

**Town of Groton  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
February 16, 2010  
7:00pm**

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

**Audience Members Present**

Mike called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Appointments, announcements and minutes of the February 9th selectmen's meeting were read. **Mike made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, so voted.**

The following updates were given:

- Expenditure memo was sent out
- The OHRV grant is not a 50/50 grant. 100% of the expenditures are covered under this grant
- Pam has not had the opportunity to contact DRA concerning questions about the unknown property
- Pam left a message with Jesse Bushaw from DRA concerning the cut on Dodge Road. Forester Burt Von Dorhmann visited the site this week. Because of the snow cover he was unable to make an accurate assessment as to the size of the cut. He will take another look at it in the spring.

Several candidates were on hand for candidate's night.

For the office of Selectman:

- Peter Bailey
- Christina McClay
- Mike Brogna

For Moderator:

- Lou Lieto

For Road Agent:

- Due the storm that evening Glen Hansen was unable to participate as he was out plowing

For Library Trustee:

- Christina McClay

For Planning Board:

- Celine Richer
- Pattie Bailey
- Jennifer Burnett

For Zoning Board:

- Pattie Bailey

For School Budget Committee as a write in:

- Lou Lieto

Any candidates who were unable to attend will be allowed the opportunity to speak during any Selectmen's meeting up until the day of the election.

The Board announced that a few more photos for the cover of the Town Report had been submitted. They decided to use a photo of the Minnich farm instead of the Haselton Mill.

Donna Arena thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the 38 people who signed the petition for a warrant article that would establish 2 sessions for the annual meeting; the 1<sup>st</sup> session for voting on the official ballot, the 2<sup>nd</sup> session (deliberative session) for the remaining articles. Although the statute gives the Board of Selectmen the authority to choose the day and time for the 2<sup>nd</sup> session, it is the intention of the petitioners that this 2<sup>nd</sup> session take place on the Saturday following elections. Ms. Arena stated several benefits for having the deliberative session take place on a Saturday:

- Greater voter attendance and participation
- Town Meeting won't last into the early morning hours
- Daytime driving versus night time driving
- Ballots counted at a reasonable hour

A yes vote on this question is a vote in favor of having 2 sessions.

The petitioned article, as submitted, is not written according to state statute. As this article will be on the ballot, the petitioners will not have the opportunity to amend it from the floor. With the consent of Ms. Arena, the Board will word it according to statute.

Pam Yinger said that the Supervisors of the Checklist have always felt they were missing the beginning of the meeting as it starts at 6:00pm but the polls are open until 7:00.

**Mike made a motion to sign the 2010 Warrant, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, so voted.**

**Mike made a motion to sign the 2010 MS-6, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, so voted.**

**Mike made a motion to follow Avitar's recommendation for abatement requests, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted, Kyle abstaining as he applied for an abatement.** At this time Avitar has reviewed 4 abatement requests, recommending 3 approvals and 1 denial. Total cost for the 3 approved abatements is \$762.51.

Sheryl David would like to rent the Town House for her son's birthday party. She is requesting that the Board waive the requirement for a certificate of insurance which would cost her an additional \$95. The Board feels that they must treat everyone fairly. They required this certificate at the last event. **Mike made a motion to grant the request to rent the Town House but also require the certificate of insurance, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, so voted.**

**Mike made a motion to sign the application for enrollment to the Police Academy for Chief Dickerson, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, so voted.**

The Board met with the Administrative Assistant for her annual review. **Miles made a motion to seal the minutes of that non public meeting, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted, Mike abstaining as he was not present at the meeting.**

Pam Yinger gave an update on the skate and sledding party. There were 25 participants. The GRC thanked all who helped to get the pond prepared for the event.

**Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:24pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant