

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
August 27, 2013**

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

Audience Members Present

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Christina motioned to approve the minutes of August 13 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Chief Pivrotto announced that EJ Thompson has been promoted to the position of Sergeant. Sergeant Thompson is currently second in command for the Department and is in charge whenever the Chief is away.

UPDATES

Miles reported on the Warrant Return for Unlicensed Dogs.

Christina gave a brief report on this year's Old Home Day celebration. About 85-100 people attended the event. They enjoyed good food and entertainment, and an excellent fireworks display.

OLD BUSINESS

Decal for Highway Department Vehicles

Glen Hansen submitted a new emblem for consideration. He does not feel that the current design holds up well and would rather have an emblem. The Board decided to stick with the decision made at their last meeting to keep the current design.

Fire Escape & Transfer Station Roof

Kyle reported that he conducted a site visit with two additional contractors. Neither contractor can do the Fire Escape or Salt Shed repairs as proposed. They can do the Transfer Station repairs for the funds allocated. The Board discussed doing some pressing repairs on the salt shed and different alternatives for the fire escape. Kyle will contact one of the contractors whom he believes will agree to do the projects.

Meeting with George Sansoucy

The Board set up a tentative work session with George Sansoucy for September 17 at 5:00 pm.

KHPAC

Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forest (SPNHF) Letter

The Board did not feel that the current wording regarding SPNHF holding the conservation easement gave a clear indication of their intentions. They will change the wording to 'we would like to recommend to the Town that the Society hold the conservation easement' and "It is our intention to partner with

SPNHF.....”

Timbervest Letter

The Board adjusted the TimberVest letter to clarify the intent to preserve active timber management as well as hunting, fishing and multi-use recreation which reflects what had been discussed as the use/purpose from the outset.

Miles motioned that the Select Board be authorized to sign both letters once the revisions have been made, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Transfer Station: Safety, Landfill Monitoring, Electronics Disposal

Safety

Joe Koslow spoke with the Department of Environmental Services (DES) who told him that they do not have a requirement for the number of employees who must be working at any given time at the Transfer Station. Regarding Joe’s concerns for the current hours of operation; Joe will conduct a survey beginning Wednesday through the end of September to determine how many people use the Transfer Station after 5pm on Wednesday and Sunday. The Board reserves the option to extend the survey another month if necessary.

Landfill Monitoring

The Board will set up a meeting with a representative of Eastern Analytical regarding a claim that their testing results are flawed.

Electronics Disposal

The Town can no longer bring their electronics to Warren for disposal. Joe has spoken with Sonny (Rumney Transfer Station Supervisor) who explained that DES is very specific about the storage of electronics. Sonny said he cannot make the decision to take any electronics from Groton. Joe recommends that the Board contact the Rumney or Warren Select Boards to discuss a possible electronics disposal arrangement/agreement. The Board decided to review options that may be available with Rumney or Bristol.

Saturday Schedule

At this time, due to a potential family emergency, the Transfer Station may not be opened on Saturday, August 31. If it has to be closed Joe will make sure it is posted.

NEW BUSINESS

MS-4

The Board reviewed the 2013 MS-4. The MS-4 is an estimation of revenues that will be used by the Department of Revenue when setting the tax rate.

MS-1 Extension

Christina motioned to sign the MS-1 extension for September 20, Miles 2nd, so voted. The Board is requesting an extension due to a delay in utility values connected to the FairPoint court case.

Doug Millett

Mr. Millett asked about getting some of the old culverts that the Road Agent has from the bridge project. The Board informed him that there are 3 old culverts available and a small amount of usable firewood from the bridge project as well. Anyone interested in either the wood or the culverts should contact the Board by September 10. If more than one individual puts in a request, the Board will draw a name to determine who will get either item. Christina submitted her name for the wood but will withdraw it if some one else is interested. Mr. Millett has submitted his name for the culverts.

Fill Disposal Agreement for Kahler

Kyle motioned to sign the fill disposal agreement for Kahler, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Building Permit for Siek, Map 1 Lot 5, Dorchester Road

Christina motioned to sign the building permit for Siek, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Cemetery Access Road

The Board reviewed the bid specs submitted by Jiri Hajek for the new access road to the Jenny DeCoste Smith Annex. They have some clarification questions for Jiri and would like him to attend either the meeting or work session scheduled for September 10.

Groton Historical Society (GHS)

GHS would like to use the Town House on Sunday, September 29 at 2:00 pm to hold their annual meeting, and again on Sunday, October 6 from 1-4pm to host a program on the Grange movement in New Hampshire and nationwide. Speaker is former Commissioner of Agriculture, Steve Taylor. The Board granted permission for both.

DES Questionnaire

The Board will not do the DES Wetlands Permitting Process questionnaire.

Junkyard Reports

North Groton Road: ongoing. The Board agrees with Mr. Knowlton's recommendation to revisit the property next month.

Giovanna Road: ongoing. Do not inspect next month as this is a court case. The Board will revisit this again in the future.

North Groton Road: ongoing. The Board agrees with Mr. Knowlton's recommendation to revisit the property next month.

Old Rumney Road: ongoing. The Board agrees with Mr. Knowlton's recommendation to revisit the property next month.

Sculptured Rocks Road: the Board will keep an eye on it and let Mr. Knowlton know if an inspection is necessary.

North Groton Road: ongoing. The Board agrees with Mr. Knowlton's recommendation to revisit the property next month.

Community Service

Pam reported that the son of Groton residents Roy and Heather Clark has recently received a kidney transplant. Ty Clark was born with two undersized kidneys. At 10 years old his kidneys were overworked and not able to keep up. He received a kidney transplant on June 8, and although he is on the road to recovery the family is dealing with many expenses including medical, travel (to Dartmouth) and missed work. A fund to help Ty stay healthy and receive medical care has been established. Pam stated that she and Laura Hauser would like to post flyers in Town and on the web site letting people know Ty's story and how they can help. The Town will not be collecting any funds, only informing people of the need. The Board agreed to post this information locally and on the web.

Inventory Penalties

Mercier-Locke: Ms. Mercier-Locke claims that she submitted the Inventory on April 11. Although this is the date her inventory was signed, it was postmarked on April 16. The Board will send a letter informing her that they do not believe her situation justifies an exception. Inventories must be post-marked by April 15.

Kenney: Mr. Kenney is maintaining that they never received the inventory. They had to relocate to Florida for medical reasons. The Kenney's history indicated that they have always filed on time. The Board will give them the benefit of the doubt and remove the penalty.

Grafton County Registry of Deeds Webinar

On September 26 Pam will take a webinar on the new software program that the Grafton County Registry will be using. The office will be posted as closed during that time.

Intent to Cut for Powers

Miles motioned to sign the Intent to Cut for Powers, Map 1 Lot 54, North Groton Road, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Hearing Date for Wind Watch Appeal

The hearing date has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 15 at 9:00 am. Miles will attend if he is able. Christina will try to attend if he is unable.

Tax Exempt Status for Municipal Bonds

Christina reported that the Federal government is considering a repeal or cap on the tax-exempt status of interest earned on bonds issued by state and local governments. This would result in higher interest costs to municipalities and school districts. The National League of Cities is calling on local governments to contact their congressional delegation members and urge their support to protect the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds. The Board agreed to draft letters to their Senators and Representatives.

Generator Maintenance Agreement

Kyle motioned to sign the Generator Maintenance Agreement, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Hardy Country Road/Sculptured Rocks Road Intersection

The Town had agreed with the State that as of a part of the redesign for the Hardy Country and Sculptured Rocks Roads intersection, State's sections of land on either side of the intersection would be cleaned up and allowed to be reforested. Miles reported that this part of the agreement has not been completed. **Miles**

motioned to draft a letter to Maxam addressing the need to finish the intersection and authorizing the Board to sign the letter once they are satisfied with its contents, Kyle 2nd so voted.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Christina reminded the audience that two Library Trustees are needed. Interested parties should contact the Board for information and submit a request for appointment in writing to the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

Christina inquired on the necessity of a work session to establish a policy for Construction and Demolition debris. She will look into sample policies/templates from other communities that they can review.

The Board will contact Ms. Morgan regarding the need for a building permit for property located off of North Groton Road.

Christina motioned to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) at 9:07 pm, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Christina motioned to return to public session at 10:14 pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Christina motioned to adjourn at 10:15 pm, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel