**MINUTES SELECTBOARD MEETING**

**Grafton Town Hall Upstairs In Person/Live**

**With accommodation for persons unable to attend in person via interactive Zoom**

**Monday, October 6, 2025, 6:00 pm**

Present at the meeting in the Town Hall:

Selectboard: Chair Cathy Siano-Goodwin, Vice Chair Anna Keegan, Buzz Fisher, John Gregory, and Steve Sargent

Also: Sam Battaglino, Liisa Kissel, Wendy Martin, David Rogers, and Suzanne Welch

Present online: FactTV and Charlie Bonin

1. Call to order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Adopt Agenda: It was moved by Anna Keegan, seconded by Buzz Fisher, to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approve Minutes of the September 15, 2025, meeting: It was moved by Buzz Fisher, seconded by Steve Sargent, to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2025, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approve Minutes of the September 29, 2025, special meeting: It was moved by Anna Keegan, seconded by Buzz Fisher, to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2025, special meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Highway Report: Interim Road Foreman David Rogers said he’d been on vacation and in his absence, he’d left the crew a list of things to do. The grant work on Hall Ranch Road is complete, and there’s a little more to do on Stagecoach Road, he said. All of the paperwork is completed.

Cathy Siano-Goodwin said that Skip Lisle had contacted her about the beaver situation on Anderson Road (David Pincus property). Lisle had gone to the location a week or so before to clean the deceiver equipment, but it was destroyed and he would like to repair it. Siano-Goodwin noted that at a 2024 Selectboard meeting, the board unanimously approved the hiring of contractors without workers compensation if the project is less than $5,000. The board has the discretion to address this on a case-by-case basis. Rogers thinks the board should contact the property owner to see what he’d like to do; in Rogers’ opinion, he thinks the pond is too close to the road and will cause damage. Cathy Siano-Goodwin said she will contact the property owner to determine if they would like the beaver pond to remain and therefore fix the beaver deceiver before proceeding further with Lisle.

6. Clerk/Treasurer: There was no report.

7. Committee Reports:

Cemetery Committee: John Gregory said that the Styles Brook Cemetery had been mowed and photos had been taken of the work. There were trees growing up in the cemetery. Dave Rogers said he had cut and removed a limb that was down at Burgess Cemetery. Buzz Fisher said that Fenton and Hennessey had been contacted for a quote on stone repairs.

At this point in the meeting, John Gregory suggested discussing the wood at the Chester Road location rather than later on in the agenda. There was a brief discussion about how to offer the wood to the public. Dave Rogers said he knew of two people (Mark Rushton and Russell Record) who were interested; he said that because of liability concerns, the wood would need to be moved as is and not cut on the Chester Road property.

After the discussion, it was moved by Buzz Fisher, seconded by Anna Keegan, to direct Morgan Wilbur to contact Mark Rushton and Russell Record to find out what they’re each willing to pay, under the conditions that the wood must be removed as is and it must be removed by October 31. Motion passed unanimously.

John Gregory then brought up logging at the Town Garage site that was done several years before. He suggested continuing the project (on the lower side nearer the brook). He also suggested including the Chester Road property at the same time. Dave Rogers suggested reviewing the contract for the previous logging; he thought that Hayden Lake had completed it and had marked trees for future logging. The board agreed to ask Morgan Wilbur to contact Hayden Lake to begin the process.

Parks Committee: There was no report.

Highway Committee: See above discussion re wood removal at Chester Road site, and logging at the Town Garage site.

Personnel Committee:

Form Review Committee to Review Road Foreman Applications: After discussion, it was determined that Cathy Siano-Goodwin and Anna Keegan (Selectboard), Dave Rogers (Interim Road Foreman), and Morgan Wilbur (Town Administrator) will conduct the interviews. Siano-Goodwin said that in the past, the Personnel Committee (Siano-Goodwin and Steve Sargent) would represent the board but Sargent said he needed to recuse himself because of one of the applicants.

There were three applications submitted and John Gregory suggested that all board members review them ASAP. (The application deadline was October 1.) The board agreed that Morgan Wilbur should call all three candidates to set up interviews.

Suzanne Welch said that, with all due respect, she was disappointed that John Gregory wasn’t serving on the committee, in light of his extensive road department experience. Gregory said that he would be part of the discussion later on.

July 2023 Flood Update: John Gregory said that Morgan Wilbur would have to file an extension for the blocks on Eastman Road because the engineer didn’t get the work done.

8. Other Business: There was no Other Business.

9. Public Comment: Suzanne Welch asked which organizations would be presenting their budgets to the Selectboard at the October 9th budget meeting. Cathy Siano-Goodwin said that it would be the fire/rescue departments, library and Planning Commission. There was a brief discussion about the need for there to be a Capital Budget recommendation from chair Hardy Merrill; Siano-Goodwin said she would check with Merrill about this. There was a brief discussion about paving strategy and budgetary concerns and the board asked Dave Rogers to attend the October 9th meeting for a full discussion.

10. Next Special (Budget) Meeting: Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 4 pm.

11. Next Regular Meeting: Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6 pm.

12. Adjourn. It was moved by Anna Keegan, seconded by Buzz Fisher, to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Martin