

Agenda Posted February 25, 2021 3 :30pm

Granville Selectboard Regular Meeting Monday, March 1, 2021 7:00pm

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

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIA WEBEX TELECONFERENCE*

Agenda:

- ❖ Call to Order
- ❖ Appointments & Discussion Items:
 - 7:00pm Board of Health/COVID Update Tom FitzGerald report (if necessary)
 - 7:05pm Appointment: Robert Beckwith RE: Sodom Mountain Rd. Gate Letter (1/29/21)
 - 7:20pm DPW Superintendent Doug Roberts report
 - 7:35pm Police Chief Rick Rindels report
 - 7:55pm Town Administrator Matt Streeter report
- ❖ Correspondence: incoming and outgoing
 - Daniel LeClair Re: Animal Control Bylaw
- ❖ Old Business
- ❖ Executive Session
- ❖ Any other business not reasonably anticipated by the chair
- ❖ Upcoming Agendas:
 - Verizon Pole Hearing 3/8/21 7pm
 - Finance Committee 3/8/21 TBD
- ❖ Adjournment

Remote Participation for Selectboard, staff & public via WebEx meeting.

Selectboard

Hosted by Matthew Streeter

<https://townofgranville.my.webex.com/townofgranville.my/j.php?MTID=m4e86282c3e006012e48918f421439e78>

Monday, Mar 1, 2021 7:00 pm | 2 hours 30 minutes | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 142 080 2382

Password: eBZMipAp349 (32964727 from phones and video systems)

Join by video system

Dial 1420802382@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: 142 080 2382

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.

*This meeting will be a **remote access meeting**. This is due to COVID protocols and the Governor's Executive Order related to public meetings.



TOWN OF GRANVILLE

707 Main Road
P.O. Box 247
Granville, MA 01034
(413) 357-8585 (phone)
(413) 357-6002 (fax)

OFFICE OF THE SELECTBOARD

January 29, 2021

Neighbors of Sodom Mountain Road in Granville

At the Selectboard meeting on January 25, 2021, the Selectboard addressed confusion between the letter issued by the Selectboard on April 29, 2020 and the letter provided to Mr. Mason by Chief Rindels on May 18, 2020. While the letter from the Selectboard states that “henceforth the gate at the beginning of Sodom Mountain Road shall be chained and locked,” it was the intent of the Selectboard to allow access of Eversource, Emergency Services of Granville and Southwick, and abutting property owners or their guests/associates access via keys to the gated portion of the road.

The Selectboard reiterated at last Monday evening’s meeting that their letter of April 29, 2020 states that it “solicit(s) the landowners help in securing the gate from dusk until dawn.” At no time did the Selectboard did not vote to have the gate on Sodom Mountain Road ‘locked at all times.’

The Selectboard reaffirms its belief that it shall be the responsibility of those who have keys to open, close and lock the gate upon access to and from their adjoining properties. If an abutting property owner with keys accesses the property, they may open the gate and leave it open during daylight hours until they leave. As a courtesy, other abutting property owners should not close or lock the gate if others with same rights of access are exercising their rights.

Should you have any further questions or concerns, please contact the Town Administrator Matthew Streeter at townadministrator@townofgranville.org .

The Granville Selectboard

Town of Granville Police Department
Town of Granville Public Works Department
Edwin Beckwith, owner of adjacent parcel
David Hansen, owner of adjacent parcel
Francis Mason, owner of adjacent parcel
Doug Woodger, owner of adjacent parcel
Richard Woodger, owner of adjacent parcel
Eversource, utility easement



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OFFICE OF THE SELECTBOARD

April 29, 2020

Dear Neighbors of Sodom Mountain Road in Granville

Sodom Mountain Road in Granville is a “paper road” under the defunct County Road system and is currently an unmaintained, non-Chapter 90 road in the Town of Granville leading into the Town of Southwick. There has been a gate to deter traffic from using the road since prior to 1992. The code or key to the lock for the gate has been provided to any landowners or other individuals with legitimate business along the gated portion of Sodom Mountain Road since that time.

For the past couple of years, the gate has been frequently left open or unlocked. During this time our Police Department has received numerous complaints with regards to illegal dumping, trespassing, illicit drug transactions and larceny beyond the gated area of Sodom Mountain Road. The Police Department has observed some of these problems and the issue has become a public safety matter. To reduce the risk of illegal dumping and other illicit activities, the best solution would be to more diligently use the existing gate to restrict traffic from entering the Granville portion of the roadway. Of course this would not seek to restrict access to those people with legitimate business along this road and the practice of providing a code or key will continue as it has in the past.

To support and encourage more diligent use of the gate at Sodom Mountain Road, the Selectboard has taken the following action at their regular meeting of April 27, 2020: Henceforth the gate at the beginning of Sodom Mountain Road shall be chained and locked. Keys shall be furnished by the Town of Granville to police and emergency services of the Towns of Granville and Southwick, as well as the property owners who are beyond the gate and others with legitimate business along the gated portion of the road.

It shall be the responsibility of those who have keys to the gate to open, close and lock the gate upon access to and from their adjoining properties. The Selectboard reiterates that no property owners are being denied their right of access, nor rights of way entitled to them to utilize the roadway. Additionally, the Selectboard does not intend to block the right of ways entitled to the landowners to utilize the roadway. The Selectboard does solicit the landowners help in securing the gate from dusk until dawn.

Granville Selectboard April 29, 2020

Additionally, the Selectboard will be placing signage on the Granville portion of Sodom Mountain Road affirming that this is neither a through road nor a GPS roadway to Southwick. Additional no trespassing signs may be posted as well.

The Selectboard appreciates your understanding in this matter to ensure public safety and protection of property in the neighborhood of Sodom Mountain Road.

The Granville Selectboard

Recipients of letter:

Town of Granville Police Department
Town of Granville Public Works Department
Town of Granville Fire Department
Town of Granville Emergency Management Director
Town of Southwick Police Department
Town of Southwick Selectboard
Edwin Beckwith, owner of adjacent parcel
David Hansen, owner of adjacent parcel
Francis Mason, owner of adjacent parcel
Doug Woodger, owner of adjacent parcel
Richard Woodger, owner of adjacent parcel
Eversource, utility easement

Matthew Streeter

From: Daniel LeClair via Granville, MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 5:02 PM
To: Matthew Streeter
Subject: Leash Law Enforcement Complaint

Submitted on Monday, February 22, 2021 - 5:01pm

Submitted by anonymous user: 142.255.12.95

Submitted values are:

Subject: Leash Law Enforcement Complaint

Message:

To Selectmen & Police Dept-

My dog recently got out of my yard and was picked up by a neighbor on the road. A police officer visited my house in a patrol car to inform me where my dog was and threaten me with fines. I would like to register a complaint about two aspects of this event.

First, I do not understand why it is acceptable for anyone to pick up a stray animal. It actually makes it harder for me to find my pet. I knew that my dog was missing and was out looking for him. If he was out and heard me calling, he would have come. He can not do that if he is in a stranger's house. I think the town should discourage people from picking up stray animals themselves.

Second, I do not think this type of matter needs to involve police officers visiting my home. A neighborly phone call would be a much more civil way to handle this type of thing. I do not want to be treated like a criminal for something that could happen to any pet owner from time to time. I suggest the Town consider changing the way it deals with this type of matter. If no one is threatened or in danger, it does not require police involvement.

Daniel LeClair 882 Main Rd.

==Please provide the following information==

Name: Daniel LeClair

Email Address: leclair.shane@gmail.com

Phone Number: 413-357-3008

Organization:

==Address==

Street: 882 Main Rd.

City: Granville

State: Massachusetts

Zipcode: 01034

Upload File:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.townofgranville.net/node/2/submission/2036>