

GREENWOOD SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2021

Recorded by Western Hills Access Television

Item 1: Call Meeting to Order – Chair Chapman called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.
Those present: Chair Amy Chapman, Selectman Arnold Jordan, Selectman Norman A. Milliard, and Town Manager Kim Sparks

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3: Review and approve:

Expenditure Warrant # 41 (\$ 108,082.64) covering period Apr. 6, - Apr. 11, 2021
Includes Voucher 1126 for MSAD 44 payment of \$ 95,065.00

Expenditure Warrant # 42 (\$ 41,008.97) covering period Apr. 12, - Apr. 20, 2021

The Board reviewed Warrant # 41 and Warrant # 42.

Selectman Milliard motioned and Selectman Jordan seconded to approve Expenditure Warrant 41 and Warrant 42 as read. Vote: 3-0. Motion passes and Warrants are approved.

Item 4: Review and approve minutes of April 6, 2021

The Board reviewed the minutes.

Selectman Jordan motioned and Selectman Milliard seconded to approved the minutes of April 6th as presented. Vote: 3-0. Motion passes and minutes are approved.

Item 5: Comments from the Public - None

A. Selectmen contacted outside of meeting - None

Item 6: Open & review Mowing Bids

The Board opened and reviewed the one bid that was received.
Anthony Billings, \$ 11,200.00

Kim explained that Anthony had worked with Wesley Cox last year mowing in Greenwood. She explained that Wesley said he didn't want to bid this year and suggested that Anthony submit a bid.

Selectman Jordan motioned and Selectman Milliard seconded to accept the mowing bid for \$ 11,200.00 submitted by Anthony Billings. Vote: 3-0. Motion passes.

Kim will contact Anthony tomorrow to let him know.

Item 7: Discuss Western Hills Access Television funding with Brooks Morton

Brooks Morton of Western Hills Access Television was present to discuss with the Board their request for funding. Brooks explained that they will be asking each of the four towns – Bethel, Woodstock, Greenwood, and Newry for seed money at \$ 2,500.00 each to purchase equipment for each Town so that meetings can be recorded

and broadcasted on WHAT and YouTube. Brooks also asked that each Town appoint another Town representative that would be able to set up the equipment, complete the recording, and send it to WHAT. Chair Chapman asked if our meetings would be broadcast live or pre-recorded. Brooks explained that the meetings could be done either way. Selectman Milliard asked Brooks to explain the seed money and what funding was he asking the surrounding communities for. Brooks explained that he is asking for \$ 2,500 from each community to set them up with their own recording system. Selectman Milliard stated that he has been watching the access television for years and has always been frustrated with the sound and audio quality. Selectman Milliard asked if this new technology would give us significantly better audio. Brooks answered yes and explained that it is Spectrum that is currently messing with their audio. Brooks explained that WHAT broadcasts in stereo sound and then Spectrum transmits it in a much lower quality sound. Selectman Milliard asked how would this new technology would change that. Brooks answered that if you review their broadcasts on Roku, Apple TV, or other internet platforms you will see that there is not an issue with the audio. Chair Chapman asked if they plan on continuing to work with Spectrum. Brooks explained that is their hope but with the many changes to technology, cable has become less popular. Chair Chapman asked what we had decided about the upcoming budget. Kim explained that we didn't add the \$ 2,500 to the proposed 21/22 budget as we have that available in this year's current budget. Selectman Milliard asked if we presently already send the franchise fees to WHAT. Kim stated that has always been the Town's practice to send all of the franchise fees to WHAT. Kim explained that this year the fees were \$ 1,200 and next year's fees have dropped to under \$ 700.00. Brooks explained that fees have been dropping as folks are cutting their cable and going with other options. Chair Chapman asked if the Board wanted to fund the \$ 2,500 request from WHAT. Selectman Milliard stated that he would be willing to do that with a one-year experiment. Brooks stated that the Board certainly could do a trial run to see how it works out. Brooks explained that they have no idea what the cable landscape is going to look like in the future due to all of the new technology. Chair Chapman stated that the Board would look to find someone to join the WHAT board and volunteer to set up the equipment at meetings.

Selectman Milliard motioned and Selectman Jordan seconded to allot \$ 2,500 seed money funding for Western Hills Access Television out of the current budget for one year and then revisit next year. Vote: 3-0. Motion passes.

Item 8: Discuss Mahoosuc Pledge with Catherine Ingraham

Cat introduced herself and thanked everyone for inviting her to the meeting and for supporting the Mahoosuc Pledge. Cat explained that she was here tonight to answer any questions that the Board may have and to give an update. Cat explained that the pledge is being circulated thru a bunch of area hospitality websites and the hope is to get as many people in the area to sign the pledge. Cat explained that they will be working on workforce development and workforce housing. Cat stated that there is still some energy to get the area Select Boards to meet again. Chair Chapman stated that the Board signed the pledge several months ago. Kim stated that she would send a copy of the signed pledge to Cat. Cat thanked the Board and said she would keep them updated.

Item 9: Discussion on Business Licensing Ordinance draft

Kim thanked the Board for reviewing the draft ordinance. Kim stated that the updated changes were in red with a question in blue. Chair Chapman asked where the penalty amounts came from. Kim stated that these are from the State. Chair Chapman asked about the section on a public hearing and that all new applicants would require a public hearing where renewal applications would only be required a public hearing if there had been complaints or issues about that business. Chair Chapman stated if there are no complaints on file for a renewal application then there would be no public hearing. Kim stated that was correct. Selectman Milliard stated that it was a requirement that any new application would have to go thru the public hearing process. Chair Chapman stated that she was ok with that as long as there was a public hearing for the initial application and a public hearing on renewals if there are complaints. Selectman Milliard stated that he feels that wording needs to be more specific in section 3.6. Chair Chapman suggested that they add the wording: *For A renewal of an existing license, a public hearing is required if there have been complaints or issues filed with the Town regarding that business within the last year.*

Kim stated that she would make the updates and send it out to the Board for their review before the Public Hearing.

Item 10: Discussion on Medical Marijuana Ordinance draft

The Board reviewed the draft. Kim explained that the Marijuana Ordinance Committee had reviewed the draft and was ready to take this to Town Meeting. The Board agreed that this is ready for the public hearing on May 4th.

Item 11: Request for Town Meeting Article to “Opt in” Adult Use Marijuana

Kim explained that Nick Bartlett had requested that the Board include the question to our voters if they would be willing to “Opt in” for Adult Use Marijuana. Selectman Milliard asked if that was the proper forum to ask the voters to opt in. Kim explained that if the voters opt in the Town would ask the Marijuana Committee to draft an Adult Use Ordinance and bring that back to the voters for their vote. Chair Chapman stated that opting in basically just gives us the go ahead to draft an ordinance. Selectman Jordan stated that the Board really doesn’t have the choice if someone asks for an Article at Town Meeting. The Board agreed and asked Kim to add this to the Town Meeting Warrant.

Item 12: Discuss Local Option Vote Determination for Liquor Sales

Kim gave the Board a copy of the letter from the State of Maine Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages explaining that the State is asking the Town to revisit the Towns previous votes on Liquor Sales. Kim explained that the Town would need to update the votes by July 1, 2022 and didn’t think we had time to get it on the May 22nd Town Meeting warrant. Chair Chapman stated that this would be going back to review votes that were taken about fifty years ago. Selectman Milliard stated that a lot of these issues were approved in different time periods, and questioned if we need to bring this back to the voters. Chair Chapman stated that because one of the previous votes shows a restriction

saying that only Class A restaurants can only serve hard liquor, we need to revisit these votes. Chair Chapman stated that the Town could vote on this at the next Annual Town Meeting or at a Special Town Meeting if we were to have one.

Selectman Milliard asked if this has to go to a Town Meeting. Chair Chapman stated that it does have to go to the voters and suggested that we put it on the Town Meeting agenda for May of 2022 or on a Special Town Meeting Agenda if we do have one. The Board agreed to table this until the next Town Meeting.

Item 13: Meetings and Events

Sat., May 1st – Earth Day – Roadside cleanup at 9am

Tue., May 4th – Selectmen’s Meeting, 5pm GTO

Public Hearing, proposed 21/22 Budget – 6pm

Draft Ordinances – Medical Marijuana and Business Licensing

Sat., May 8th – Clean Up Day – Maggie’s Nature Park, 9am

Tue., May 18th – Selectmen’s Meeting, 5pm

Sat., May 22nd – Annual Town Meeting, 9am Legion Hall

Item 14: Adjourn

Having no further business, Selectman Milliard motioned and Selectman Jordan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:50pm. Vote: 3-0. Meeting adjourned.