

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
November 26, 2013**

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

**Absent: Kyle Andrews**

**Audience Members Present**

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

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

**Christina motioned to approve the minutes of November 19 as written, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Transfer Station Lighting

Gary Eason submitted a detailed description of the lighting problem at the Transfer Station. He recommends changing to LED lighting and included a number of options such as neutral or cool white light, etc. The Board would like to further discuss these recommendations with Gary therefore they tabled the discussion until next week.

Property Across From the Transfer Station

The Board looked at the plan submitted to the Planning Board for the lot across from the Transfer Station. The acreage amount listed is 5.745+/- . The Board is not comfortable with this amount as the agreement was for 6 acres. In addition, the section on the north boundary that Green Acre Woodlands is retaining as an access way was presented by Tom Hahn at last week's meeting as 75 feet wide. On this new plan the access way is 100 feet wide. The Board recognizes that Green Acre Woodlands must have a sufficient access way, however this additional width should be compensated for by adjusting the boundary line elsewhere (most likely the southern boundary line).

Regarding payment for the subdivision: since Green Acre Woodlands is also including a second lot they should pay the standard subdivision fees. The Board asked Pam to contact Green Acre Woodlands regarding the subdivision fees and the need to increase the acreage to 6 acres.

Letter to Groton Wind regarding Department of Revenue (DRA) Value Assessment

**Christina motioned to sign the letter to Groton Wind regarding the DRA value assessment, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Kimball Hill Property Acquisition Committee (KHPAC)

Lou Lieto stated that the KHPAC recommends that the Board to go ahead with the appraisal of the TimberVest property. After a lengthy discussion with Brian Hotz from the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, they have decided that the timber cruise assessment is not a critical number needed at this time in order to determine if TimberVest is open to discussion regarding the sale price of the property. They can approach the company with the appraisal and the numbers from the timber cruise done by TimberVest a few years ago. At some point, should they enter into serious discussions, they will

need to invest in a timber cruise. If the negotiations hit a brick wall prior to that then the Town has not spent the money. If there is flexibility then they can move ahead with the timber cruise. Having the appraisal done now will allow them to enter into negotiations. Brian Hotz believes the appraisal should be rock solid as there are a number of comparable sales available. Should the Town enter into a purchase and sales agreement there is no limit to the number of conditions that can be placed on it including that the timber cruise numbers fall within certain parameters. These conditions provide an out for the Town. The Conservation Commission will pay ½ of the appraisal fee.

**Christina motioned to sign the appraisal contract with M. H. Beecy Appraisal Services, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Deputy Emergency Management Director (EMD) Appointment

**Miles motioned to appoint Glen Hansen as the Deputy EMD, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Newfound Newspaper

The Newfound Regional High School is producing a newspaper. As Miles' daughter is part of the publishing team, she has asked about leaving copies of the paper at the Town House. The Board will table this discussion until Kyle is present as Miles will recuse himself from the dialogue and decision.

Regarding leaving materials at the Town House; the Board's position is to remain unbiased, and they do not approve of any political material being left.

#### Library Trustee Appointment

**Christina motioned to appoint Paula Stata as Groton Library Trustee until the next election, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Intent to Cut for Mourning Dove Holdings, Map 2 Lot 48, North Groton Road

**Miles motioned to sign the Intent to Cut for Mourning Dove Holdings, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Rumney Emergency Management Services (EMS)

Christina read a letter from the Rumney Select Board regarding EMS coverage. As of December 31, 2013 they will no longer offer these services to the Town of Groton due to personnel issues. The letter states that "At this time, due to a limited roster and availability of our First Responders, we are not able to provide the level of service we have in the past on a consistent basis." The Board is concerned with future coverage as well as the current coverage. If Rumney is not able to do what they are contracted to do then should they not perhaps return a prorated portion of the annual contract amount to Groton. They would like Roger Thompson to address this with Rumney.

#### Transfer Station Camera

A surveillance system has been installed at the Transfer Station. Signs will be posted alerting people that they will be videoed. The Transfer Station supervisor took the initiative on this.

#### Wood from Pine Tree

The large pine tree on the lot adjacent to the Town House came down across the driveway. Pam reported that the property owner has given permission for the Town to cut and dispose of the tree and the wood.

She asked that they submit something in writing. Once that is received the Board will determine what to do with the wood.

**Christina motioned to go into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (d) at 8:05pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to return to public session at 8:22 pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles motioned to adjourn at 8:23 pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Hamel