



Town of Griswold

Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

October 27, 2015

6:30 PM

Griswold Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room
28 Main St, Jewett City, CT 06351



MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll** – Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM, by Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman

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

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent
Erik Christensen, Finance Director
Brian Baker, CIP Chairman
5 other interested citizens

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **October 13, 2015 – Special Meeting Minutes**
- b. **October 13, 2015 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to approve the minutes of October 13, 2015 Special Meeting. Motion was made by Steve Mikutel, seconded by K. Skulczyck, to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2015 Regular Meeting. **Both motions carried.**

3. **Correspondence - None**

4. **New Business**

- a. **Discussion and possible action on tax refunds as presented by Rich Grabowski, Tax Collector** – It was noted there were a total of two refunds for a total amount of \$25.99.

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

- b. Discussion and possible action on update by Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent, regarding town wide road study –** Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent presented the overview of the preliminary road study. Our current road mileage is 82.86 in the town and 7.78 in the borough for a total of 90.64 miles. The rating on the town roads was a 68 and the rating on the borough roads was a 67.89. The preliminary numbers indicate it would take \$15 million over 5 years to bring the roads to 100%. He suggested bringing the roads up to 85% and go from there. The figures are based on all road repairs. He also noted there is some routing maintenance that can be done by the public works department that would bring the percentage up on those roads. Major cost is in the 24 miles of road that require reconstruction. Roode Rd. is included in that mileage and is almost complete. The estimate includes Roode Rd. not being completed and the estimates seem to be a little high. In November the company wants to come in and do a workshop with all the information on a thumb drive. He noted we may be able to get the costs down to 7.5 million for 85% on all roads and possibly down to 5 million with allowed use and funding of capital. It was noted towns with similar issues funded some through capital improvement and bonded some.
- c. Discussion and possible action on presentation by Brian Baker, Chair of the Capital Improvement Projects Committee, on lease purchase for a Fire Engine –** Brian Baker, CIP Chair, gave a presentation on the 4 lease purchase plan that complete July 1st, this year and the desire to purchase two more pieces of equipment with a new five year lease plan. The pieces to be purchased would be a fire engine for Griswold Fire Department and an excavator for the public works department. The equipment, along with title, are ours when the agreement is completed. The costs for the two pieces has been estimated at \$800,000. There is currently \$20,000 in capital towards the excavator which would leave a balance of \$780,000. The increase payment amount would be \$6225.74 per year, which would generate a tax mill increase of about 0.0084131 %. The interest rate would be 2.75%. The Griswold engine is over 25 years old and has failed a pump test. The AA young engine pump has just been repaired and we expect to get 4-5 years out of it. Todd is looking at a rubber tired excavator which swings 180 degrees allowing the public works department more opportunity for use. Board members agreed the lease purchase agreement has worked in the past and were in favor of the proposal. B. Baker did mention the Volvo excavator they are looking at is on federal contract and may come in lower. The fire truck also may come in under cost through the HGAC contract. B. Baker does not recommend buying a spec truck as they are not designed to meet the needs of the town. He also mentioned a prepayment discount may be available. The prepayment is made through the lease company. B. Baker noted he knows of no major purchases for equipment from the school department.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, that the BOS approve the new lease purchase agreement recommended by the capital improvement committee of up to \$780,000 for a fire truck for the Griswold Volunteer Fire Department and an excavator for the public works department, and forward our approval to the Board of Finance. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. Discussion and possible action on 8-24 Review by Planning & Zoning for property located at 37 Jennifer Lane and possible setting of town meeting date –**
K. Skulczyck noted he confirmed with the town attorney that a Town meeting is not necessary for approval.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to approve the drainage easement for property located at 37 Jennifer Lane, owned by Andrew and Robin Drobiak. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Old Business - None

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

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to bring onto the agenda two letters for requests of appointments. **Motion carried unanimously.**

K. Skulczyck read two letters into the record. First was a letter from the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission requesting the appointment of Alex Grezlak as an alternate member. The second letter was a letter from Jay Rainier requesting appointment to the Recreation Commission as an alternate member. All Board Members spoke favorably of both appointments.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to appoint both as requested. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to bring onto the agenda discussion on the old town hall property. **Motion carried unanimously.**

P. Anthony commented on the letter received by the broker, regarding the property being grossly overpriced. K. Skulczyck noted the broker would like to take a second look at pricing it and suggested scheduled this for executive session for the already scheduled Thursday meeting.

7. Public Forum

Ransom Young – R. Young spoke in favor of the excavator planning to be purchased for the public works department.

Dave Vieaux – D. Vieaux thanked Mr. Mikutel and Mr. Anthony for sharing their knowledge and giving him an education in politics.

James Barnie – J. Barnie expressed his concern that the old town hall property not be sold at a give-away price. He suggested retaining it to we determine if it is of any use to the town in one way or another.

D. Vieaux – D. Vieaux wanted to know the location of the old town hall property. It was noted for him, where it is located on School Street.

Ransom Young – R. Young wanted to know what was being done at the cemeteries. K. Skulczyk commented one was done last week and we are still working on them.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant