



Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting
January 23, 2014
4:00 PM
Downstairs Meeting Room
28 Main Street, Griswold, CT



APPROVED MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM by Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman

Members Present: Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman
Steve Mikutel, Second Selectman
Philip Anthony, Third Selectman

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Erik Christensen, Finance Director
Larry Proulx, Animal Control Officer
Paul Smith, Superintendent of Schools
3 other interested citizens

2. **Discussion and possible action on increasing the number of members of the Bicentennial Committee from 9 to allow as many as 15 members**

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to increase the number of members of the Bicentennial Committee to allow as many as 15 members.
Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Discussion and possible action on selection of special meeting dates for review of 2014/2015 departmental budgets** – Discussion ensued agreeing to allow 15 minutes for departments to review and to hold the meetings for an hour and a half. Erik Christensen, Finance Director will schedule the times. Department heads are not required to attend if they do not have an increase, but are always welcome.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to schedule preliminary budget meetings for Wednesday, January 29, 2014 and Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 4:30 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. Discussion and possible action on establishing a volunteer group to assist dog warden –

Larry Proulx, Animal Control Officer, commented there has been interest expressed for some time in residents wanting to be able to volunteer. L. Proulx noted he feels the volunteers would be able to help get the dogs adopted by publicizing. This would allow moving the dogs by finding them homes and freeing up space for other dogs. He also noted that if the volunteers had an opportunity to interact with the dogs, it would be helpful in knowing what the personality of the dog may be. Donna Fenter commented the dog warden is a full time position with part time hours and she noted that volunteers would be able to supplement the care and needs of the dogs. She also commented the building is grandfathered so the building does not get violations, but there are other requirements such as bringing the dog to the vet and publicizing its adoption within in so many days. Shea Cavacini commented every dog pound in Connecticut has volunteers and noted the skills and education that the proposed group of volunteers possesses. She also noted there is a risk, but volunteers would need to be qualified. P. Anthony noted it is a wonderful gesture and is desperately needed. He also noted if the town attorney feels that what he has outlined is sufficient to protect the town, he would be in favor of it. K. Skulczyck commented there may be a possibility in the future for a regionalized animal control service with a location of the town garage. L. Proulx noted this whole process has been being worked out and has come to a very positive result. K. Skulczyck commented he directed the Finance Director to get input from the town's insurance company but have not heard from them yet. P. Anthony suggested outlining in detail for the insurance company what the duties of the volunteers would be. There are individual liability policies that volunteers may purchase, but other towns do not require that. S. Mikutel had concerns regarding liability and safe guards but agreed if we can make it work then we should move forward. P. Anthony suggested a limit on the number of volunteers and a working schedule.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to table action on this item.

D. Fenter noted there is a gun that reads chips of those dogs that have the chips and the Animal Control Officer is required to have one. S. Cavacini noted she believes there is no cost to get the gun from the state. K. Skulczyck asked for that information to be forwarded to the selectmen's office.

Motion on the floor carried unanimously.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to move item 6 on the agenda, before item 5. **Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Discussion and possible action on resolution regarding the GHS roof replacement project – Paul Smith, Superintendent of Schools, commented the wording forwarded for the resolution is standard language required from the state and is necessary for the project and to be able to move forwarded and possible grants funding.

P. Anthony made a motion to authorize such resolution and read the entire resolution into the record. Motion seconded by S. Mikutel. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Discussion and possible action on request for volunteers for a Charter Revision

Committee –There was brief discussion that the original motion did not include the study of the feasibility of a charter but only the feasibility of a town manager form of government.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to table action on this item, until the original motion is supplied. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to adjourn the meeting at 4:51 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant**