

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
April 3, 2012**

**In Attendance: Kyle Andrews, Christina Goodwin, Miles Sinclair, Pamela Hamel (Administrative Assistant)**

**Audience Members Present**

Kyle called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

**Kyle motioned to approve the minutes of March 20 as written, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**UPDATES**

River Road Speed Limit

Chief Pivrotto reported that the Police Department ran radar for 5 consecutive days on River Road. The average clocked speed was between 31 and 34mph, including the school bus. Due to the nature of the road these speeds can appear fast. He also thinks that the presence of an officer greatly influenced the results. The Chief believes it is reasonable to lower the speed limit to 25mph. The road is congested, winding and twisting, and includes a number of locations with a poor line of sight. Lowering the limit will slow people down. Some motorists will still do over the limit. With the limit posted at 35mph they will go that speed or faster. This is a safety concern because of all the activity on the road including the two major snowmobile crossings. In the interest of public safety it is his recommendation to lower the limit to 25mph. Regarding other Town roads, Chief Pivrotto does not believe they need to address speed limits in other areas at this time, and that each road should be considered individually as each is unique. Kyle does not feel that they need to pursue the suggestion to solicit the input of River Road residents as the Chief has recommended that the limit be lowered in the interest of public safety. Christina is in agreement and would like the Board to send a courtesy letter to the Dorchester Select Board to let them know. **Miles motioned to pursue the statutory requirements to lower the speed limit to 25mph, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Victoria's Mtn. Way: 911 request for Woodman

New Hampshire E-911 does not recommend removing Victoria's Mountain Way (VMW) from the 911 system. The Board is in agreement. Pam will draft a letter to Victoria Collins letting her know the reasons for the Board's decision. The new property owner who is putting in a driveway about 70 feet off of VMW (on Old Coach Road) will have a VMW 911 address assigned. The property owner will be responsible to make sure that it is properly labeled for any emergency services.

Work Session for Welfare Guidelines

The work session is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10 at 6:00pm. Miles stressed the importance of finishing this process.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Road Agent: Edgar Albert Road, New Truck, Work Session

Edgar Albert Road (EAR): Glen Hansen reported that the road department had addressed a complaint regarding EAR about 2 weeks ago. Almost \$1,300 of gravel was used on site. Right now the road is still cold, and is wet on some edges. Last week's weather made it very difficult to do additional work. Glen believes the deep frost has come out but the surface froze up again last week and that makes it unworkable. An EAR resident has been criticizing the road department. Glen would like to know that he has the Board's support for the work his department is doing on the road. Kyle asked the EAR residents present at the meeting what they think about the current condition of the road. All expressed support for the Road Department and agreed that the weather this year has made it very difficult. Miles drove the entire length and was expecting it to be a lot worse. The majority of the road rides fairly smooth. There are some pot holes and tire ruts but they can be straddled. The road is not difficult to maneuver. Glen responded that when conditions allow they do additional work on it and grade it. In Miles' opinion the road has been adequately addressed. Kyle said that he will take a ride down this week.

New Truck: Glen asked the Board for the authorization to order the truck. It will take about four months to build. The warranty is for 7 years. Miles stated that the Town has received the second \$50,000 construction payment from Groton Wind and the money is available for this without causing a cash flow problem. Glen will order the truck. He thanked the people for approving this expenditure at Town Meeting.

Work Session: Glen would like to schedule a time to do a drive around with the Board to look at some areas to address this season. Miles stated that he would like to at least meet with the Road Committee before doing this drive around. The Town's people have expressed a desire to have more of an input. As Dan Tobine suggested this committee during Town Meeting he would like Glen or Pam to contact him to find out if he is willing to participate. He also feels the committee should address this year's work, to prioritize what should be done. Glen believes the committee should be addressing future work beginning next year. He does not believe that this year's budget will allow for much work to be done. He would like to see some professional people on the committee including an engineer and possibly a road agent from another community or someone from a construction company. He has already approached Jiri Hajek who is an engineer and Mr. Hajek has expressed an interest in participating. Christina believes it is better to get a committee involved sooner rather than later, and she agreed to be the Select Board liaison on the committee. Kyle concurred. Glen will contact Dan Tobine and Tony Albert, and Pam will contact Barrie Sawyer to ask if they are interested in serving on the committee.

### Gary Easson: Petition to do Site Review for location of repeater.

Gary Easson is requesting that a site review be done to find any radio communication dead spots in Town. This will determine the best location for a repeater and whether or not a second repeater is needed. Cost for him to do this review would be around \$500 plus any equipment that might be needed to conduct the review (such as setting up a repeater on Tenney Tower). Moving the current repeater or purchasing a new one could cost up to \$5,000 including cable, licensing, etc. The Board feels that Department Heads such as the Fire Chief, Emergency Management Director, Police Chief, etc. should be involved in this conversation. A tentative work session was set up for April 17 at 6pm.

### 2012 Junkyard Dog Schedule

The Board would like to set up a work session with Ken Knowlton (Junkyard Dog) to discuss their priorities and how to go forward with junkyard enforcement.

### Class VI Road Agreements

The Board will send a letter to Class VI road property owners who submitted road maintenance plans in 2011 reminding them to contact the Board with their proposed road maintenance plans for this year if they are intending to do any work on the road.

### 2012 MS-2

**Kyle motioned to sign the MS-2, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### Bank Signature Cards

**Kyle motioned to sign the bank signature cards with the same authorizations as the previous card, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### SB 218

Jason Stock, Director of the New Hampshire Timberland Association, has asked Miles if he will testify during the hearings for SB 218 regarding the benefits renewable energy projects provide for small towns such as Groton, and specifically the benefits of the wind farm for our community. He would be speaking on behalf of the Select Board. Kyle and Christina fine with this.

### Town Vehicle Maintenance Records

The Board would like to establish a good maintenance record keeping schedule for all Town vehicles. Pam will send a memo to the Police and Highway Departments.

### Select Board Meeting Schedule

Kyle suggested that the Board meet every other week instead of weekly on a trial basis to determine if this schedule would be feasible. The Board agreed that beginning June 5 they will meet every other Tuesday. Miles pointed out that this will mean a certain reduction in services that people will have to get used to such as a longer time to wait for permit approvals, etc. The Board is not looking to have marathon sessions that last several hours every other week.

### Transfer Station Cleanup

The Board asked Pam to find out what Transfer Station Supervisor Joe Koslow has planned for cleaning the Transfer Station area and roadside.

**Miles motioned to adjourn at 8:59pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant