

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
February 25, 2014**

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

**Absent: Miles Sinclair**

**Audience Members Present**

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:13.

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

**Christina motioned to approve the minutes of February 11 as written, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**UPDATES**

Logging Operation

The Board confirmed that an Intent to Cut has been filed (signed December 30) for the property on Sculptured Rocks Road that was discussed at the February 11 meeting.

Hearing on HB 1549

Christina and Miles testified at the hearing last Tuesday regarding legislation on determining how the value of renewable energy projects that have Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements is equalized. They submitted a handout that had key points showing how the current policy will negatively affect the Town of Groton. An amendment to the original bill has been submitted and it appears that the amendment is well supported.

**OLD BUSINESS**

SB 219

Due to a misunderstanding of the wording of Senate Bill 219, the Board had previously sent a letter opposing this bill. After a conversation with the co-sponsor, who fully explained the bill (which will allow the direct deposit of cemetery funds into a trust fund instead of the general fund) the Board has changed their position and now supports this legislation.

Transfer Station

Gary Easson has not yet installed the new lights. The Board asked Pam to contact the Transfer Station Supervisor Joe Koslow to make arrangements to have the lights installed as soon as possible. In addition, if the weather delays the work, the Board would like Mr. Easson to change the direction of the one light that is shining into oncoming traffic immediately.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Mailboxes

A resident contacted the Town complaining that the Highway Department had damaged a number of mailboxes for Jewell Hill Road. Ron Madan explained that on the night in question he found a mailbox in the middle of the road. He stopped and put it back and noticed that someone had already plowed the boxes out and damaged them. He admitted that there are times when they do hit boxes especially if there is a lot of snow and they cannot see them. However, they did not damage the boxes for Jewell Hill Road. The Board asked Pam to contact the property owner by email and let them know this information.

### All-Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant Extension

**Kyle motioned to sign the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant extension request, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Grant funds must be used within 18 months of the grant issue date. FEMA has had Groton's plan for review since August, and given no indication on when it will be returned. The extension request is to cover all the bases in case the plan is not returned in a timely manner or must be revised.

### EDP

EDP Renewables submitted a letter stating that they have decided to use Spruce Ridge Road as the access way for installation of a meteorological tower in Alexandria. The only portion of Hardy Country Road being used is already improved by MAXAM. The Planning Board will be discussing this tomorrow night.

### Pole License Hearing Date

Due to the FairPoint court case and on recommendation of the Town's attorney, the Board will hold a public hearing to discuss amending the current pole licenses and adopting a new pole license form. They asked Pam to get clarification on how the notice is to be served and whether or not the current hearing notice satisfies the statute.

### Webinars

Pam will take the following two webinars:

- Conflict of Interest, Tuesday, March 18 from noon-1
- How to Improve the Town's Website for Voters and Officials, Wednesday, March 26 from noon-1.

The office will be closed during the webinars. The Board asked her to let the Planning and Zoning Boards know about the Conflict of Interest webinar.

### Water Cooler

The Board asked Pam to order the Viva water cooler to replace the now defunct Oasis water cooler for the Town House.

### Meeting with Hebron Select Board

The Board will meet with the Hebron Select Board on Thursday, March 6 at 7:00 pm in Hebron to discuss a potential change in the Fire contract/coverage. They would like Fire Chiefs John Fischer and Roger Thompson to attend.

Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) for Dudley, Map 1 Lot 54-1

**Kyle motioned to sign the LUCT for Dudley, Map 1 Lot 54-1, North Groton Road, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

NH The Beautiful: Roadside Cleanup

The Board will check with Joe Koslow regarding spearheading this project. NH the Beautiful supplies the bags. Conservation Commission (CC) member Nancy Watson relayed that CC vice-chair Bob Ferriere will bring this up at their next meeting.

Work Session

The Board scheduled a work session for next Tuesday at 6:00 pm to discuss the Kimball Hill Property.

Avitar

The Board would like Pam to ask Avitar for more lead time regarding when they will be in Town so it can be announced at the Select Board meeting and posted on the website. This will give property owners a heads up that the assessor may be visiting their property.

North Groton Road

There is some ice build up on North Groton Road across from Nedeau Lane. This could be due to a faulty driveway culvert. Kyle will take a look at it this week and the Board will discuss it at the next meeting. The Highway Department is aware of the problem and has spoken to the property owner. In the mean time the Board would like some signs put up to warn motorists.

**Christina motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(b) at 8:01 pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Kyle motioned to return to public session at 8:38 pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Kyle motioned to adjourn at 8:39 pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant