

GREENWOOD SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2021

5:00pm

Item 1: Call Meeting to Order – Chair Chapman called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance

Item 3: Review and approve:

Expenditure Warrant # 13 (\$ 106,847.58) covering period Sept. 22, – Sept. 27, 2021
Includes Voucher # 373 for \$ 87,606.06 payable to O'Connor GMC for new highway truck.

Expenditure Warrant # 14 (\$ 33,627.46) covering period Sept. 28, - Oct. 4. 2021

The Board reviewed Expenditure Warrants #13 & #14.

Selectman Milliard motioned and Selectman Jordan seconded to approved Expenditure Warrants #13 & #14 as read. Vote: 3-0. Warrants are approved.

Item 4: Review and approve minutes of September 21, 2021

The Board reviewed the minutes. Selectman Jordan motioned and Selectman Milliard seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 3-0. Motion passes. Minutes are approved.

Item 5: Comments from the Public - None

A. Selectmen contacted outside of meeting – No contact.

Item 6: Discussion with Oxford County Sheriff, Christopher Wainwright regarding speeding vehicles in Greenwood.

Chair Chapman stated that Sheriff Wainwright has joined our meeting via Zoom. Kim explained that they have received numerous complaints about people speeding thru Greenwood so the Board of Selectmen invited Sheriff Christopher Wainwright to their meeting to discuss this. Kim explained that the Town has requested speed studies to be completed by MDOT and the Town is waiting to get the official letter explaining the study results from MDOT before we can legally post the new speed limit signs. Kim stated that the Town has placed our electronic speed trailer at different locations in Town in hopes to slow traffic and to educate drivers. Sheriff Wainwright apologized that he was not able to attend the meeting tonight in person and would be willing to attend future meetings in person. Sheriff Wainwright stated that they have received several complaints from folks in Greenwood and some about specific drivers and their speeds. Sheriff Wainwright explained that his department is short handed and calls for service are up 25% from last year so they are doing more work with less people. Sheriff Wainwright explained that they are getting 8-12 calls for service every day in the County so they are not able to be out running radar. Sheriff Wainwright explained that they received a small grant that is to be used for speed enforcement. He explained that

currently he has three people on military deployments and across the State and Country every law enforcement agency is hiring. He explained that he isn't trying to make excuses but just want to let you know where we are at here in Oxford County. He explained that we should be having some relief soon as two are coming back from deployment in a month. He asked if we had a specific area that is of concern, they would like to focus on that. He stated that he understands the frustration of the citizens as he is just as frustrated in his own Town. He stated that in these difficult times, they are seeing more people driving too fast and not paying attention. He agrees that this is a problem and is willing to hear from the Greenwood residents if there is a certain location of concern. Sheriff Wainwright stated that he would be glad to answer any questions of the Board or residents.

Georgia Gould of Cemetery Road in Mt. Abram Village – Georgia explained that she lives on a dirt road off of the Howe Hill Road which has no posted speed limit. Georgia explained that there are a lot of Air B&B renters in the area who come and go who are not familiar with the road, there are a lot of bikers due to the Mt. Abram bike park, a lot of people walking their dogs, and that it is just a very busy area. She explained that people are speeding thru the small, quaint area at three times what the speed limit is. Georgia stated that there isn't even a speed limit sign posted. Sheriff Wainwright stated that the speed is most likely 35mph in that stretch. Georgia stated that this dirt road area needs to be reassessed as she thinks 35mph is too fast for this neighborhood. Kim explained that Howe Hill Road was recently assessed by MDOT and the Town is not able to post signs until we get written confirmation from the State. Kim explained that the speed study set the speed limit from Mt. Abram's main lodge to Mt. Abram's Westside lodge at 25mph. Georgia stated that is great news but is also concerned with the speed on her dirt road and all of the roads in the village area. Georgia stated that there is now a dirt road at the top of Cemetery Road that goes all the way to Bethel and she is concerned that this will bring even more traffic. Sheriff Wainwright asked if it was worse at a certain time of day or a certain day of the week.

Lucille Demello of Howe Hill Road – Lucille explained that she is right in between the Main Lodge and West Side and that she sees it more on the weekends. Lucille explained that Mt. Abram holds concerts at the beer garden at Westside on Friday and Saturday nights and they speed going up to the garden and they speed leaving it. Lucille stated that sometimes it is really out of hand on the weekends and not safe.

Ed Johnson of Greenwood Road – Ed explained that he is at an awkward spot on the Greenwood Road near the Town Beach, they have a hill going North on a blind corner, and people drive thru this area going 50-60mph. Ed stated that folks going that fast are almost launching off of that hill and it is a really dangerous spot. Ed stated that they could use some help with this.

Sheriff Wainwright stated that he really appreciates every one's comments and feedback in the coming weeks. He stated it is helpful to have specific areas for them to focus on.

Selectman Jordan of Gore Road – Selectman Jordan explained that he lives near Johnnies Bridge, there is a difficult corner, and a blind driveway. Selectman Jordan stated that when the speed trailer was up in his neighborhood it did help slow folks down but once the trailer was moved to a different location the speeding is right

back up to where it was. Selectman Jordan stated that there have been several vehicles on the next corner that have gone right into the bog just barely missing the light pole. Selectman Jordan stated that they are just going too fast and someone is going to get hurt. Selectman Jordan stated that he saw one of the Deputies parked across the road so he went down to thank him for being there and he hasn't seen him since.

Sheriff Wainwright stated that he has two Deputies that live right in this area and he is hoping that we see more of them. Selectman Milliard asked the Sheriff that if there is anything he can do to help to discourage the speeding that is going around Town, it would be greatly appreciated. Sheriff Wainwright stated that he feels that having the cruisers around Town will discourage speeding and stopping them and issuing speeding tickets. Sheriff Wainwright stated that they have 2200 square miles in Oxford County and he has 4 deputies covering this large area so they are spread pretty thin. Sheriff Wainwright stated they would do their best and asked if he could return to a future meeting to give an update. Sheriff Wainwright stated that he would keep in contact with Manager Sparks and would like to co-ordinate with the Town to use the speed trailer in an area for a few weeks, move the trailer out and then they will put radar in that area. Kim stated that they would be willing to work with them to co-ordinate them. Chair Chapman stated that it was a great idea to have Sheriff Wainwright come back in a few weeks to give an update. Everyone thanked Sheriff Wainwright.

Item 7: Review and sign Quitclaim Deed for Charlotte & Christopher Marshall

The Board reviewed the quitclaim deed and signed the document. Kim will send it to the Registry to be recorded.

Item 8: Review letter from Mahoosuc Broadband Committee

Kim gave a letter from the Mahoosuc Broadband Committee. Chair Chapman stated that the MBC has sent out the report from Casco Bay Advisors. Kim explained that Mia highlighted the areas that she asked the Board to review. The Board reviewed the letter. Selectman Jordan stated that he agreed with everything that was written. Selectman Milliard stated he was ok with what was proposed as was Chair Chapman. Kim stated that she would let Mia know. (Copy of letter attached.)

Item 9: Request from Alta Pierce to name her Road, Town Farm Lane

Kim explained that Alta Pierce would like to name her road, Town Farm Lane which is off of the Patch Mountain Road. Chair Chapman stated that she would agree to that. Selectman Jordan asked if this was a private road. Kim explained that it was a private road. Selectman Milliard stated he was all right with it. Selectman Jordan motioned and Selectman Milliard seconded to name Alta Pierce's driveway Town Farm Lane. Vote: 3-0. Motion passes.

Item 10: Update on Planning Board

Kim explained that last night's meeting was Dennis Doyon's last meeting. She explained that Rosemary McLean has moved, Tyler is getting done at the end of December, and Brad Payne's term is up in December and he will not be renewing.

Kim stated that she will run an add in the local newspaper and post the openings. Chair Chapman stated that she will put this in her Town Column. Selectman Jordan asked if there is a certain number that we have to have. Kim explained that a quorum would be three members. Kim stated that she would keep the Selectmen updated.

Item 11: Comments from the Public

Highway Foreman Seames updated the Board on the paving in Greenwood. He stated that Rowe Hill Road is completed as is the upper section of Howe Hill Road. Alan explained that they will be doing the lower section of Howe Hill Road from Rt 26 to Pine Ridge Road tomorrow. Georgia Gould asked if there have ever been any speed bumps proposed. Kim asked Alan how speed bumps would work and if they would be a plow hazard. Alan stated that Woodstock has them installed by their beach but he thinks if someone crashes there, they could take the Town to court. Alan explained that they discourage installing speed bumps at the training he has attended as they are a liability and you would have to install flashing yellow lights. Chairman Milliard stated that there are no easy answers. Georgia asked if it would be hard to install the flashing yellow lights. Alan explained that it depends on the cost, that you would have to have them on both sides of the road, and then you will have an added CMP bill. Alan stated the better we make the road the faster they will go. Ed Johnson stated that the Greenwood Road is terrible and they still go too fast.

Item 12: Meetings and Events

Wed., Oct. 6th - Retirement Workshop, 3:30pm GTO

Tue., Oct. 19th – Selectmen’s Meeting, 5:00pm GTO

Mon., Nov. 1st – Planning Board Meeting, 5:30pm GTO

Tue., Nov. 2nd – Election Day 8am to 8pm, GTO

Tue., Nov. 9th – Selectmen’s Meeting, 5:00pm GTO

Tue., Nov. 23rd – Selectmen’s Meeting, 5:00pm GTO

Item 13: Adjourn - Having no further business, Selectman Milliard motioned and Selectman Jordan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm. Vote: 3-0. Meeting is adjourned.

Selectman Milliard thanked everyone for attending and stated that their participation is very valuable.