



Town of Griswold

Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

February 11, 2014

6:30 PM

Downstairs Meeting Room, Town Hall
28 Main Street, Jewett City



APPROVED MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman

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

Others Present: Jaimee O’Neill, Acting Recoding Secretary
Todd Babbitt, Director of Public Works
Tina Falck, Director of Senior Services
Mario Tristany, Town Planner
Ken Sullivan, Director of JCDPU
Bob Hanson, Chief of JCFD
Valerie Pudvah, Town Clerk
Bill Czmyr, American Legion Ambulance
Ransom Young
22 other interested citizens
1 member of the press

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **January 14, 2014 – Regular Meeting Minutes with addendum**
- b. **January 28, 2014 – Regular Meeting Minutes**
- c. **January 29, 2014 – Special Meeting Minutes**
- d. **February 4, 2014 – Special Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to approve the January 14, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes, January 28, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes, January 29, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes, and the February 4, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes. K. Skulczyck noted that at the January 14, 2014 meeting he had moved items up on the agenda without a motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Correspondence**

- a. **Copy of memo sent to all Town Boards and Commissions requesting a vote of**

commission members on holding a public forum on their agenda. – S. Mikutel feels that Boards and Commissions should have a public forum. P. Anthony was in agreement.

4. New Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on tax refunds as presented by Rich Grabowski, Tax Collector**

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Antony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to approve the tax refunds as presented by the Tax Collector, Rich Grabowski. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on adoption of the listed policies needed for application of the Small Cities Block Grant Program:**

Fair Housing Resolution

Fair Housing Policy Statement

Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

ADA Notice

Affirmative Action Policy Statement (2 pgs.)

Letter to Local Lenders

Letter to Board of Realtors/Local Realtors

Municipal Grievance Procedure – M. Tristany explained that these policies must be formerly adopted annually if the Town is applying for Small Cities funding. He briefly outlined each document.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, to authorize the First Selectman to sign off on the application for the Small Cities Block Grant application. S. Mikutel suggested amending the motion to include adopting the policies outlined by the Town Planner for inclusion with the Small Cities Block Grant application.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Antony, to amend the motion on the floor to include adoption by the Board of Selectmen of all points of fair housing etc..., related to application of the Small Cities Block Grant, as suggested by the Town Planner. The amended motion on the floor was seconded by S. Mikutel. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. **Discussion and possible action on acceptance and signing by Board of Selectmen, on the JCDPU Wastewater Treatment Division Community Economic Stimulus Incentive Package** – K. Sullivan briefly outlined the Incentive Package. The Board of Selectmen thanked the JCDPU for coming together with the Economic Development Commission to make this happen.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to approve and sign off on the JCDPU Wastewater Treatment Division Community Economic Stimulus Incentive Package. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. **Discussion and possible action on material presented by Ransom Young regarding veteran's benefits and programs** – R. Young handed out a packet of Veteran's resources. K. Skulczyck stated the information will be passed along to the Town Clerk, who handles Veteran's Affairs, for her review.

5. Old Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on update status of volunteers to work with Animal Control Officer** – The Board reviewed a response from insurance broker, H.D. Segur, in regards to the risks associated with allowing volunteers to work with the Animal Control Officer. K. Skulczyck supports moving forward with the Volunteer Program. P. Anthony has concerns in regards to potential liability issues that could arise, but if all the items recommended by the Risk Management Specialist are covered, he supports moving forward. S. Mikutel supports moving forward as long as all recommendations are followed.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to table item 5a, until such time that a Volunteer Program is in place and ready for formal approval by the Board. K. Skulczyck voted against. S. Mikutel rescinded his vote. P. Anthony rescinded the motion.

MOTION: K. Skulczyck made a motion, seconded by S. Mikutel, to move forward in building a volunteer group and start the process. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

- a. **MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P, Anthony to bring onto the agenda for discussion the status of the stolen catch basins. **Motion carried unanimously.**

K. Skulczyck noted that the State Police have caught the thief, but were unable to recover any of the stolen catch basins. There will be a court date set and either K. Skulczyck or Director of Public Works T. Babbitt will be present. P. Anthony suggested telling the Prosecutor that the Town is seeking restitution..

- b. K. Skulczyck mentioned that Slater Mill Fishing Company will be presenting to the Economic Development Commission on February 19, 2014 at 7:00 pm if anyone is interested in attending.

7. Public Forum

Dave Vieaux – D. Vieaux would like the Board to pass along a job well done to the Town crew for the snow plowing that they have been doing. He's frustrated with private plow contractors who push the snow into the roads and is curious if there is an enforceable law against this.

James Barney – J. Barney was wondering if any suit can be brought against the scrap yard that accepted stolen catch basins. He also supports what is being done with the Dog Pound. Is there any insurance rider available to cover volunteers and what would the cost be?

Norm Higgins – N. Higgins is happy to hear that the Dog Pound issue is moving along. As for the training and volunteers, he feels that is something that should be reviewed every two to three years.

Harry Ellinsworth – H. Ellinsworth would like to know who will be training the individuals who volunteer to work with the Animal Control Officer.

Shea Cavacini – S. Cavacini thanked the Board for moving forward on the Volunteer Program. She also wanted to let the Board know that she is aware of the risks associated with being involved.

Norm Sylvestre – N. Sylvestre wanted to know if progress was being made with blighted properties in town.

Philip Flowers – P. Flowers thanked the Board for moving forward with trying to get all Boards and Commissions to add Public Forum to their agendas. He also asked about any building issues at the dog pound, and if there was any updates on American Legion Ambulance.

Donna Fenter - D. Fenter stated that she had sent numerous emails to the previous First Selectman in regards to the conditions at the dog pound and they were never addressed.

Elizabeth Scannell – In regards to K. Skulczyck visiting the Humane Society, E. Scannell would like him to take a look at the dog beds that are there. They were made by an Eagle Scout from Griswold.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jaimee O’Neill,
Acting Recording Secretary**