



Town of Griswold

28 Main Street
Griswold, CT 06351
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting



Downstairs Meeting Room, Griswold Town Hall

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

6:30 PM

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** P. Anthony called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM

Members Present: Philip Anthony, First Selectman
Theresa Madonna, Third Selectwoman

Also Present:

Lisa Wood, Executive Assistant
Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent
Barbara Richardson-Crouch, Finance Director
6 interested citizens

2. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **MOTION:** T. Madonna made a motion, seconded by P. Anthony, to approve the February 22, 2011 regular meeting minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

b. **MOTION:** T. Madonna made a motion, seconded by P. Anthony to approve the March 1, 2011 special meeting minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Correspondence** – Letter from resident dated 2/28/11 concerning drainage on Myrtle Rd.

P. Anthony commented there has been an ongoing issue with drainage on Myrtle Rd. and there is a lawsuit against Mr. Riel who is the builder on the property causing the drainage issue. There is currently an issue with ownership of the property and the town attorney has advised us to not get involved while there is court action being pursued. When the court case is concluded, it is hopeful that the owner of record will be bound by the original stipulations and correct the situation. T. Madonna asked if P. Anthony would respond to this letter and if she could receive a copy of the response. P. Anthony commented he has been speaking with Mr. Johanson and will be responding to the letter and will forward a copy of such response.

4. **New Business**

a. **Discussion and possible action to advertise for a full time Public Works position of Driver/Maintainer** - P. Anthony commented there is a driver retiring this month and this position is to replace that person. T. Babbitt commented this position would replace the person retiring. However, we still have a person out on workers comp that has been out for a while, and we have another driver going out for knee surgery, so we still need to try to renegotiate with the union to change the 90 day time period for the seasonal person and possibly move forward with that.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony to advertise for a full time public works position of Driver/Maintainer to replace the

upcoming retirement. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. Discussion and possible action by the Board of Selectmen to authorize the First Selectman to sign notice of Grant Award in the amount of \$12,000 for the Municipal Plan of Conservation and Development Grant Program - P.** Anthony confirmed there is no matching requirement for this grant.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony, to authorize the First Selectmen to sign the notice of the grant award in the amount of \$12,000 for the Municipal Plan of Conservation and Development Plan. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. Discussion and possible action to authorize the First Selectman to move forward with an energy savings program with Con Serv Inc. – P.** Anthony commented this is the retrofitting of Town Hall to be paid for with Grant Money to give us a substantial savings. A similar program was done with the Griswold Fire Department and the Town Garage. T. Madonna asked if this went out to bid. B. Crouch commented she believes this is the company we got from Jewett City Electric. DPU was supposed to enter into a contract with them and then we enter a sub-contract with DPU. If it is a private entity it would probably have to be bid to our guidelines and that of the grant. T. Madonna commented the contract refers to the customer as Jewett City Town Hall. P. Anthony did agree it is over the allowed amount for not requiring a bid, thus we should wait till we get clarification.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony, to table the issue of a contract with Con Serv Inc. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. Executive Session - Discussion and possible action on personnel issue – P.** Anthony commented the individual involved in the calling of the Executive Session has requested that it be open to the public, thus this portion of the meeting is no longer Executive Session. P. Anthony read into the record, a letter of resignation from Barbara Crouch dated march 2, 2011 and to be effective July 15, 2011.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded with regret by P. Anthony, to accept the letter of resignation as submitted by Barbara Crouch, Finance Director. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- e. Executive Session – Discussion and possible action regarding Step II Grievance – P.** Anthony commented Wayne Meyers, union representative, requests this item to be tabled.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony, to table item 4e regarding step II grievance. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Old Business

- a. Discussion and possible action on changing wording for the town meeting of March 22, 2011 (Side walk Ordinance) to repeal the entire section of 195-6 by removing the word portion – P.** Anthony commented that Mr. Zvingilas, ZEO, felt we should repeal the entire section 195-6 of the Town Code of Ordinance because the borough still has a separate zoning regulation for sidewalks. The Town

Attorney agreed we could repeal the entire section.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony, to change the wording of the town meeting for March 22, 2011, in regards to Sidewalk Ordinance to repeal the entire section 195-6 of the Griswold Code of Ordinance by removing the word portion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Any Other Business that may come before the Board

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony, to add to the agenda item 6a. discussion and possible action on acceptance of resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute an Assistance Agreement by and between the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and the Town of Griswold for a project entitled Planning, Design and Initial Construction of Streetscape Improvements in the Downtown Main Street Area. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony to add to the agenda item 6b. Discussion and possible action on acceptance of resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute an Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Griswold for the Design, Construction, Inspection and Maintenance of Safety Improvements on Stone Hill Road at Roode Road utilizing Federal Funds under the Hazard Elimination Component of the Surface Transportation Program. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- a. **Discussion and possible action on acceptance of resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute an Assistance Agreement by and between the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and the Town of Griswold for a project entitled Planning, Design and Initial Construction of Streetscape Improvements in the Downtown Main Street Area** – P. Anthony commented the resolution is required to proceed and implement the \$200,000 received for said grant.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony, to adopt a resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute an Assistance Agreement by and between the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and the Town of Griswold for a project entitled Planning, Design and Initial Construction of Streetscape Improvements in the Downtown Main Street Area. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on acceptance of resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute an Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Griswold for the Design, Construction, Inspection and Maintenance of Safety Improvements on Stone Hill Road at Roode Road utilizing Federal Funds under the Hazard Elimination Component of the Surface Transportation Program** – P. Anthony commented this is roughly a \$360,000 grant received based on Stone Hill Road for resurfacing and this resolution is required to proceed. T. Madonna asked if there were any matching

funds for this grant. T Babbitt was able to confirm original matching funds were based on an 80-20 basis, but with the poor economy, the town put in for a hardship with the state and it is now a 90-10 match. The town's match is \$36,500 which will come out of this year's budget town road account.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by P. Anthony, to accept a resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute an Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Griswold for the Design, Construction, Inspection and Maintenance of Safety Improvements on Stone Hill Road at Roode Road utilizing Federal Funds under the Hazard Elimination Component of the Surface Transportation Program. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Public Forum

- a. Ransom Young – commented his road has not been plowed by the town since the 1960's, Red Barn Road also never plowed.
- b. Norm Higgins – wanted to personally thank T. Babbitt for the great work he and his crew did taking care of the roads this winter. Also, the blighted building that is owned by the hotel on Rt. 164, appears to have a hole in the wall near the garage about 2 feet tall like someone cut it out and suggests having P. Zvingilas go check it out for safety reasons.
- c. Norm Sylvestre – commented he is glad to see the town pump has left us and reminded the Board he will be obtaining a report from the state.
- d. Stacey – Asked what time the town meeting would be in two weeks. It was answered the meeting is at 6 PM
- e. Peter Zvingilas – Commented that with the permission of the First Selectman, Atty. Branse will be starting legal proceedings regarding the blighted building.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: T. Madonna made a motion, seconded by P. Anthony, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa M. Wood,
Recording Secretary*