

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2010
7:00pm**

In Attendance: Miles Sinclair, Kyle Andrews, Christina McClay, Pamela Hamel (AA)

Audience Members Present

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:23pm, explaining that the Board was late as they were meeting with Ed Cherian from Groton Wind LLC in an attempt to resolve some outstanding issues with the Wind Farm agreement. Miles read the appointments and announcements.

Miles made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Christina 2nd, so voted.

The Administrative Assistant explained that she has received a few calls regarding the recent letter sent to all property owners who own property on Town roads that might have hazardous trees marked for removal within the Town's right of way. One owner is confused about whether or not there are any trees to be cut on her property. Another owner does not want any trees cut at all. However, he also admits that none are marked. Sandra Hutchins asked if everyone who received a letter has a tree(s) marked for cutting. Miles replied that not all do but the Board felt it was simpler to send letters to all property owners instead of trying to figure out where property lines ended/began. Pam also explained that the Road Agent Glen Hanson had received some feedback from residents who do not believe it is the Board's place to do the cutting themselves but that it should be done by a professional with the Highway Department assisting. Glen also said that he had asked a previous Board for a budget line for tree removal but had been denied. Miles explained that not only does he believe he is qualified to remove those trees that he is comfortable with, but he is doing this at his own expense which is a benefit to the Town. There is no money in the budget to hire someone to take care of this. The trees were marked with the intention of removing them, and to leave them would be negligent. Kyle is still okay with Miles volunteering to take the trees down as long as he is comfortable with it. Christina agreed adding that Miles is responsible enough to know what he can or cannot take down. Sandra Hutchins asked him to take a look at the large tree across from the French's house as she believes it is a dead tree in the right of way. All trees that are cut will be left on site as they are the property of the land owner.

The Administrative Assistant asked the Board to consider using the Treasurer as a backup to do payroll when she is away. Pam feels comfortable having the new Treasurer take on this responsibility and the Treasurer has agreed. Pam hasn't had anyone do payroll for her in over two (2) years and feels it is best to have a backup who is nearby and can easily step in to do the job. Christina is confident that the new Treasurer will be able to take on this responsibility but thinks it is prudent to speak with the Local Government Center (LGC) to insure that there is no conflict of interest. **Miles made a motion to table this until they hear back from LGC, Christina 2nd, so voted.** Kyle abstained from the discussion and vote.

Concerning the issue of Mr. Robertie stockpiling tires on the Sewall lot; the Board agreed that it is time to intervene. Mr. Robertie has not responded to the Planning Board's letter asking him to declare his intentions about coming into compliance with the Town's Site Plan Review Regulations which would govern his boat storage facility. He received a special exception for this facility from the Zoning Board last year. He is now expanding the use of the property by stockpiling tires. Miles feels this should be referred to the Town's attorney, who is already familiar with the boat storage issues. **Kyle made a motion to notify the Town's attorney for recommendation on the next step, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

The Board would like to acknowledge those who volunteered to help clean up the Town's road sides during the Litter Free New Hampshire day. Approximately 18-20 people participated covering North Groton Road and

Halls Brook Road. Garbage bags and a few dozen tires were left on the side of the road for pick up by the Road Agent. The garbage bags were then brought to the Transfer Station where the attendant separated the recyclables. At his own expense Chief Dickerson supplied the group with hamburgers, hotdogs and beverages. Litter Free New Hampshire gave the Town several lilac bushes as a way to say thank you for volunteering to keep New Hampshire road sides clean. **Miles made a motion to put Pam in charge of contacting the Groton Recreation Committee, the Cemetery Trustees and the Groton Historical Society to ascertain whether or not they would like some of these bushes, Kyle 2nd, so voted,**

Kyle made a motion to sign the Intent to Cut for Escobar, Map 2 Lot 50, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Christina made a motion to sign the Intent to Cut for Upper Birch Holdings, Map 6 Lot 63, sub lots 1-12, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Kyle made a motion to sign the Timber Tax Warrant for Upper Birch Holdings, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Miles made a motion to sign the building permit for Gilbert, Map 2 Lot 72, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Christina made a motion to sign the building permit for Spaulding, Map 1 Lot 36, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

The signature cards to add the new Treasurer to the various Town accounts are not yet ready. **Miles made a motion to table this until the signature cards are ready, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

New Hampshire Electric Coop would like a building permit to add three (3) land mobile radio panels, two (2) six foot microwave dishes, a 10' x 26' equipment shed and a 6' x 3' caged propane area, all within the existing compound of the Tenney Cell Tower. **Kyle made a motion to contact the Planning & Zoning Boards for their comments regarding the need for Site Plan Review or a Special Exception before making a motion on this building permit request, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Pam asked the Board whether or not they have considered selling the Town owned property at 67 River Road. This property was taken for taxes in October 2006. The Board agrees that this should be researched while they weigh the options of selling the property in the current market or waiting for the real estate market to improve. **Kyle made a motion to investigate this and crunch some numbers while waiting to see what the real estate market does, Miles 2nd, so voted.**

Pam Yinger reminded the audience of the Groton Recreation Committee's Spring into Summer dance, which will be held at the Town Garage on Saturday, June 26. This is not a BYOB dance and families are encouraged to participate.

The Board began discussing where to display the new Veteran's plaque and store the Veteran's books prepared by the Groton Historical Society. They agreed to think about it during the week and discuss it again at next week's meeting.

Miles made a motion to adjourn at 8:39pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant