

Ann P. Minor, Asst.
2021 JUN -9 PM 12:47



Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Downstairs Meeting Room
Town Hall – 28 Main Street
June 8, 2021 – 6:00 PM



MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll** – Meeting was called to order at 6 PM by Todd Babbitt, First Selectman

Members Present: Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
Richard Grabowski, Selectman
Jared Picco, Selectman

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Tina Falck, Senior Center Director
6 other interested citizens

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **May 25, 2021 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by T. Babbitt, to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 25, 2021, as presented. **Motion carried. J. Picco abstained.**

- b. **May 28, 2021 – Special Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by J. Picco, seconded by R. Grabowski, to approve the May 28, 2021, special meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Correspondence**

- a. **Letter from Paul Brycki for resignation from the Glasgo WPCA**

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to accept the resignation of Paul Brycki from the Glasgo WPCA and thank him for his service. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Update from Vision on revaluation process** – Noted as received and that the process is on schedule.
- c. **Formal opinion from Town Attorney on previous appointments on EDC** – Noted as received and confirmed the actions taken last month regarding EDC appointments was accurate.

4. New Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on one tax refund for a total of \$186.71 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector**

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to approve the tax refund for the amount of \$186.71, as presented by the Tax Collector. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on re-appointment of John Robella and Phil Belisle as regular members of the Griswold WPCA for 6-year terms of 1/1/2021 – 12/31/2026** – T. Babbitt confirmed for J. Picco that no resignation was received so the positions did not come vacant.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by R. Grabowski, to re-appoint John Robella and Phil Belisle as regular members of the Griswold WPCA for 6-year terms of 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2026. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. **Discussion and possible action on appointment of Mark Manuzzi, from an alternate member of the Glasgo WPCA to a regular member for the remainder of a term of 4/9/19 – 4/8/24**

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to appoint Mark Manuzzi from an alternate member of the Glasgo WPCA to a regular member for the remainder of a term of 4/9/19 – 4/8/24. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. **Discussion and possible action on the appointment of Lisa Gauthier as an alternate member of the Glasgo WPCA for the remainder of a term of 4/9/19 – 4/8/24**

MOTION: Motion was made by J. Picco, seconded by R. Grabowski, to appoint Lisa Gauthier as an alternate member of the Glasgo WPCA for the remainder of a term of 4/9/19 – 4-8/24. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- e. **Discussion and possible action on authorizing the First Selectman to sign a Subcontractor Services Agreement with TVCCA for summer childcare services** – T. Babbitt noted the contract was not the same as last year. There was additional language added but the services to be provided and the funds to be paid have not changed.

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to authorize the First Selectman to sign a Subcontractor Services Agreement with TVCCA for summer childcare services. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- f. **Discussion and possible action on coinciding recreation department fee schedule for use of facilities with the Town accepted use of facilities policy fee schedule** -- This was discussed briefly and all agreed that the fees should be consistent. They agreed further review is needed.

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to table this item until the next regular meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Old Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on Social Media Policy** – There was no additional information received and the Board would like this item to remain on the agenda for the next meeting.
- b. **Discussion and possible action on status of mask wearing policy at town buildings** - It was noted that people have been pretty respectful about wearing the mask if they have not been vaccinated and there have been no real concerns.
- c. **Discussion and possible action on establishing a Fair Rent Commission** – It was agreed more time is needed for review.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by R. Grabowski, to table this item until the next meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board

- a. **MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by R. Grabowski, to bring onto the agenda for discussion and possible action the appointment of a Municipal Agent for the elderly. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco to re-appoint Tina Falck as Municipal Agent for the elderly.

MOTION AMENDED: Motion on the floor was amended by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to re-appoint Tina Falck as Municipal Agent for the elderly for a four-year term beginning today. **Motion carried. T. Babbitt abstained.**

- b. **MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by R. Grabowski, to bring onto the agenda for discussion and possible action, the letter received from the Town Planner regarding short-term rentals. **Motion carried unanimously.**

T. Babbitt acknowledged Martin McKinney, P&Z Commission Chair, to speak on this topic. M. McKinney noted the P&Z Commission has been dealing with short-term (Air B&B) issues for quite some time. He noted if there were regulations incorporated into the zoning regulations, those currently existing would be exempt. The Town Attorney noted that the easiest change would be to create an ordinance to cover short-term rentals. He also noted it is a balancing act between the property owner who is renting and the neighbor who gets encumbered on every weekend. There are also other health issues such as water and sewer usage. R. Grabowski commented, that as Chair of the Ordinance Committee he would be willing to sit down with Mr. McKinney, the town planner and perhaps the town attorney, to formulate a proposed ordinance and figure out how to enforce it. J. Picco also noted a problem with enforcing the ordinance or regulations and the problem of infringing on those who are not causing any issues. T. Babbitt agreed the issue needs review and noted it should be looked at by the Ordinance Committee with help from the Planning & Zoning Commission.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to send the topic of short-term rentals to the Ordinance Committee to have discussion about what other towns are doing and to include the Planning & Zoning Commission. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Public Forum

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux commented his disagreement with an ordinance regarding short-term rentals and as a member of the Ordinance Committee, he would not support it. He also asked if the Senior Center was open. T. Babbitt noted the last recommendation from the state was that the elderly facilities do not open yet. T. Falck noted the Senior Center is open at a limited capacity for limited services. UNCAS health still is not allowing them to serve or prepare any food at this time. They are holding some gatherings outside.

Thomas Burke – Osga Lane – T. Burke noted the opinion of Atty. Branse two years ago with the fact that if it is not mentioned in the zoning regulations, then it is not allowed. He continued to mention public health and safety concerns among the neighbors of those short-term rental locations and how it would affect their property values and quality of life. He also emphasized the extra costs that town would incur for permitting and enforcement procedures. He also noted if short-term rentals were classified as a hotel, they would not be allowed in those districts.

Cheryl Lee – Hopeville Road – C. Lee noted her hope that the Fair Rent Commission would be established before July. Her lease at the mobile home park is due to increase at renewal in July. T. Babbitt noted more time is needed for review and the process to establish such commission would take about 6 months. She continued to note other upcoming charges that are going to be put upon the tenants, such as water and sewer.

Tina Falck – Griswold Senior Center – T. Falck communicated with Ms. Lee about some issues other residents are facing at the park and suggested she contact her to discuss further.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by J. Picco, seconded by R. Grabowski, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa M. Wood".

**Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant**