

Agenda Posted March 24, 2022 2:25pm

**Granville Selectboard Regular Meeting Monday, March 28, 2022 7:00pm**

Granville Town Hall, Main Hall, 707 Main Road, Granville, MA 01034

**MEETING WILL BE IN PERSON**

**PUBLIC CAN ACCESS REMOTELY**

Agenda:

- ❖ Call to Order
- ❖ Appointments & Discussion Items:
  - All times approximate
  - 7:05pm DPW Superintendent Doug Roberts report
  - 7:25pm Other Department reports (if necessary)
  - 7:30pm Finance Committee
    - Discussion FY 2022 Budget
  - 8:30pm Town Administrator Matt Streeter report
- ❖ Correspondence: incoming and outgoing
- ❖ Old Business
- ❖ New Business
  - Approve Annual Town Election Warrant
  - One Day Liquor Permit – Bliss Farm wedding
  - Approve Board of Health Septage Permits
- ❖ Upcoming Meeting
  - Monday, April 4, 2021 Includes All Boards meeting
- ❖ Executive Session
- ❖ Adjournment

**Remote Participation for Public via WebEx meeting**

Selectboard

Hosted by Matthew Streeter

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<https://townofgranville.my.webex.com/townofgranville.my/j.php?MTID=mad9899bdabf03ae42049b5b4bf006aacc>

Monday, Mar 28, 2022 7:00 pm | 3 hours | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 2559 393 4047

Password: sqMS2AaeZ76 (77672223 from phones and video systems)

Join by video system

Dial 25593934047@webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 255 939 34047

**Notes:** The listing of items is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Times listed on agendas are approximate.

Selectboard Minutes  
Meeting of March 28, 2022

Called to order at 7:04pm.

Present: Ted Sussmann, Nicole Berndt, David Ripley.

7:05: Doug Roberts gave his report:

- Job posted on Indeed and Monster as well as four newspapers. 10 received and distributed to Selectboard.
- New truck will be in tomorrow.
- Tree on Granville Hill fell on Eversource lines over the weekend, destroying 80 square feet of road surface. Doug is recommending that all except a couple of young maples be removed. Eversource had mobilized to remove but had had some pushback from some neighbors. The currently standing trees break and disrupts power to central and western Granville like what happened Saturday afternoon. Eversource is willing to complete project. Discussion continued. Chair Sussmann reiterated that we (the Selectboard) have been in favor (of the removal process) so our opinions have not changed and urged discussions to have Eversource scheduled to come back to work on Granville hill. Doug reminded Selectboard that details and detours would be required as Eversource will need to mobilize crane crews to cut back and remove trees in that area. Doug asked if he should have a conversation with Arlo from Sweet Farms. Discussion resolved that Doug could give courtesy communication to Sweet Farms and the residents on the hill.
- Discussed the condition and history of the road surface on Blandford Road having formerly been resurfaced from the milling from Old Westfield Road. Though still waiting for bid numbers, his anticipated projected cost is in the \$240,000 - \$260,000 range. Nicole Berndt asked if we decide not to do Blandford Road full depth reclamation project, is there a short term option? Doug responded that any short-term fix would be "throwing good money after bad."
- Small Bridge Grant application is due April 1<sup>st</sup>. Doug met with Martha LaCrosse. The application is for new bridge project on Water Street Seymour crossing for \$100,000; they have received several recommendations of support from many public/private agencies.

7:30pm: Police Chief Rick Rindels gave his report.

- Department participated in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Holyoke.
- Review the last weeks' calls for service in the department. Reported Main Road was closed for four hours on Saturday for tree/wires down.
- Discussion on the police garage. David Ripley reported estimates for the "stick framing" option approximately \$70,828.00 less \$15,000 estimate for foundation and floor. David discussed estimate and what it covers. Discussion between the esthetic value and longevity of the more permanent structure. Discussion included Chief Matt Ripley. Chair Sussmann suggested everyone do homework on options and estimates to discuss at next meeting.

7:43pm: Fire Chief Ripley gave brief report. Discussed four calls including lines down of Rt. 57. Discussed an ambulance call involving one of his members which he is requesting authorization of the Selectboard to waive the Ambulance fee (approx.. \$2,200). Consensus of the Selectboard granted to waive the fees.

7:50pm: Finance Committee

- Discussion on FY 2023 budget including updates. They are working to keep the mill rate the same. School district budget increases including \$133,000 driven by new positions. Chair Sussmann explained school district claim that budget increase linked to "student opportunity act" by the state.
- Finance Committee still needs to sit down to discuss Public Works budget with Doug Roberts.
  - Discussed usage of Free Cash
  - Discussed Fire Department budget increase driven by new position.
  - Discussed Fuel in the Highway budget and usage across other budget
  - Discussed Cruiser Account and Police Detail
  - Chair Sussmann would like to see loan and debt schedule "in the next week or two."
  - Discussed new growth. Preliminary number of \$70,000; though Brian Falcetti says may be lower.

## Selectboard Minutes March 28, 2022

### Finance Committee (Continued)

Nicole Berndt discussed the math of salaries for town employees at \$840,000. The town has lost valuable employees and paying replacements is an expensive situation. Police Salaries are increasing 22% but not for everybody. She is thinking 3% cost of living and 7% inflation increase across the board would be 10% or \$84,000. Discussion continued.

### New Business

- Town Election Warrant. Approval moved by Chair Sussmann; Seconded by David Ripley. Approved 3-0. To be posted by constable.
- One Day Liquor permit for event at Bliss Farms June 11, 2022. Signed approved by all members.
- Two septage permits for C&S of Montgomery and LaFond of Westfield, both signed approvals by all members.

Chair Sussmann mentioned had discussion with Attorney Michele Randazzo last week about review of policies and procedures and employment issues. Asked Town Administrator as to why the delay or did Selectboard drop the ball. Matt Streeter reminded the Selectboard that they had reached out to Attorney Randazzo prior to Covid but excessive use of the Legal line item of the budget on other issues delayed action on both the town and KP Law. It was put into this year's budget and Attorney Randazzo was contacted at the beginning of this fiscal year.

Chair Sussmann then changed the subject to the review and approval of minutes and a strategy of how to deal with it. Motion was made by Chair to add an agenda item at the beginning, seconded by David Ripley. Nicole Berndt discussed both the policies and procedures and the minutes issues and stated "this is clearly on us (the Selectboard)" which received consensus from the board. Discussion on strategy and priority. The Chair proposed that the Selectboard hold an executive session in two weeks (but did not specify the topic or the type).

Chair Sussmann reiterated his motion to have an agenda item at the beginning, end or anywhere really on the next agenda for review and approval of minutes. Seconded by David Ripley. Approved 3-0.

Motion made by Chair to adjourn at 9:30pm. Seconded by David Ripley. Approved 3-0.

Submitted by Matt Streeter

Minutes Approved April 4, 2022