

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
January 8, 2013**

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

**Audience Members Present**

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:09pm.

**Christina motioned to approve the minutes of December 18 as written, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**APPOINTMENTS**

Kristen Welch from Genesis Behavior Health (GBH) addressed the Board and the audience. She thanked the Town for their annual contribution to GBH. GBH is the Community Mental Health Services organization for the region. Funding is for an emergency services program and is available to anyone regardless of ability to pay. Requests for funding are based upon the population of municipality. Ms. Welch stated that services to Groton residents have increased over the last few years, from 6 in 2011 to 9 in 2012, including increases in charitable services. The funding received from the Town goes to direct services. GBH also receives funding from Medicaid and grants. They do not receive state funding.

**UPDATES**

The fast track legislation dealing with the unintended consequence of the tax cap passed by the school district last year was approved and signed by the Governor.

The Select Board will hold a joint meeting with Boards from Alexandria, Grafton and Danbury on January 31 at 6:30pm. This is a public meeting but will not be open for public comment.

The Groton Wind Commercial Operation Date (COD) was December 28, 2012. The first partial PILOT year payment will be based upon that COD date until March 31, 2013.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Pharmacy Cards

In a recent mailing Pam and Christina received pharmacy discount cards from a company other than My Pharmacy Saver. The Board would still like to pursue the My Pharmacy Saver option.

Letter from William Jolly

Christina read a letter from Mr. Jolly that he had submitted to the Board at their last meeting. In this letter he objects to any further commercial development and requests the answers (in writing) to a number of questions. Some of these answers are contained in the public documents which are available to Mr. Jolly under the Right to Know Law. Mr. Jolly has requested that all documents relating to Groton Wind LLC, its affiliates, etc, be made available to him for inspection. The Board informed him that some of those documents are non public as they are protected under attorney/client privilege. They will contact the Attorney to get her counsel regarding:

- Whether or not these documents should be withheld (some or all).
- If some are released must all be released?
- Is correspondence with Iberdrola's attorney privileged?
- Case law regarding attorney/client privilege.

Pam asked Mr. Jolly to make an appointment to inspect the documents as all the public documents are ready for his review.

#### Building Permit for Kevin Maass

Kevin Maass would like to change his building permit application for a small wind turbine. He will increase the height, eliminate the guy wires and use a 32' x 32' base. Mr. Maass agreed to fill out a new permit application with the changes and submit it to the Board for signature. Permits are good for 2 years.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Newfound Area School District (NASD) Superintendent Screening Committee

The NASD is looking for a new superintendent. As part of the search the School Board is putting together a screening committee to review applications. This committee will include contracted and non contracted NASD employees, School Board and School Administration representatives, and members of the community. **Christina motioned to submit Lou Lieto's name and contact Paula Stata to inquire if she is interested, and if so submit her name, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Medical/Dental Rates Transmittal

The employees made a change in their dental plan (100% employee paid). **Miles motioned to sign the medical/dental rate transmission form, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Veteran's Credit Application

**Christina motioned to approve the veteran's credit application, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Response to Bixby Letter to the Editor

Christina asked the Board members if they would like to respond to the Letter to the Editor written by Roland Bixby. In this letter Mr. Bixby makes some comments regarding Groton's 'treatment' of its veterans and its oldest citizen, Paul Adams. Mr. Adams recently celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and Mr. Bixby alleges that the Town was going to charge for use of the Hall for the celebration. So it was held at the Hebron Church instead. Marina Chase said she and a number of other individuals participated in putting on this event. She does not know the specifics regarding use of the Town House only that someone else told her it would cost \$175. The group she was involved with said the event went off very well and they were very pleased with it. In addition, they are not responsible for the letter to the editor. That was submitted by one individual. The Select Board responded that they were never asked about using the Town Hall. It is their decision to waive any fees but they never had the opportunity. The Town does have a standard policy for use of the hall and the Board cited two instances when the fees were waived. The Administrative Assistant stated that she does not have the authority to waive fees, only supply information regarding using the hall (including the fee schedule and fee waiver). The Board agreed that to respond to Mr. Bixby's letter just gives it credibility. The majority of the time the right thing to do in these cases is to just let it go.

### Select Board Report for the Town Report

Christina has been formulating a report on behalf of the Board. She asked that the other members let her know if there is anything specific that they want her to include.

Christina is also writing a dedication for Paul Adams (this year's Town Report is dedicated to him) and is requesting information about his life to include in the dedication. Kyle encouraged her to contact Mr. Adams.

### Quotes to Print the 2012 Annual Report

The Board agreed to continue using Town and Country Reprographics to print the annual report. Their bid came in lower than their competitors.

### Budget Work Session(s)

The Board scheduled a budget work session for Tuesday, January 15 at 5:00pm.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Road Committee will hold a brief meeting on Thursday, January 10 at 6:30pm.

The Zoning Board has received three (3) motions for rehearing on their recent decision regarding EDP Renewables' meteorological tower. They will render a decision on these motions during a regular meeting which has not yet been scheduled.

Lou Lieto asked the Board to let him know when they will be having a work session to discuss warrant article placement as he would like to attend and possibly have some input for placement from a moderator's perspective.

The snowmobile trail from Rumney to Groton (Route 11) is open.

**Kyle motioned to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (b,c) at 8:34pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles motioned to return to public session at 9:28pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board agreed that Pam will sit in on the meetings the Planning Board and Zoning Board have with the attorney tomorrow evening.

The Board will look over and discuss Mr. Jolly's questions (the questions that do not have answers in the public documents) at next week's work session.

**Kyle motioned to adjourn at 9:32pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Hamel