

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
August 2, 2011  
7:00 PM**

**In Attendance: Miles Sinclair, Ron Madan, Kyle Andrews, Pamela Hamel (Administrative Assistant)**

**Audience Members Present**

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:16pm.

**Miles motioned to approve the minutes of July 26 as written, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**UPDATE**

The Board received an update from the Northern Pass Project. New materials are available for the public to view at the Select Board's office.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Old Rumney Road

Miles spoke with Ton Hahn from FORECO. Mr. Hahn listened to the tape and also contacted Jon Martin, and he understands both sides of the issue. The Rumney Snow Drifters will be in that area doing some work on the snowmobile trail. Mr. Hahn reported that they have agreed to mitigate the slopes of the two ditches in question. Since this is a class VI road the Board needs to approve this work. **Ron made a motion to contact the Rumney Snow Drifters and let them know they have permission to mitigate the two ditches, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Ditching/Water Issues

Miles took another look at the area at Helen Santoro's and has a better understanding of the set up. Ms. Santoro says she believes the main problem is the height of the stone on the downhill side of the catch basin. Because of the height she does not believe that water will ever go down the ditch. Miles agreed that the height might impact the water flow to a slight degree but the way it was originally designed is to cause almost all the water to run through the pipe onto Ms. Santoro's property, not to continue down the ditch. Last week the Town produced Right of Way deeds that the previous owner had given to the state for this. Kyle asked if some of the stones in the ditch could be removed. Ron believes some of those rocks serve as a barrier to keep water from running further down the ditch and ultimately onto the road. The area below used to be covered in ice in the winter. Ron said that when they worked on cleaning out the outlet pipe, they were able to open it to about 55-60%, allowing most of the water to pass through onto Helen Santoro's property. Kyle does not believe there is anything that can be done about the way the system is set up and noted again that the previous owner gave permission for this water to drain onto the property. Miles suggested that the Road Agent look at the ditch across the road to determine if there are any changes that could be made.

**Miles motioned to refer the ditch issue (height of stone) to Glen to determine if he can mitigate this, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Ron said that there are similar culverts above this area, on both sides of the road that are partially plugged. Getting these cleaned out could help alleviate some of the water flow onto Ms.

Santoro's property.

#### Groton Wind Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement

The Board reviewed the final revisions to the PILOT and is in agreement that the Company has addressed their concerns regarding notice for permanent shut down during the construction phase and once the project is complete. The language regarding the cumulative power reduction has also been clarified. **Kyle made a motion to sign the Groton Wind PILOT Agreement, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Decommissioning Guarantee Form

The Board reviewed the comments from the Town's attorney regarding the guarantee form. The court of jurisdiction must be changed to New Hampshire, language regarding the finances designated for decommissioning must be changed to exclude use of these funds for enforcement of the agreement and, as in the original agreement, the guarantee cannot be assigned to anyone else without the Town's written consent.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Groton Historical Society (GHS)

Roland Bixby offered to give the Town several local historical photos that the GHS had enlarged and framed. Frames were made by Groton resident Lou Chase with lumber that is over 200 years old. The Historical Society building cannot accommodate these large photos. Mr. Bixby said the GHS would like to donate them to the Town and have them hung in the Town Hall. They have more photos and suggested that they could be rotated. Although the Board feels these historic photos would look nice hanging in the Hall they expressed a concern that with the Town's limited storage space they would have nowhere to keep any photos not being displayed. If the GHS maintains ownership then the Town would not have to deal with any storage issues. Mr. Bixby responded that the GHS could retain ownership thus alleviating that problem. The Board would also determine the number of pictures being displayed at any given time and the manner in which they are hung. The pictures are large and heavy.

**Miles motioned to allow the GHS to display a reasonable number (to be determined by the Select Board) of period photographs in the Meeting Room, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** They asked Mr. Bixby to let them know before hanging any photos.

#### Nedeau Lane

Miles said he recently traveled part way up Nedeau Lane but did not try to drive all the way through. Kyle and Ron agreed to take a look at it. **Miles motioned to table this until the other two board members have an opportunity to look at the road, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Filing Cabinet

**Miles motioned to give the Library Trustees 30 days (until September 1) to remove all their items from the closet so it can be utilized for the new fireproof filing cabinet, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Bixby Junkyard Application

Because there is a conviction on Mr. Bixby's record, **Kyle motioned to call the Local Government Center regarding how this affects his request for a junkyard license, and if necessary, Pam Monroe**

**from the State, and lastly, if they will not render a decision, to contact the town's attorney, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Current Use Application (Update) for Gregor Andersen, Map 2 Lots 27 ,28, 41, and Map 7 Lot 23

**Ron made a motion to sign the updated CU application for Gregor Andersen, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Current Use Application for Green Acre Woodlands, Map 10 Lot 5

**Miles made a motion to sign the CU application for Green Acre Woodlands, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Town of Groton Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Annual Concurrence

**Kyle made a motion to sign the EOP Annual Concurrence, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Building Permit for Robert Powell, Map 2 Lot 115-1, River Road

**Kyle made a motion to sign the building permit for Robert Powell, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Longyear Historical Society

In April the Board sent a letter to the Longyear Historical Society asking them to justify why the 7 acre lot abutting the Mary Baker Eddy House should be tax exempt. To date there has been no response. The Board asked Pam to make phone contact for an immediate response.

Welfare Guidelines

The Administrative Assistant stated that the updated Welfare Guidelines are finished. Before submitting them to the Board for review she would like to proof read the document (approximately 27 pages). As she must travel to Maine on personal business and will be out of the office for the remainder of the week she asked to take the document with her to do some proofreading while traveling (close to a 6 hour trip one way). The Board agreed to allow Pam to take this work with her. However, they stressed that this is an exception as they normally do not want her doing Town work while not in the office.

Kennel Donation

Kyle has donated a kennel to the Town for the Animal Control Officer (ACO) to use when he picks up strays that have obviously been taken care of. As ACO, Miles said instead of taking these animals directly to the shelter he keeps them at his house for a few days while he tries to locate their owners. **Miles made a motion to accept Kyle's offer for a chain link kennel for the ACO to use, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Questions and Comments

Roberta Smolinsky asked if anyone had taken a good look at the tree located at the end the Town House driveway. There are several branches hanging down. Miles stated that this is a state maintained road and right of way. The Board can pass her concern along to the state. Miles will personally take a look at it.

**Kyle motioned to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (b) at 9:00pm, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles motioned to return to public session at 9:20pm, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Kyle made a motion to adjourn at 9:21pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant