

**MINUTES SELECTBOARD MEETING**  
**Grafton Town Hall Upstairs In Person/Live**  
**With accommodation for persons unable to attend in person via interactive Zoom**

**Monday, October 2, 2023, 6:00 pm**

Present at the meeting in the Town Hall:

Selectboard: Vice Chair Cathy Siano-Goodwin, John Gregory, Rich Thompson, and Seth Pajcic

Selectboard not present: Chair Joe Pollio

Also: Morgan Wilbur, Colby Record, Amber Stevens, Meg Staloff, Liisa Kissel, and Sam Battaglino

Present online: Dottie Cannon, FactTV, and Charles Bonin

1. Call to order: The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Adopt Agenda: It was moved by Seth Pajcic, seconded by Rich Thompson to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve Minutes of the September 18, 2023, meeting: It was moved by John Gregory, seconded by Seth Pajcic, to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2023, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
4. BDCC/SeVEDS Presentation: Meg Staloff, Southern Vermont Economy Project Manager gave a brief overview of what Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) and Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies do. She said they like to visit Selectboards to get feedback on how they can better serve the community. She mentioned they have a young professional's program that works with high school students in the area to show them various professions and how to succeed in these rural areas. Staloff said they have these programs with the Brattleboro Union High School, Bellows Falls Union High School, and Leland and Gray; she feels they have been successful, and students engage well. She said they are asking each town in the region for funds to help this program and the other programs they provide, however, if a Town does not approve the funding request, they are still available for help and guidance whenever needed. Siano-Goodwin thanked Staloff for presenting.
5. Highway Report: Colby Record said they are grading the roads and roadside mowing one more time this year. They have also been hauling in gravel to replenish before winter. The culvert near Dick Desrocher's property on Middletown Road and a culvert on Cabell Road had been replaced. He said they have one more culvert on Fisher Hill Road that they'd like to get replaced before the season is over.

Morgan Wilbur mentioned she received an Excess Weight Permit from PJF Trucking and Logging, LLC for this year.

It was moved by Seth Pajcic, seconded by John Gregory to approve the excess weight permit for PJF Trucking and Logging, LLC, and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign and issue. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Clerk/Treasurer: Morgan Wilbur said Joe Pollio is unavailable to meet on October 24<sup>th</sup> for the general budget discussion. He had requested to cancel that meeting and start the discussion on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. The other board members agreed.

7. Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee: There was no report.

8. Other Business: Cathy Siano-Goodwin asked about the progress of the Houghtonville Cemetery expansion. John Gregory said one of the landowners had listed their property for sale. Morgan Wilbur reached out to this individual and they would talk to their realtor to see how they could move forward with it. Gregory also mentioned a large tree had fallen in the Middletown Cemetery and some of the stones may have been damaged. He would look at the cemetery the following day to get a better understanding of the damage.

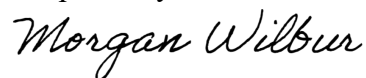
9. Public Comment: Sam Battaglino inquired about the progress of a short-term rental policy. Morgan Wilbur said that she would continue to look into it, however, she had not heard any more complaints after sending the property owners a letter earlier in the spring. Discussion continued regarding what nearby towns were doing. Liisa Kissel recommended at the least having a registry where the host needs to register with the town. Therefore, the town would have contact information in case of an emergency. Amber Stevens said there will be a conference in November for hosts to learn more about the regulations.

Anber Stevens said the Fireman's Fall Foliage Festival would be happening this weekend, October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. They will put traffic cones in the road to alert vehicles of this event as well.

10. Next regular meeting: Monday, October 16, 2023, at 6 p.m.

11. Adjourn. It was moved by Seth Pajcic, seconded by Rich Thomspen, to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Morgan Wilbur