

## REPORT ON THE SELECTBOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 12, 2021

Prepared by Rick Cliffe

Note: These are not official minutes -- -- just notes taken by me. Official minutes will be available from the Town Office and will be posted on the Town web site following Board approval at the next meeting. If anyone wishes to stop receiving these reports, they may simply hit "Reply" and request to be deleted from the list or say "Unsubscribe."

THE MEETING: The meeting was conducted as a Zoom Hybrid. SelectBoard members Rich Donaldson, Jon Collins, and Bronwen Tudor plus administrator Amanda Campbell were present. There were 18 members of the public in attendance on Zoom.

The minutes of the meeting of September 28, 2021 were approved. They will be posted on the Town website.

MOST IMPORTANT/INTERESTING ITEMS: In my judgment, the following items were the most important things covered during the meeting.

- **First Church:** Bob Gravino gave a short status report. Nancy Kinner has been looking for structural engineering firms that can do a thorough structural analysis of the current building. She has put forth a two phase plan. The initial phase is an engineering review/analysis of the current structure. The second phase is a detailed construction/engineering plan to get bids if the Board decides to move ahead. Nancy pointed out that there are few engineering firms with Professional Engineers (PE) who have experience with wooden structures. She has found one firm so far. Bronwen noted that the initial report will not have cost estimates for the construction. Rich asked if she expected any other bids. Dave Polito said the plan doesn't address review of the roof structure or basement. Nancy advised it is standard practice to analyze roof (snow) loads. She will confirm with the proposed firm. A motion was made to authorize the phase 1 analysis subject to adding the roof and any other structure. Rich recommended that the Board delay authorization until the Steering Committee meets to revise/finalize the plan at their meeting October 21<sup>st</sup>. The updated plan should be brought back to the next Selectboard meeting.
- **Solar Working Group:** This was a follow-up to discussions at the last Board meeting. Bronwen said she had reviewed the charge that the Board originally gave the Working Group and noted that Working Group and Board expectations were different. She expected the Working Group would look at alternatives beyond net energy billing which has a low dollar threshold. Rich said he had looked into the fuel oil heating at the school over the past two years. He also noted that towns can get up to 90% of the cost for converting from oil to heat pumps. He asked if the Working Group could do a cost/benefit analysis of that conversion as part of the study. In response to a question, Nancy said she felt the Working Group could complete phase 1 by the end of January 2022. Susanna Place asked if backup solar batteries for emergency use could be added to the study. Rich noted that GVFD is the emergency center for the Town. Rich will update the charge based on his notes. Nancy will update her memo/plan.
- **Street Light Conversion:** This was a brief follow-up to the discussion at the last Board meeting. It came up during the Solar Working Group report. Rich recommended that the Board contract with CMP to convert the 19 Town-owned street lamps to LED lamps. The Solar Working Group should use the reduced power LED requirements in their analysis. Amanda recommended looking at the street lights. Are they in the right place now? Bronwen recommended light color and coverage pattern be considered. Amanda will follow up with CMP.
- **Transfer Station:** One attendant left suddenly last weekend and wasn't available on Monday. There is a need for protocol to notify residents when this type event happens. There are a number of email lists that can be used. Rich noted that there are currently 2 applicants for attendant at the transfer station.
- **Treasurer:** Bill Webster's resignation is complete. It was noted that there is a candidate who is able to fill the position until next June's election. Bronwen recommended that all three Selectboard members should meet and discuss the position with the candidate. Rich advised that he has signature authority on fiscal matters. He also recommended that a backup should be identified in case something happens to him.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Amanda reported on correspondence received. For a complete listing of this correspondence, see the Meeting Agenda on the Town website.

The most interesting items were:

- Maine Revenue Services notified the Town that the proposed State Valuation (of Georgetown) is \$534,050,000 (up \$33.2 M) based on data as of 4/1/2020. Amanda advised that if the Board disagrees, they have until November 15<sup>th</sup> to appeal. There were no comments or discussion.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- The TOPMB advised they will be pulling two commercial floats, to scrape the marine growth, on Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers interested in helping will be appreciated.
- Bronwen advised that she has been appointed to a state Affordable Housing Commission established by MMA. They have been tasked to examine obstacles to affordable housing, recommend mandates that may facilitate approval/permitting, and identify how American Rescue Plan funding may be able to help. She noted that there are a number of members from small towns.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Broadband:** Work on the Control Center has begun adjacent to the Town Office parking lot.
- **Recreation Committee:** Amanda said she has notes from the informal meeting held 10/4 with seven interested residents. There was a brief discussion of the meeting. Bronwen said the committee should have a mission statement. Rich recommended that a new recreation committee be appointed charged with drafting the mission statement. It was recommended that the Board appoint the seven interested residents as a committee until next June's election/town meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Pumpkins:** Rich noted that the GVFD will be giving pumpkins to all GCS students – as usual.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES:

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<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Saturday, Oct 23, 10 am – 2 pm	Drug Take Back	Central Firehouse	Prescription and/or Over the Counter medicines will be accepted

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The next meeting of the Selectboard will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, October 26. The public is welcome to attend on ZOOM. Contact Amanda Campbell or Alex Neese at the Town Office to get the Meeting ID and Password.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Cliffe