

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
March 31, 2014**

In Attendance: Christina Goodwin, Miles Sinclair, Robert Ferriere

Audience Members Present

Christina opened the public hearing at 7:02 pm. All interested parties were served a notice of the hearing, and proof of service was returned to the Town. No interested parties were in attendance. The hearing is to discuss the Select Board's proposal to amend all existing pole licenses and create a new application based upon the amendment for all future pole licenses. Miles explained that the Town's attorneys have recommended that the Town amend their licenses, as of a result of the pending litigation with Fairpoint Communications. Christina read the resolution which advises that a public hearing as of March 31, 2014 was held to amend all of the existing pole licenses issued by the Town of Groton to include language regarding taxation pursuant to RSA 72:23. The Board also discussed the option of having a \$10.00 application fee for each pole license, which is allowed and other towns are doing, and whether or not other municipalities are requiring a separate license for each pole. Christina mentioned that it would be good for the Board to establish guidelines for the times that a pole license application is received, including review of the proposed location, so that any issues with right-of-way or encroachment in the road may be addressed. **Miles motioned to adopt the resolution, amend the existing pole licenses and incorporate the suggested language into the Town's pole licenses going forward, Bob 2nd, so voted. Miles motioned to adopt the \$10 fee, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Christina motioned to close the public hearing at 7:18 pm, Miles 2nd, so voted.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Christina motioned to approve the minutes of March 25 as written, Bob 2nd, so voted

UPDATES

HB1591 & HB1156

Christina updated the status of two right to know bills. HB1591 and HB1156 were both bills pertaining to changes in the Right-to-Know law. She explained that HB1156 was supposed to make some drastic changes to the Right-to-Know law, but it was amended to define non-public sessions more and also establish a Right-to-Know oversight commission. It is expected to pass as amended. HB1591 was supposed to establish a Right-to-Know grievance commission but had been changed to add time limits for posting meetings and requirements for posting of an agenda. This bill has been tabled, which is effectively killing the bill for 2014.

HB1549

Miles gave an update on HB1549 regarding PILOTs for renewable energy facilities. This bill passed the House and is headed to the Senate. Miles and Christina testified before the House Committee and the sponsor Howard Moffett would like the Board to testify before the Senate Committee as he feels the Board's prior participation was crucial in getting the bill as far as it has. Hearing date has not yet been set.

OLD BUSINESS

Rumney EMS Contract

There were some concerns with the wording of the contract regarding not guaranteeing coverage and not being responsible if not able to respond to certain calls. The Board would like to see the old EMS contract to compare the two and review the RSA cited in the contract before making any recommendations or before signing. **Miles motioned to table the contract until they research the RSA and look at last year's contract, Bob 2nd, so voted.**

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Marina Chase inquired on the difference between the Avitar inspection and the Department of Revenue's inspection of her property last year. She was concerned with discrepancies between the two. Miles advised Marina that he believed the issue had been taken care of previously and when Pam Hamel returns from vacation, she should come get a copy of her most current property card.

Christina motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (b,c) at 7:37 pm, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Miles motioned to return to public session at 8:02 pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Miles explained initialing documents in the review and work session minute folder to Bob.

Christina explained that Glen has been in contact with the Canaan Road Agent who told him of another Dodge dealership that he should speak with. The Town of Canaan has Dodge Ram 5500 and their Highway Department is very pleased with the vehicle's performance. Glen discovered that the cutoff for ordering the 2014 model is April 15. It takes eight to ten weeks for delivery once the vehicle is ordered. The Board agreed that Glen has some follow up and additional research to do.

The Board has agreed that at least one member of the Board will testify before the Senate Committee on HB 1549.

Miles motioned to adjourn at 8:06 pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant