

**Town of Groton  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
July 20, 2010  
7:00pm**

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

**Audience Members Present**

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Fran Wendelboe addressed the Board and the audience. Ms. Wendelboe is a candidate for State Senate. She has served 7 terms in the legislature and currently serves on the finance committee. Ms. Wendelboe is running as a fiscal conservative who has consistently voted to keep taxes and spending low.

The following amendments to the July 13 minutes were proposed:

- Page 1, last paragraph: cross out the "2" before RSAs and put parenthesis around the small s in RSAs.
- Page 2, first sentence: strike the work "large" and insert the words "1-2' high".

**Miles made a motion to amend the minutes as noted, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Updates:**

The Administrative Assistant contacted Bill Chamberlain, New Hampshire Department of Transportation Access and Utilities Supervisor, regarding the intersection of Blanchette Lane and North Groton Road. Mr. Chamberlain assured her that he would submit his findings in writing by next week's Selectmen's meeting.

**Old Business:**

**Christina made a motion to sign the letter to James Cross, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board would like the Road Agent to order twelve 12"x18" signs to post at each end of the six (6) Class VI roads in the Town of Groton. Signs will read "Unmaintained Class VI Road, Pass at Your Own Risk." They would like the lettering to be as large as feasible considering the amount of words and size of the signs. Christina suggested having the signs done at the prison as it is less expensive. The Town normally orders road signs through that avenue. Glen is to order enough standard posts for hanging these signs as well as including the building permit required signs where appropriate.

The Board reviewed the file submitted by the State regarding the Spectacle Pond Landing. It contains a letter from the State stating that a Return of Layout is a taking by eminent domain. The State believes the Town Clerk should have a file regarding the return of layout for the road. They also hold that the road and landing belong to the Town. The Town has been maintaining Spectacle Pond Road and receiving Highway Block Grant money for it. Miles recommends that they ask the Town Clerk if she has any other documents pertaining to this. If there are no documents on file here the Board could forward what information is available to the Town's attorney for her opinion or they could move forward to make decisions about parking. The Board is not looking to ban use for boats or bathers. They would like to address the concern raised this spring regarding having sufficient room to turn a trailer around when docking a boat as vehicles were being parked too close to the water. **Miles made a motion to table this until the additional research is done, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board reviewed the draft letter from the Town's Attorney to Frederick Sewall, Miles Friend and William Robertie regarding the proposed boat storage facility and junkyard violations that exist on Map 5 Lot 46. Prior to sending the letter the Board would like the Attorney to clarify that since the owners are in violation of the junkyard ordinance they not only need a Special Exception from the Zoning Board and Site Plan Review approval from the Planning Board, they must also secure a Junkyard License from the Board of Selectmen. Pam will forward this to the Town Attorney and review the final draft before it is mailed.

Groton Wind LLC has submitted a new proposal for a decommissioning guarantee which would require a review of the decommissioning costs compared to the salvage value of the wind project on the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Commercial Operation Date. Kyle voiced that he is not comfortable with negotiating once the project is built. The Board had responded to the last proposal of using a credit rating as a threshold triggering the issuance of a bond, letter of credit or cash for commissioning costs by asking that the company maintain an A credit rating as this threshold. In Ed Cherian's recent email he said the company's current rating is A-. The Town's Attorney suggests submitting a proposal to use the current rating (A-) as the threshold. She does not recommend that the Town consider the latest proposal to review the decommissioning costs compared to the salvage value. **Miles made a motion for the Town Attorney to forward her proposal to Groton Wind LLC, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Christina reported that John Faucher did not have an answer to the Board's request for assistance with hazardous tree removal. He did express concern about Miles doing this on his own. Mr. Faucher will contact Christina within the next couple of days to let her know. Miles said he would much rather have a few people get together to work on this. Christina's husband will assist as his schedule allows. **Kyle made a motion to table this until next week after Christina has heard back from John Faucher, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted, Miles abstaining.**

**Christina made a motion to sign the Intent to Cut for Gardner Hall, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Mr. Hall chose to pay his back taxes instead of posting a bond for the estimated timber tax amount.

The Town received back as unclaimed the certified letter to John Kolomick giving him 30 days to come into compliance for junkyard violations. The Board would like to make an attempt to hand deliver the letter. Kyle is willing to hand deliver this. Jo O'Connor expressed concern about safety. She was under the impression that the Sheriff's Department would deliver this letter. Miles told her that the Sheriff's Department does not normally handle this type of thing; however local police departments have been used to deliver notices. **Miles made a motion to give Kyle the opportunity to hand deliver the 30-day letter to Mr. Kolomick, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Paul Hatch from the Department of Homeland Security will be coming to the office on Wednesday, July 21 to assist Pam in the grant applications for the base station/repeater/radios. Mike Lemieux awarded the bid for the repeater/radios to Ossipee Mountain Electronics. There is a second grant available for a base station. This is a non matching grant and will be of no cost to the Town.

**Miles made a motion to approve the building permit for Grelle, Map 2 Lot 86, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Gary Easson had reported that the carbon monoxide monitors in the Town House are installed too high. Fire Chief Roger Thompson confirmed this. The Board discussed whether or not to move the current hard wired monitor that is in the hallway or purchase the type that can be plugged into an outlet. Miles will do some further research. **Miles made a motion to table this until further information is gathered, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Planning and Zoning Boards are not requiring New Hampshire Electric Coop (NHEC) to have Site Plan Review or a Special Exception to place additional equipment in the current compound owned by SBA towers. **Kyle made a motion to sign the building permit for NHEC, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Chuck Stata would like to contact NHEC to offer the Town of Groton as a pilot for the COOP's Smart Meter program. Perhaps the Town could receive a discount for electric in exchange. The Board told Chuck to feel free to contact NHEC as, at this time, they are unable to take on any new items. If NHEC is receptive to this the Board could have further discussion about it.

The Spectacle Pond Association is asking if a member of the Board or someone else from the community would like to act as a liaison between the Association and the Town. They are having their annual meeting on Saturday, August 14 at 2pm at the Circle Program Dining Hall. All three Board members will try to attend the meeting. No Board member is committing to act as liaison at this time.

House Bill 1448 may require municipalities with populations under 750 to hire auditors in order to enhance transparency in finance. The Department of Revenue (DRA) in Concord will be holding a training session on August 9 at 1pm to explain how this new law could potentially affect small municipalities. Miles and Christina will check their calendars to determine if they are able to accompany the Administrative Assistant to the training. Pam also suggested that they make arrangements to speak with someone from DRA regarding the implications of entering into a PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) agreement with Groton Wind, LLC. The Board agreed that Pam should try to schedule this on that same day as well.

The Board is looking to schedule a work session for Tuesday, August 3 at 6pm to begin addressing some of the following topics:

- Welfare guidelines
- Building permit guidelines
- Junkyard Ordinance
- Possible Parking Ordinance
- Other items as necessary

Board members will check their calendars and confirm.

The State is urging Election officials to attend Election Law Training prior to the September primary. Several locations and times are available. Miles is hoping to attend the August 24 training in Campton. Christina will attend a different session due to a scheduling conflict.

Pam Yinger reported that the Groton Historical Society (GHS) and the Old Home Day Committee will be meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the Town House to discuss their program for the August 21<sup>st</sup> Old Home Day. Also, the GHS and the Groton Recreation Committee are discussing a possible Horse and Pony Day for sometime at the end of September.

**Miles made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant