

The regular meeting of the Groveland Town Board was held on Thursday, November 09, 2023 at the Town Hall, 4955 Aten Road in the Town of Groveland.

Present: Bill Devine, Supervisor; Sandra Bean, Deputy Supervisor, and Councilmember; Amy Hunter, Councilmember

Absent: Steve Atterbury, Councilmember, and John Macauley, Councilmember

Other Town Officials: D. Mark Caldwell, Highway Superintendent

Others Present: T. Harvey, Highway Employee, R. Niedermaier, and B. Przysinda

Supervisor Devine called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Supervisor Devine led the pledge to the flag.

A motion by Councilmember Hunter and seconded by Councilmember Bean that the audited bills be paid. General Fund vouchers numbered 246 -282 for \$10,204.57; Highway Fund vouchers numbered 166- 183 for \$32,864.40; and Capital Fund vouchers numbered 11-14 for \$16,044.90, with the recognition that in general fund voucher #255 numbering was skipped in error. Motion carried.

A motion by Councilmember Bean and seconded by Councilmember Hunter to accept the regular meeting minutes of 10/12/2023. Motion carried.

Supervisor Devine forwarded copies electronically of the Town Clerk & Supervisors monthly financial reports. The supervisor financial report with monthly statement of all money received. Councilmember Bean and seconded by Councilmember Hunter to accept both financial reports. Motion carried.

Information handed out/or acknowledged:

Old/New Business:

HIGHWAY REPORT- Highway Superintendent Caldwell reported the crew has 3 trucks complete with the plow equipment in preparation for winter. Snow fence placement will begin next week. The County requested the town remove a few trees on Groveland Hill near Adamson Road and do a bit of ditching there. CHIPS monies reimbursement has been submitted for \$210,943.76 with the remainder being POP money carryover. The POP money is the funds that require a 10-year wear surface.

The Town Clerk reported that D. Mark Caldwell has provided his letter of resignation effective 11/30/2023 and is to be included in the minutes.

A motion by Councilmember Bean to accept the letter of resignation and thanked Highway Superintendent Caldwell for his 41 years of dedicated service to the town, seconded by Councilmember Hunter. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Caldwell recommends appointing Tanner Harvey as the Acting Highway Superintendent to fill the vacancy until the end of the year following his resignation.

A motion by Councilmember Bean and seconded by Councilmember Hunter to appoint Tanner Harvey as acting Highway Superintendent beginning 12/1/2023 until 12/31/2023 to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of D. Mark Caldwell.

The Town Clerk will have Mr. Harvey sign the oath of office for the position.

Mr. Harvey thanked the board for their support and stated he had a few days to utilize before taking on his role as acting Highway Superintendent. The board stated to do what he can before his start date.

Highway Superintendent Caldwell currently has a phone that he owns and a phone plan through Verizon that the town pays for the plan. The town board will need to move forward with changing to a different plan as he will be changing and this plan will be canceled.

A motion by Councilmember Bean to allow Tanner Harvey, incoming Highway Superintendent to purchase a phone and review phone plan options for the Highway Superintendent's position, seconded by Councilmember Hunter. Motion carried.

LOCAL LAW # OF 2023 CHANGE THE OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT FROM AN ELECTED OFFICE TO AN APPOINTED OFFICE- The Town Clerk reported that a proposition following the public hearing was placed on the election ballot for the November 7, 2023 election, this was to change the office of elected highway superintendent to an appointed office. The proposition failed with a vote count of 258 no votes and 122 yes votes. This count does not include the absentee ballots. The town clerk contacted the Board of Elections to see when the final count would be done, however at the time of this board meeting no answer was returned. The count will not change the proposition failure.

The office of highway superintendent shall remain an elected position.

Councilmember Hunter requested to move into executive session for matters related to collective negotiations under the Taylor Law, seconded by Councilmember Bean. Motion carried.

The board requested the town clerk.

The executive session opened at 9:29 a.m.

A motion to close the executive session with no action taken by Councilmember Hunter and seconded by Councilmember Bean. Motion carried.

The executive session closed at 9:32 a.m.

Supervisor Communication- Supervisor Devine notified the board all the easements for the water district have been signed, with the hopes of sending the district to bid soon.

The two traffic studies that were sent to lower speed limits on Groveland Road near Warner Road, and Scottsburg Rd heading towards the hamlet of Scottsburg have been denied. A phone call message was left with one complainant regarding the denial. The supervisor and board members requested the Town Clerk to send a letter to the second complainant regarding the denial of speed reduction.

Other Communication: R. Niedermaier was present and requested that everyone be aware of the functions the fire department was hosting. The Town Clerk has placed them in the hall for residents to see.

Town Clerk Burgess inquired about a few clerical items for the organizational meeting.

Councilmember Hunter stated that it would be nice to have more involvement with our other boards such as planning and zoning. Councilmember Bean agreed and stated that it would only be possible with the Planning Board as the Town Board is the appeal board for the Zoning Board. It was agreed upon a town board member would be a liaison to the Planning Board to be set at the January organizational meeting annually.

A motion by Councilmember Hunter and seconded by Councilmember Bean to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m. The next meeting will be the regular meeting on December 14, 2023, @ 9:00 a.m. at the Town Hall and is open to the public. Motion carried.

Kimberly Burgess, Town Clerk
Town of Groveland
Dated: November 09, 2023