

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
October 2, 2012**

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

Audience Members Present

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Miles motioned to approve the minutes of September 18 as written, Christina 2nd, so voted.

UPDATES

The Board conducted the following business during a work session:

- approved a building permit for James Wayrynen, North Groton Road, for a 24' x 24' garage
- approved a building permit for 80 Bailey Hill Road Realty Trust for a 14' x 17' shed
- signed a Timber Tax Warrant for Timothy Lounsbury, Dodge Road
- signed a Fill Disposal Agreement for Cormiea, North Groton Road

Perambulation

The original GPS unit purchased for the perambulation was defective. The Board returned it for another one but was not able to put the coordinates in prior to beginning the project. They were able to find some markers that eventually led to the Groton/Hebron/Plymouth corner monument but unfortunately, from there, they followed the wrong direction and ended up being unsuccessful in verifying the Town boundary except for the Groton/Plymouth/Hebron corner boundary. This coordinate is now in the GPS unit. At this point Kyle cannot spend another day in the woods doing this as he has other commitments. Miles is willing to make this right either as a private citizen or on behalf of the Board although he is unable to set a date at this time. Kyle stated that he might be able to accompany him depending upon his schedule.

Road Agent

The Board met with the Road Agent who says he will be able to complete most of his projects including the headwalls and paving. The asphalt plant is supposed to stay open until early December. He will need to file an extension for the culvert crossing (to the Town pond) project.

OLD BUSINESS

Welfare Guidelines

Due to some formatting issues and a few possible word changes needed in the Welfare Guidelines document the Board determined that an additional work session is needed. A tentative session was scheduled for Tuesday, October 9 at 6:00pm.

2011 MS-60

The local auditor completed all required sections on the MS-60. **Miles motioned to accept the MS-60**

report from the local auditor, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Special Town Meeting Warrant

Kyle motioned to sign the Special Town Meeting Warrant, Miles 2nd, so voted. This warrant is for the land exchange with Green Acre Woodlands. The meeting date has been scheduled for Saturday, October 27, at 10:00am at the Town House. The warrant will be posted on Friday, October 5 and come out in the paper on Thursday, October 11.

Transfer Station Fee Schedule

Joe Koslow reviewed the current fee schedule and flyer. He has changed a few items on the flyer such as items that can be disposed of at the Transfer Station and those that cannot, adding the fee for the disposal of certain types of batteries and the addition of 2 tire size categories. These items are in the Town's policy handbook but were not listed on the flyer posted at the Transfer Station. Joe had provided the Board with Plymouth's fee schedule for disposal. Groton is charging more for the disposal of refrigerators. **Miles motioned to revise the refrigerator disposal fee to \$10, and revise the flyer to include all the categories, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Iberdrola Request for Release From Parent Guarantee

There is no provision in the agreement between Iberdrola/Groton Wind and the Town of Groton for what the Company is asking for. It was never the Board's intention that the Parent Guarantee go away if the Letter of Credit is issued. The Board approved the attorney's response to deny the Company's request and authorized her to forward it to the Company.

FairPoint

Two issues: Avitar has requested its towns consolidate under one attorney that they hire to represent all the Town's that Avitar did the assessment in. Mitchell Municipal Group is asking their towns to consolidate and be represented as a group for those items that they have in common while still maintaining individual and specific representation if needed. The Board believes that consolidation makes sense. Avitar's roll for the Town is justifying their assessment as an expert witness. Mitchell Municipal Group represents the Town's interests. They will make the Town's attorney aware of what Avitar is proposing and have a discussion with them about what is the best way to approach this with the Town's best interests in mind.

Conservation Commission

The Select Board appoints the Conservation Commission. At this time it appears that the only active member is Gordon Coursey. Pam will contact him to determine if he wants to be a member (he would need to be reappointed) and find out if he knows of anyone who is interested in serving. Jo O'Connor will solicit interest in her column in the paper.

Kirk Junkyard

George Kirk contacted the Board to inform them that he had put up the fence and gate. Kyle will verify that it is a screening fence before next week's meeting.

Truck Lease Paperwork

There were a couple of language concerns that the Company is willing to address and correct. The paper

work will be dated for next week.

Credit Card for Online Purchases

The Board will have the Meredith Village Savings Bank debit/credit card activated as it offers the same services and protections as the other cards.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Pivrotto

The Chief reported that Officer Andrew Newcomb is doing well at the academy. He was chosen to be spokesman for his class and will speak at his graduation on November 16.

Fraud Case: the Chief has been in contact with a detective in the Tavaras, Florida Police Department. He was told that the address where the laptop was delivered is part of a low income housing complex with over 200 units and many drug issues. He feels that the laptop was sold the day it arrived. They will continue to investigate however they do not believe it will be recovered.

WatchGuard Video System: the Chief would like to install this in the cruiser. It is utilized by many of the surrounding departments (Grafton County Sheriff's Department, Ashland, Plymouth, Thornton.) and has the State bid. The county prosecutor stated that they would not be required to inform anyone that they are being recorded as a cruiser camera is in a public place. This would be necessary if there is a camera installed in the Police Station. The Chief will adopt a policy regarding the use of the camera and he is currently looking at the Plymouth policy. Once the cruiser is turned on the camera is on and will stay on. Having a camera is good for the department and the guys working alone at night. Miles would like the policy to include a disciplinary offense for an officer who disables the camera. The camera costs about \$4,000 including installation which will be done by Ossipee Mt. Electronics. The Board agreed that bidding this out is not like getting bids for the Highway Department as this is very specialized equipment. They are fine with the Chief making the purchase as long as he has the money in his budget.

Cruiser Maintenance/Repairs: the chief reported that the cruiser needs an alternator, exhaust manifold and some brake work.

Criminal Background Checks: the Chief contacted the Local Government Center and they confirmed that the Select Board does have access to criminal background checks for job applicants.

Road Committee

Christina stated that the Road Committee would like to know when and how the Board would like the recommendation/plan and warrant articles submitted. The plan and warrant articles present options to choose from. They are still working on the mapping portion of the plan. The Board agreed that the Road Committee would be scheduled into a budget work session.

Memos to Trustees of the Trust Funds

Miles motioned to sign the memos to the Trustees of the Trust Funds, Kyle 2nd, so voted. The memos are authorizing the Trustees to appropriate those Trust Funds that were voted upon at Town Meeting.

Request to Maintain Class VI Road

The Coutus are requesting permission to conduct regular maintenance on Nedeau Lane. **Christina**

motioned to sign the letter to the Coutus approving their regular maintenance plan for Nedeau Lane, Kyle 2nd so voted.

Bankruptcy Notice

The Town has received a bankruptcy notice for several mortgage companies. The Tax Collector has said that this notice does not affect this year's deeds or liens as they have already been executed. However, she does not know what this means for the future. The 800 number included with the documents does not provide the Town with any specific information regarding whether or not there are Groton property owners who have a mortgage with any of the companies listed. The Board agreed to send this notice to the Town attorney for comment, and authorized her to forward this to the attorney who assisted the Board with a previous bankruptcy issue if necessary.

Budget Work Sessions

The Board agreed to tentatively begin meeting for budget work sessions every Tuesday at 6:00pm beginning on October 9.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

The Library Trustees have a meeting scheduled for October 3 at 5:30pm.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Pam Yinger announced the October 27 celebration for Paul Adams' 100th birthday which will be held in the basement of the Hebron Church from 1-3pm. All are invited to attend.

Pam Yinger announced that Superintendent Marie Ross suffered a stroke and is currently at John Hopkins in stable condition.

Kyle announced that on Monday, Fritz Wetherbee did a segment about Groton on the New Hampshire Chronicle that included the old Union Church bell.

Christina asked the Board if the Library Trustees could put the small round children's table and chairs owned by the library at the back of the room. She will make sure the boxes are removed. The Board was fine with this.

Kyle motioned to adjourn at 8:52pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant