

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
November 24, 2009
7:00pm**

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

Audience Members Present

Mike called the meeting to order at 7:05pm and read the appointments, announcements and minutes of the November 17 selectmen's meeting. **Mike made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

Mike and Miles met with Randall & Donna Goslin to discuss removing the trees from the Cockermouth River. The Goslins expressed concern over the loss of property due to erosion. To date they have lost over 20 feet to the river. They had contacted the state and the Governor's office, and the Governor's office referred them to an agency in Laconia. At the time the Goslins did not contact this agency. They will forward this contact information to the Selectmen's office. Miles accompanied them to the property. He noted that there are more trees in the water than originally thought, and agreed that the trees do help prevent future erosion. The Board is willing to work with and assist the Goslins. By assisting them they will benefit many Groton residents who would be affected by another flood. At this time they do not have permission to remove the trees.

The state has denied the town's petition to suspend the additional VOC testing at the Landfill. Ms. Wall does not feel the reasoning for this denial is logical based upon the past reports and decisions of the state. The Board would like her to pursue this if she is willing to do so within the confines of her agreement with the town and at no additional charge.

The Board conducted 2 interviews for Police Chief. A third candidate withdrew as he had an offer from Homeland Security. The Board has chosen a candidate and is in the process of putting together a conditional offer of employment which includes successfully passing a background check, polygraph and psychological examination, and becoming NH certified.

Shelley Winchenbach, TWC representative, has offered to meet with the Board on December 17 or 18. The Board would prefer to meet on the 17th.

The Planning Board does have the authority to set a limit on the amount of material to be excavated before requiring a permit. They have limited Henry Rego to 1,800 yards. The Board of Selectmen signed Rego's Intent to Excavate on Thursday evening as a permit was not required. However, in the future, if the Planning Board is requiring reclamation plans, the Selectmen would prefer that these plans be submitted prior to allowing any excavation to begin.

The Board reviewed the generator maintenance contract and would like some changes in the language. **Mike made a motion to table this until the new agreement is drawn up, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

The NH Employment Security has asked communities to fill out a survey for occupational employment and wage information. This is not mandatory. The Board left it up to Pam to use discretion as to whether or not she has the time to fill it out.

The Board set up a work session with Ed Cherian, Groton Wind LLC, for Tuesday, December 1st at 6:00pm.

Jerry Berry would like to take an old culvert pipe that was removed from North Groton Road and is currently stored at the Transfer Station. Glen Hansen said he has no use for it as the exterior support ribs are damaged and it will not bear truck load. **Mike made a motion to grant Jerry Berry permission to take one piece of culvert pipe, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

Glen Hansen reported that he is planning to replace the transfer station door with a steel door. Also, he has begun the FEMA repair work on North Groton Road. While ditching he found a reinforced concrete culvert that is over 120 ft long and runs onto private property. This culvert is completely plugged and could be very costly to repair/replace. Glen would like to check for the drainage easements, and contact FEMA to try to get some money to take care of this.

Mike made a motion to close the selectmen's meeting at 7:55pm and open the public hearing pursuant to RSA 31:95-b, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Groton Wind, LLC has offered up to \$10,000 to the town for the payment of out-of-pocket expenses and professional fees incurred in the review of issues and execution of agreements related to the Groton Wind, LLC wind farm project.

Glen Hansen expressed his opinion that the Board should accept this money to offset the costs of executing any contracts with Groton Wind.

No one in the audience spoke against receiving the money.

Although the wind project permitting process is governed by the state, Groton Wind has said they will go through the normal town procedures for zoning and site plan review. The Board is waiting to hear back from Avitar concerning the value and depreciation of wind turbines. They will be looking to get as much professional help and assistance as necessary to make the best decisions for the town.

Mike made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 8:05pm, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant