

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
September 6, 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 6:59pm.

Miles motioned to approve the minutes of August 30 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Updates

Miles reported that he went out on Old Rumney Road to look at the sign Mr. Leone mentioned in last week's meeting. What he found was a snowmobile directional sign that had Dead End written on the back of it. It appears as though it was placed there when the trail was rerouted. The Board has no problem with that sign being there.

Miles reported that the dead tree limbs that were hanging over the Town Hall driveway have been removed.

Old Business

Sewall/Friend Property

Misters Sewall and Friend addressed the Board. They said they believe that significant progress has been made on the clean-up of the property, stating that perhaps as much as 95% of the work is done. Unfortunately the road washed out during the recent storm. They have been assured by Mr. Robertie that the road will be repaired within a week, and they would like to assure the Board that the antifreeze and oil will be removed by tomorrow. They visited the site today and counted 13 boats remaining all of which (with the possible exception of one) they consider junk. Some are stacked on top of each other awaiting removal. Miles asked about the vehicle and transmission parts. Mr. Friend replied that some of these parts remain but they are all in a contained area. They along with any boat motors will be removed. Any trace of the operation will be gone once the road is passable. Mr. Robertie is doing no business out of that pit at this time. They believe the project would have been completed by the deadline had they not been interrupted by the storm. Because of the situation, they would like a little more time to finish up. The boats that would have put them in a compromising position (because of ownership) are all removed. As soon as the road is passable they are ready to finish the project and will report weekly or daily. Their interests' currently coincide with that of the Town; they want the area cleaned up. The Board requested that they propose a date when they think they will be able to finish the work. Mr. Sewall responded that the road work should be complete in a week. After that they would like an additional two weeks to get the remaining stuff out of there and into complete compliance. They will be in contact with the Board on a regular basis and will let them know if something comes up. They will report on the progress, take pictures, etc.; whatever the Board would like them to do.

Miles asked Kyle and Ron to consider the following: the Town has had to incur a certain amount of legal expense in this attempt to get the property into compliance. It is not a lot of money but he would like them to consider having the Town reimbursed for these expenses. Kyle agrees. Ron stated that it would be a good gesture considering the leeway the Town has given throughout the process. Mr. Sewall and Mr.

Friend are both willing to consider this however, before making the decision; they would like to know the exact amount. Pam will get those numbers.

Miles motioned to give them until October 3 to come into complete compliance, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Groton Historical Society (GHS), BTLA-12 Form

Miles reported that Mr. Bixby and Pam Yinger had spoken with him last week, and he encouraged them to submit the BTLA-12 Form without the financials to the Town, and to request a copy of their financials from the AG's office. Pam Yinger submitted a letter to the Board from the GHS addressed to Terry Knowles at the Attorney General's office. Included was a copy of the BTLA-12 Form and the GHS financials for the last 3 months of 2010. Pam pointed out that the original form, not a copy, should be given to the Town. Ms. Yinger said she would speak with Mr. Bixby about this.

Letter to Senator Forrest

Kyle motioned to sign the letter to Senator Forrester regarding the Bureau of Securities investigation of the Local Government Center, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Bixby Junkyard License Application

The Board conducted a site visit of the proposed junkyard. Mr. Bixby still needs to submit a diagram of the property depicting the exact location of the junkyard on the property and the property boundary lines. The Board would also like to contact Ken Knowlton regarding a few issues. **Miles motioned to table this until next week in order to get all remaining material, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Grafton County Public Safety Dispatch Service Survey

The Board filled out the Grafton County dispatch service survey. The survey gives the Board the opportunity to submit their opinion on how dispatch services should be provided.

Decommissioning Guarantee Form

Iberdrola agreed to the Board's demands regarding the New Hampshire jurisdiction question and the condition that the guarantee cannot be reassigned to another party without the town's written consent. Miles stated that he is concerned about the use of the term "end of useful life of the wind farm". In the agreement signed in November 2010, this term is defined. Section 14.1.2 of that same agreement also adds that decommissioning must take place within 24 months of the end of useful life. The decommissioning guarantee form does not mention the 24 months after the end of useful life. Miles suggested that they change the sentence to say 'until decommissioning is completed', instead of 'end of useful life'. This change will close this loop hole. Kyle and Ron agreed with his suggestions. The Board agreed to make a final copy with this most recent change, sign and forward it to Ed Cherian.

New Business

FairPoint Phone Plan

Miles motioned to add the 3-way conference call feature for the Select Board's office phone plan, Ron 2nd, so voted. This feature may be added for \$1 per month. The Planning Board will make use of it in an upcoming conference call with the Town's Attorney.

Hardy Country Snowmobile Club

Miles recused himself from the Board in order to address them on behalf of the Hardy Country

Snowmobile Club (HCSC). He stated that the club would like permission fill an area on Orange road with stone and gravel to make it more passable. The area was washed out during Tropical Storm Irene. **Ron motioned to grant permission to the HCSC to do this work on Orange Road once they have submitted a written request, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Disposition of Town Property

The Town owns a number of properties that could potentially be sold and put back on the tax rolls. Miles asked the other board members to consider having a discussion on the disposition of these properties. A work session was scheduled for September 20 at 6:00pm to discuss this.

Set up work session with Road Agent

The Board will meet with the Road Agent on Tuesday, September 13 at 6:00pm to discuss ongoing road repairs due to Tropical Storm Irene.

Workers Comp Credit

The Town has a Workers Comp premium credit due. **Ron made a motion that they request that the credit be refunded and not retained by LGC to be used toward a future premium, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Set up Work Session with Cemetery Trustees.

The Select Board will meet with the Cemetery Trustees on Tuesday, September 27 at 6:00pm. They will be looking at a piece of property on River Road as a possible future cemetery site.

Questions and Comments

Jim Albert said he was pleased to see the Town truck hauling gravel out to Sculptured Rocks Road instead of the Town hiring out the trucking.

He also asked if the Board had given any thought to roadside garbage pickup. The Town of Hebron uses it and he says the people love it. In his opinion it is better than using the Transfer Station. He would like the Board to look into it. Betty Smolinsky asked if this would have to go to Town vote. Miles responded that ultimately yes because of budgetary reasons. However, in his opinion, he would prefer to see the Town vote on whether or not they would like to make this change.

Miles motioned to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) at 8:22pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Miles motioned to return to public session at 8:56pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Kyle motioned to adjourned at 8:57pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant