

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2009
7:00pm**

In Attendance: Mike Brogna, Miles Sinclair, Kyle Andrews, Pamela Hamel (AA)

Audience Members Present

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and announced that Mike Brogna would be a little late. Miles read the appointments, announcements and minutes of the October 13 selectmen's meeting. **Miles made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

Updates:

- The Board met with Mike Lemieux on Thursday, October 15 to review the EOP. A few changes to the document were necessary. Mike will be making these changes and submitting the final copy for the Board's signature.
- Iberdrola has submitted a few more agreements for the Board to review.

Mike King, North Country Council (NCC) Executive Director addressed the Board. NCC is a private, non-profit membership group funded by grants and annual fees. They cover the northern third of the state with Groton as the southernmost town in their membership. Mr. King gave the Board a brief update on the services NCC offers to communities:

- Economic Development
- Community Planning: assisting local Planning Boards
- Master Plan Development
- Hazard Mitigation & Wildfire Plans: NCC assisted Groton with these plans in 2006/2007.

Miles made a motion to sign the letter to School Superintendent Marie Ross, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted. As of October 20, the DRA has not received the school's MS-24 and MS-25 forms. These are necessary in order for the town's tax rate to be set.

The Groton Historical Society submitted a request for the lights that will be taken out of the Town Hall when the new ones are installed. Mike would like the Historical Society to sign a waiver that the town bears no risk or liability if the Society chooses to use the lights. A few years ago one of these lights burst. **Miles made a motion to donate these lights with a letter advising them of the past problems and stating that the town bears no risk, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

The Historical Society has had to change the date of their Covered Bridges of New England presentation from November 14 to November 28. GHS will meet at the Town House at 6:00pm for a brief meeting followed by the presentation which will begin at 7:00pm.

Miles had the opportunity to review the Amerigas agreement for the purchase and use of a 500 gallon propane tank. Contract says the Town is required to purchase propane from Amerigas for the life of the contract which is one year. **Mike made a motion to sign the contract and credit application with Amerigas, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

The Board discussed providing DVD copies of historical records for the Historical Society. Mike would like to research the steps to produce these and then come up with a reasonable fee to charge for anyone wanting copies. Kyle noted that the Historical Society has already provided many services for the town including arranging for the preservation of many documents which was at no cost to the town. He feels they should receive these copies for free. Jo O'Connor asked if anyone knew whether or not Ernie Blood has already provided the GHS with copies as he has a close relationship with them. **Miles made a motion to table this until it is determined if the copies can be made in the office, how many DVDs are needed and the cost, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

The Board will have their first budget work session on Tuesday, October 27 at 6 pm. If necessary, they will continue the session after the Selectmen's meeting.

Kyle reported that Mr. Ethier gave him permission to go onto his property in order to view the building on the Sewall/Friend property. No work has been done on that building. Pam contacted Mr. Robertie who said that he has not done any work on the building, and has not brought in any more boats. He has moved boats around on the site. He also said it was fine for the Board to go onto the property however, he is currently waiting for a renewal of his power of attorney. Once he receives that, he can grant them official permission. Junkyard Dog Ken Knowlton reported that there was an increase in the number of boats on the property between his August and September visits.

Mike made a motion to sign the Intent to Cut for Cross, Map 3 Lot 17, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Miles made a motion to grant the GRC's request to withdraw \$250 from their revolving fund for the dinner and dance, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Ron Aquiar submitted a written request for the town records for when Brock Lane was discontinued. There was some discussion over this request as the road was not known as Brock Lane at the time thus making it difficult to know what to look for. Miles said that in these situations, the town can either take the time to research it or allow the one making the request to have access to the records and do the research themselves. However, since the records must remain in the presence of the Town Clerk, the town might as well do the research. Shirley Leone said she has a copy of those records. The road was discontinued in 1908 and used to be called Powers Hill Road. **Mike made a motion to draft a letter to Mr. Aquiar stating the town will need additional time to process his request but will get it to him as soon as possible, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

Miles made a motion to buy 6 recycle bins, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted. New Hampshire the Beautiful is offering 14 gallon recycling bins to non-profit organizations for \$3.95 each. The Board reminded the audience that aluminum is recycled separately, not with the plastics and glass.

The Board discussed the fact that when the Selectmen's office is closed and the heat turned down, the Town Clerk's office has no heat as both offices are on the same zone and the thermostat is in the Selectmen's office. Last Monday the Clerk didn't have heat until Miles happened by. The options are to move the thermostat to a location outside of the offices or give the Town Clerk a key to their office. All agreed that moving the thermostat would be costly and inefficient, and they do not have any problem with Laura Hauser having a key to the office. **Miles made a motion to make a copy of the**

Selectmen's office key for the Town Clerk and add her security code to their office, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Pam said she is making a lot of copies for the various committees and would like to know if the Selectmen have a policy on how to handle this as far as the use of paper and ink are concerned. She has no problem providing all these copies but expressed concern over making sure the selectmen's office has sufficient money in their budget to handle the additional supplies used. The Board feels it is easiest to have the expenses come out of their office and will address the financial end of it in their budget work sessions.

Jo O'Connor asked if the pot holes in the Town House driveway were going to be filled. The Board will relay this to the Road Agent for him to address.

Miles made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant