions to the Granby Town Charter

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that under Connecticut General Statutes, the Board of Selectmen has the option of preparing, printing, and distributing explanatory text for the ballot question on the proposed revisions to the Granby Town Charter and that the Town Clerk and Town Attorney would work collaboratively to prepare the text.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the preparation and printing of explanatory text by the Town Clerk in accordance with Section § 9-396(b) of

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the Connecticut General Statutes for the charter review question to be voted upon on November 7, 2023.

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 there were three reports presented to the Board of Selectmen for their review which included the June 2023 Budget Operations Report, July 2023 Budget Operations Report, and an updated American Rescue Plan Act Report (ARPA).

VII. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT

No report was offered.

VIII. SELECTMAN REPORTS

Charles Orluk, Student Liaison informed members of the Board of Selectmen that the academic year was just around the corner that Tuesday was the first day of school, and that he is looking forward to his senior year.

IX. PUBLIC SESSION

Michael Fusick (*55 Northwoods Road*) addressed members of the Board of Selectmen regarding the drainage infrastructure and pond located on his property which he purchased in May of 2022, and explained that it was constructed solely to manage stormwater and collects runoff from eight catch basin located on Northwoods road and controllable discharges into the abutting property and eventually to the East Branch Salmon Brook.

Robert James Flanagan Jr. (*Woodcliff Drive*) addressed members of the Board of Selectmen regarding the changes to the Charter Revision and if the changes had been posted to the Town Website. Mr. Flanagan also inquired about when the next Inland Wetlands & Watercourse Meeting was scheduled.

Katherine Bogli (*198R Salmon Brook Street*) addressed members of the Board of Selectmen and inquired about an update on the Town Managers Search along with the completion date of the road construction in Granby Center.

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X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter and a real estate matter and invited members of the Board of Selectmen into Executive Session.

The motion was scheduled by Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple which passed by a unanimous voice vote. **(4/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

At 8:10 p.m. Selectman Mark C. Neumann made a motion to end the Executive Session which was seconded by Selectman Frederick A. Moffa which passed by a unanimous voice vote. **(4/0/0) 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 8:11 p.m., which was seconded by Selectman Frederick A. Moffa and passed by a unanimous voice vote. **(4/0/0) MOTION CARRIES.**

Respectfully submitted & attested,



Scott A. Nolan
Town Clerk

Received for Record August 24, 2023, at 9:24 AM
By SCOTT A. NOLAN, Town Clerk