

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2017

Greenfield High School, 21 Barr Avenue

7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Allis.

President Allis stated this meeting was being recorded. If any other person present was doing the same, they must notify the chairperson at this time. It was noted the Town Council was audio recording and GCTV-15 was video recording the meeting for future broadcast.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Roll Call was taken. Councilor Leonovich was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William Martin; Town Clerk Deborah J. Tuttle; Finance Director/Town Auditor/Town Accountant Elizabeth Braccia; Director of Administration Mark Smith; Greenfield School Superintendent Jordana Harper; School Committee Vice-Chairperson Adrienne Nunez; School Committee Secretary Donald Alexander; Deputy Fire Chief John Whitney; Chief Assessor Audrey Murphy; Police Chief Robert Haigh; Health Director Alexeev Jones; Grants Administrator MJ Adams; GCTV-15 staff; Aviva Luttrell and Joshua Solomon, *the Recorder*, and members of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Burge, it was unanimously,

VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The following members of the public spoke:

- Ashley Stempel, 277 Conway Street, urged the Town Council to approve the appropriation for the Animal Control Officers vehicle. She spoke of a presentation by the Human Rights Commission on bullying suggesting people visit www.workplacebullying.org for more information.

President Allis thanked and expressed appreciation for Ms. Stempel's work and time spent on the Town Council.

- The following people spoke in opposition of the proposed ordinance as proposed by Councilor Mass titled "Exchange, Gift and Disposal of Hypodermic Needles."
 - Sarah Ahern, 15 Abbot Street,
 - Debra McLaughlin, Coordinator of the Opioid Task Force, 43 Hope Street.
 - David Moscaritolo, 43 Country Club Road.
 - Tim Dolan, 77 Hope Street.
 - Jerry Lund, 30 Simon Keets Road, Leyden.
- David Moscaritolo, 43 Country Club Road, also spoke of continuing concerns relating to GCET and thanked everyone at Town Hall who provided information towards his concerns.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

MAYOR: Mayor Martin introduced the new Health Director, Alexeev Jones. Mr. Jones spoke of his education and experience. Councilors welcomed him and asked if he wished to comment on the proposed ordinance titled "Exchange, Gift and Disposal of Hypodermic Needles." Mr. Jones noted Boards of Health wanted to lower barriers for community health. The proposed ordinance would deter people from taking advantage of helpful programs.

Mayor Martin and Ms. Braccia updated the Town Council regarding GCET, see attached update. They spoke of the following:

- Creation of cluster neighborhoods, notifications to residents.
- Invitation for everyone to submit ideas and questions.
- The money has always been under the control of the Town Offices, Accountant and Treasurer.
- A report on the budget would be provided next month.
- Summary of conversations held with State Auditor Susan Bump; whose office will not be providing auditing services for GCET.

In response to Councilors questions the following was stated:

- Advertising or a search for a new director had not taken place.
- The Attorney who had been representing GCET services were no longer needed and had been let go. Approximately \$110,000 had been paid for their services.
- It would take between three and eight months before service would be available to those who live on the outskirts of town.
- Services available to small businesses.
- Further discussion regarding the Mayor's statement of "the money has always been under the control of the Town Offices, Accountant and Treasurer."
- Expectations of how repairs to the "little gray boxes" would be made due to inclement weather.
- Expectations of when a cash flow analysis would be ready.
- A request would be forwarded to the Town Council asking that excess funds from the MLP Pilot program be allowed to be repurposed for Capital Technology for GCET.
- The Town of Greenfield had an increase to the CDBG funds to \$825,000 for next year. These funds would be used to bring technology and wireless internet to a number of homes in Greenfield.
- Trying to find different ways to keep promises that GCET will not cost the taxpayers additional funds.

Additionally discussed were the traffic lights/four way stop intersection at Conway and Allen Street. It had been determined the insurance company would be paying for the repairs of the lights.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Ms. Nunez and Mr. Alexander spoke of the following:

- Greenfield MCAS scores were received today.
- The Greenfield Woman's Cross Country team was League Champions for the first time.
- Activities to be held at schools within the next few weeks include a Pumpkin Painting Party, Community Readers Pajama Party, and swearing in ceremony for the National Honor Society.
- Donations of dictionaries from the Elks Lodge to third graders.
- A job fair will be held at the Greenfield School Administration office on Thursday, October 19, 2017 from 1 pm to 6 pm.
- Review of activities in discussion by the School Committee.
- School Committee now meets at the Greenfield High School Cafeteria.

TOWN OFFICERS: None.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

Order no. FY 18-036

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Childs, second by Councilor Maloni, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR TO THE COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS: MAUREEN POLLOCK TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2020 TO FILL AN EXISTING VACANCY. SHE WILL BE THE TOWN REPRESENTATIVE.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Childs stated the Appointment and Ordinance Committee had not met in October; therefore no recommendation had been forwarded.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -036.

Order no. FY 18-037

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Burge, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously,

VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL TAKE FROM THE TABLE ORDER NO. FY 18-030, “UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER TO APPROPRIATE \$15,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER VEHICLE, ORDERED, THAT: THE SUM OF \$15,000 TO BE APPROPRIATED FROM THE CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER VEHICLE” WHICH WAS TABLED AT THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

ORIGINAL MOTION FROM SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 ON THE TABLE

Order no. FY 18-030 - THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER, TO APPROPRIATE \$15,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER VEHICLE, ORDERED, THAT: THE SUM OF \$15,000 TO BE APPROPRIATED FROM THE CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER VEHICLE.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Burge stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a majority, 4 yes and 1 no, positive recommendation for approval.

It was by majority, 1 no,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -030.

Order no. FY 18-035

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Burge, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER TO TRANSFER \$12,000 FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE FIRE STATION HEATING SYSTEM FROM THE RESERVE FUND, ORDERED, THAT: THE SUM OF \$12,000 BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE RESERVE FUND FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE FIRE STATION HEATING SYSTEM.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Burge stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded unanimous positive recommendation for approval.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -035.

President Allis stated he was pulling the following order and placing it on the November Committee Chairs and Town Council agenda. He noted the incorrect information had been included in the Town Council agenda packet.

Order no. FY 18-038

THAT IT BE ORDERED, THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL AMENDS THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD BY AMENDING CHAPTER 0030 – MAYOR, SECTION, 30-2. COMPENSATION, AS ATTACHED HERETO AS “EXHIBIT A” AND FURTHER AMENDS THE INDEX OF THE CODE AND FURTHER THAT NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGES TO THE NUMBERING OF THE ORDINANCE BE PERMITTED IN ORDER THAT IT BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NUMBERING FORMAT OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD.

Order no. FY 18-039

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Childs, second by Councilor Mass, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL AMENDS THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD BY ADDING CHAPTER 308, NEEDLES EXCHANGE, GIFT AND DISPOSAL OF HYPODERMIC NEEDLES, AS ATTACHED HERETO, AND FURTHER AMENDS THE TABLE OF CONTENTS AND INDEX OF CONTENTS OF THE CODE AND FURTHER THAT NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGES TO THE NUMBERING OF THE ORDINANCE BE PERMITTED IN ORDER THAT IT BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NUMBERING FORMAT OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD.

Amendment to the Code of the Town of Greenfield – Town Council Approval – DATE

Chapter 308

NEEDLES EXCHANGE, GIFT AND DISPOSAL OF HYPODERMIC NEEDLES

§ 308-1. Purpose

§ 308-2. Definitions

§ 308-3. Prohibitions

§ 308-4. Anti-discrimination provisions

§ 308-5. 5 6. Penalties.

§ 308-6. 6 7. Enforcement.

§ 308-1. Purpose.

The public health is endangered by the improper disposal of hypodermic needles, particularly in places where children play. The Town of Greenfield has a responsibility to maintain parks and playgrounds free from such clear and obvious public health risks. The Supreme Judicial Court in AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod, Inc. v. Town of Barnstable, SJC-12224, June 14, 2007, has found that no state law prohibits the gift or exchange of hypodermic needles, by individuals outside of pharmacies or municipally approved needle exchange programs, as such it is incumbent on the Town of Greenfield to establish reasonable restrictions on the same. Needle Exchange programs and Pharmacies provide health interdiction avenues to prevent the spread of blood born pathogens and other threats to public health, but also provide proper and regulated counseling regarding the proper disposal of sharps.

§ 308-2. Definitions

EXCHANGE - Providing one or more Hypodermic Needles while receiving at or near the same time one or more Hypodermic Needles.

GIFT - Providing one or more Hypodermic Needles without receiving anything in return.

HYPODERMIC NEEDLE - Any syringe or needle capable for use for the administration of a controlled substance.

NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM - Any program approved by the Greenfield Board of Health and in compliance with the regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health as authorized under MGL Ch. 111 Section 215 and which maintains a Sharps Collection Point.

NON-REGULATED SALE - Any sale of Hypodermic Needles not in compliance with compliance with MGL Chapter 94C Section 27. This shall include but not be limited to giving one or more Hypodermic Needles in consideration of receipt of monies or any other item of value, outside of MGL Chapter 94C Section 27.

REGULATED SALE - Any sale of Hypodermic Needles in compliance with MGL Chapter 94C Section 27.

SHARPS COLLECTION POINT - A location for the disposal of Hypodermic Needles in compliance with Department of Public Health regulations for the disposal of sharps.

§ 308-3. Prohibitions

- A. Non-Regulated Sales of Hypodermic Needles are strictly prohibited.
- B. Gift or Exchange of Hypodermic Needles other than by a Needle Exchange Program is strictly prohibited.
- C. Disposal of Hypodermic Needles other than at a Sharps Collection Point is strictly prohibited.

§ 308-4. Anti-discrimination provisions

No Needle Exchange Program shall discriminate based on nature of disease for which Hypodermic Needles are exchanged.

§ 308-5. Penalties.

Violations of the provisions of this ordinance shall carry a fine of \$300 for the first offense and subsequent offenses.

§ 308-6. Enforcement.

The Greenfield Board of Health, the Greenfield Police Department and their respective designees shall have the power to enforce this ordinance through non-criminal disposition.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Childs stated the Appointment and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous negative recommendation for approval with one member absent. Councilor Mass reviewed the intent of the proposed ordinance and efforts to improve information to those who use or exchange needles. Comments included the following:

- Any road block for people who use is a deterrent.
- Have to side with the experts and not approve.
- Admires the courage of people to talk about this, education is the best solution.
- Collaboration with other agencies to improve conditions.
- Pursue how the Lowell DPW has a team to collect needles in their city.
- Needle exchanges do not encourage people to do drugs.

It was unanimously,

DEFEATED: ORDER NO. FY 18 -039.

Order no. FY 18-027, A 1

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Leonovich, second by Councilor Mass, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL DECLARES REAL ESTATE ON DEERFIELD STREET, BEING SHOWN ON ASSESSORS MAP 24, BLOCK 19, TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY AND TRANSFERS SAID PROPERTY TO THE MAYOR FOR SALE.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Leonovich stated the EDC forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -027, A 1.

Order no. FY 18-027, A 2

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Leonovich, second by Councilor Mass, it was,

VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR TO SELL DEERFIELD STREET, BEING SHOWN ON ASSESSORS MAP 24, BLOCK 19, PURSUANT TO THE TOWN COUNCIL POLICY FOR THE SALE OF TOWN OWNED LAND AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE SAME.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: President Allis stated in a response to Councilor Ricketts question that the November Committee Chairs meeting date would be changed as to not conflict with the November 7, 2017 election.

Councilor Mass urged everyone to vote on November 7, 2017.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Childs, it was unanimously

VOTED: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:42 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: _____
Deborah J. Tuttle, Town Clerk

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

GCTV-15
 Regular Meeting
 October 18, 2017

Attendance

1. Sund, Verne	Y					
2. Lobik, John	Y					
3. Allis, Brickett	Y					
4. Muzyka-Pyfrom, Wanda	Y					
5. Wainstein, Robert	Y					
6. Burge, Maria	Y					
7. Childs, William	Y					
8. Vacant	---					
9. Leonovich, Daniel	Y					
10. Mass, Isaac	Y					
11. Renaud, Karen	Y					
12. Ricketts, Penny	Y					
13. Maloni, Mark	Y					

Received at the Oct. 18, 2017 Council Meeting

**City of Greenfield
GCET Update
October 18, 2017**

Purpose and Scope

- Team of town employees created to work with the GCET team to initiate discovery:
 - Determine current state
 - Create a Cash Flow Analysis
 - Create a Budget
 - Create a Timeline
 - Create new marketing and sales plan

Discovery

- The Mayor put together a team of town employees to work with the GCET team and do an extensive review of all expenses, revenues, sales, marketing, pro forma budgets, etc.. The team consists of:
 - IT Director
 - Economic Development
 - Communications Specialist
 - Finance
- There is a real need to realize operational efficiencies and control costs
- Expenses broken out: 74% equipment, fleet, internet services; 17% wages and benefits; 9% operating
- There is a need to institute a comprehensive marketing and sales strategy

Current

- There are 132 active customers with an average bill of \$ 46, equating to monthly recurring revenue of \$ 6,146
- There are 181 households that have paid a deposit
- We have reduced the burn rate by a reduction in staff
- We are looking for additional operational efficiencies
- We are reporting financials and strategy to the appointed GCET commissioners
- Working to prioritize next steps in network build out to maximize coverage

❖ **Cash Flow**

- The previous burn rate led to excessive negative cash flow
- After reducing staff to lower expenses, the current plan is to find additional savings and identifying ways to increase customers to create a positive cashflow

❖ **Budget**

- In the next few weeks, the team will produce a new Operational Budget for GCET

❖ **Timeline**

- Our current timeline is as follows:
 - Nov 1st – VOIP phone service available
 - Nov 15th – Small Business service available
 - Dec through April – Neighborhoods north of Beacon Street will become available
 - Jan 1st – Enterprise Level Business and Governmental service available

❖ **Marketing and Sales**

- We are creating a marketing plan that will include leveraging:
 - Social Media Communications
 - Advertising
 - Grass Roots Marketing
 - Information Sessions Precinct by Precinct
 - Enhanced Website
 - Local Event Marketing