



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday July 14, 2021
Town Hall Meeting Room – 6:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – A meeting of the East Granby Board of Selectmen (BOS) was held on Wednesday July 14, 2021, at the Town Hall Meeting Room. First Selectman Hayden called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Selectman Doering and Selectwoman Wimpfheimer were present.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Resident Paul Calebaugh asked why masks are still required at town buildings. First Selectman Hayden explained that during July “tax payment season” there is heavy foot traffic. The town has some one-person offices, and the mask rule protects residents and employees and ensures that those offices remain open and staffed. First Selectman Hayden anticipates if there are no changes in statistics, masks will no longer be required in town buildings as of August 3rd. Mr. Calebaugh also asked what policies the town will implement regarding the legalization of marijuana. The First Selectman said that the (BOS) is reviewing information from the Capitol Region Council of Government and the State Office of Policy and Management. He also has invited the Town Attorney to the next BOS meeting to discuss the ramifications of the new legislation on municipalities. Mr. Calebaugh mentioned that he is glad towns, and the State are starting to address car theft issues.
3. **CORRESPONDENCE** – CRCOG/NVCOG Cannabis Act Public Act Update, CRCOG/NVCOG Zoning Public Act, Traffic & DUI Resident Concerns, State Library Grant to Digitize Town Records from 1858, CRCOG Member Benefits, FVHD COVID Data, Tax Collector Report, Tufts East Granby Healthy Aging Data,
4. **MINUTES**
 - a. **BOS** – Selectwoman Wimpfheimer made a motion to accept the June 23, 2021, minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously**. Selectman Doering made a motion to accept the June 30, 2021, minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectwoman Wimpfheimer. **Motion Approved Unanimously**.
 - b. **WPCA** – Selectwoman Wimpfheimer made a motion to accept the June 30, 2021, minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectman Doering. First Selectman Hayden mentioned that the BOS acts as the WPCA and anticipates that it will be some time

before the WPCA has another meeting. Approval of the WPCA minutes by the BOS ensures that the minutes are approved in a timely fashion. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

5. OLD BUSINESS –

- a. School Town Building Committee Report** – DPW and our vendor Simscroft are in the process of completing major drainage work on Newgate Road. Paving of Alderman Lane, Ridge Blvd, and High Farm Road should be completed within the next couple of weeks. The air conditioning project at Allgrove School is on schedule, with an anticipated completion date the first week of August. First Selectman Hayden said that the Town issued 20-year Bonds on June 29, 2021. The bond sale resulted in a favorable net interest rate of 1.5% for the town. The bond transaction closing was held on July 15, 2021.
- b. Economic Development Report** – At their June meeting, Economic Development Officer Sandra Johnson updated the Economic Development Commission (EDC) on her conversations with the owners of 2 Gateway Blvd and discussed potential uses for the building including medical offices. In the fall, the EDC will continue to work with the BOS on development of a policy for commercial tax incentives.
- c. Back Office Shared Services Opportunities** – tabled.
- d. “Draft” Tax Incentive Report from Economic Development Officers and Director** – The First Selectman described the two tax incentives for commercial development that have been presented to the BOS by Gary Haynes the Community Development Director and by Economic Development Officers Adam Tkaczuk and Sandra Johnson. The Abatements would fall into two categories: commercial construction and commercial lease vacancy. The Town’s current abatement plan is the Bradley Development Zone (BDZ) and the two abatement policies under consideration would complement the BDZ. The BOS intends to finalize a draft policy, discuss it with the Board of Finance and then discuss with the town.
- e. Long-Term Recovery Committee Report** – First Selectman Hayden mentioned the committee identified the following for consideration.
 - a. Additional support for social services and senior services so that there would be resources and time available should another event occur.
 - b. Additional support for community-based organization such as the Food Pantry so they could have the ability to scale up during another event.
 - c. Senior/Community Center upgrades so the facilities would be able to better deal with another event. Possible kitchen upgrades, furniture, broadband access, etc.
 - d. Emergency funding reserve for rent and utilities.
 - e. Possible hot spots in strategic areas such as where seniors reside so everyone could have access to the internet.
 - f. Technology devices such as iPads/tablets on hand to be loaned or accessed during an event so communication and resources could be accessed.
 - g. Technology training for those not comfortable with technology so they could access resources and information.

- h. Additional support for social services and senior services to deal with isolation issues. phone tree, additional newsletters and correspondence, events, and visits.
- i. Additional mental health resources, perhaps working other towns to provide support during times of crisis and difficulty.
- j. Transportation and additional services for disabled residents that would help them during an event or crisis.
- k. Potential town event or fair to build community and highlight support services.
- l. Additional transportation at high demand times during another event or crisis.
- m. Additional support for the Health Districts allowing for increased resources and communication.
- n. Storage and supplies such as masks and gloves and medical items.

The BOS will consider these recommendations at a future meeting.

- f. **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Protocols and Controls** – First Selectman Hayden has spoken to other communities to see how they are handling ARPA. He mentioned that the town may want to engage a ARPA project manager to develop, make project recommendations to the BOS and to oversee future projects.
6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Selectwoman Wimpfheimer made a motion to move into Executive Session at 7:18 pm to discuss the DPW tentative contract agreement. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously.** The Board of Selectmen exited Executive Session at 7:30pm. No votes were taken.
 7. **NEW BUSINESS** –
 - a. **Consider and Act Upon the Ratification of the DPW Contract** – Selectman Doering made a motion to approve and ratify the DPW Contract as presented. Seconded by Selectwoman Wimpfheimer. First Selectman Hayden reviewed the highlights of the three-year agreement which included: town custodians moving to the DPW Union from the Town Hall Union, wage increases of 2% in the first year, 2% in the second year and 2.25% in the third year. The town 401(a) contribution will increase by 1% of the employee salary in year two of the agreement. The employee share of health insurance will increase by 1.5% over the three-year agreement. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**
 8. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Resident Paul Calebaugh asked about the details of the newly issued bonds including the net interest rate, premium and the financial controls in place. Mr. Calebaugh also asked about the feasibility of putting on a Town Fair next year through the Economic Development Commission and/or Parks & Rec.
 9. **ADJOURN** – Selectwoman Wimpfheimer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously** at 7:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicole Sokolowski