

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

Minutes

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October 16, 2023

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

Members Absent: Selectman Frederick A. Moffa

Others Present: Scott A. Nolan, Town Clerk
 Kimi Cheng, Finance Director
 Charles Orluk, Student Liaison
 Amber Wyzik, Director of Library Services

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

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino led members of the Board of Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MINUTES

A. Approval of Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes – October 2, 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 2, 2023.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Margaret Q. Chapple at which time discussion took place regarding Business item V. B (Appointment of Kimi Cheng to Serve as Interim Town Manager). First First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino noted that section V.B should have used the word Acting Town Manager instead of Interim Town Manager explaining that per the Town Charter, there is a difference. **(4/0/0) 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.

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IV. OLD BUSINESS

No old business took place.

V. BUSINESS

**A. Presentation from Amber Wyzik, Director of Library Services, Regarding
Cossitt Library**

Amber Wyzik, Director of Library Services gave a presentation regarding the Cossitt Library and that the mission of the Granby Public Library was to support intellectual freedom; support the right of individuals to read, learn, and gather together in a safe, friendly, and welcoming environment, provide free access to diverse ideas, resources, and experiences, strive to enhance the quality of life in our community by providing and encouraged lifelong learning through a variety of resources.

Amber Wyzik, Director of Library Services explained that the lower level of the Cossitt Library would be transformed into a "Creation Station" as a Makers Space which would be a space in which people with shared interests could gather to work on projects while sharing ideas, equipment, and knowledge. Amber Wyzik, Director of Library Services further explained that this would bring new life to the Cossitt Library and some of the equipment could include a 3D Printer, Laser Cutter, Cricut Cutter and accessories, Sewing Machines, Digitization Equipment, and Digitization Equipment. Amber Wyzik, Director of Library Services, also noted that the funding would come from grants, donations, Friends of the Granby Public Library fundraising, and Granby Library Association and that current staffing would be used.

B. Consideration of Budget Goals and Objectives

Finance Director Kimi Cheng explained to members of the Board of Selectmen that periodically the Board of Selectmen reviews and revises the goals and objectives that we hope to achieve through the budget development process and that these are high-level goals that are often multiyear in nature.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Granby Board of Selectmen hereby adopts the following budget goals and objectives for the fiscal year 2025 budget and beyond:

- Deliver and maintain excellent Town services that benefit all residents while budgeting in a conservatively and fiscally responsible manner.
- Explore alternative methods of providing services and ways to expand revenue sources to minimize property tax increases.

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- Explore methods for creating efficiency and reducing costs.
- Provide appropriate funding to maintain all Town assets and to meet the long-term capital needs of the Town. Examine the current process for developing the Capital Improvement Program.
- Explore alternatives to note payable direct borrowing, including cash purchases from the Capital Equipment/ Improvement Fund, where appropriate and advisable.
- Develop a multi-year plan to maintain unassigned fund balance reserves at a minimum of fifteen percent.
- Continually strive to improve and fund communication strategies with 4 residents and businesses in all areas of government.

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

C. Responses to Cultivation of Town Land RFP

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that there are three current Town-owned properties that are currently licensed to agriculture users and that they expire at the end of this year and that an RFP was put together. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino further explained that they are five-year license agreements with initial annual payments with a 3% increase each year in the five-year period. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino took an opportunity to thank Abigail Kenyon our Community Development Director who led the process and did the bulk of the work. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino noted that the agreements were in place and that North Valley Farms, Inc. was the highest bidder on all three of the sites.

VI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that Finance Director Kimi Cheng had put together the highlights report of revenues and expenditures, Budget Operations report for September 2023, and the American Rescue Plan Act Report and inquired if there were any questions.

VII. FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT

First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that he had attended the Granby Land Trust annual meeting and that they had received an award from the Connecticut Land Trust Council due to their efforts for the permanent preservation of the Holcomb Farm and the preservation of Wilcox Farm.

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First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino also informed members of the Board of Selectmen that stakeholders would begin presenting to the Board of Selectmen regularly and that this will start with the Conservation Commission on November 6, 2023. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino also informed members of the Board of Selectmen that at the November 6, 2023, Board of Selectmen meeting a presentation from the Farmington Valley Health District would be given regarding mental health initiatives that they are working on. First Selectman Mark H. Fiorentino informed members of the Board of Selectmen that on November 20, 2023, a presentation on the Granby Racial Reconciliation group regarding how their year went and some of the challenges they see coming forward.

VIII. SELECTMAN REPORTS

Charles Orluk, Student Liaison informed members of the Board of Selectmen that this past Saturday was homecoming and that this week was Spirit Week and events include crazy Hat Day, USA, anything but a backpack, and students dressed as teachers and teachers dressed as students.

IX. PUBLIC SESSION

No Public Input was offered.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:28 p.m. Selectman Kelly O. Rome made a motion to go into Executive Session which was seconded by Selectman Mark C. Neumann and 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 7:55 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 October 22, 2023, at 11:21 AM
By SCOTT A. NOLAN, Town Clerk