

Town of Groton  
Select Board Work Session Minutes  
October 1, 2024

**In attendance: Tony Albert, Ron Madan and Sara Smith (Town Administrator)**

**Absent: John Rescigno**

**Tony called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.**

***Budget Meetings***

**Moderator's Budget**

Amy Prive-Hardy submitted the budget but didn't feel there was a need to meet since it was only minor changes.

Moderator Salary

The Moderator proposed an increase of \$100 making this \$800.

Workshops/training

The Moderator recommended an increase of \$100.00 making it \$200.00.

Mileage

The Moderator recommended a decrease of \$100.00 making it \$0.00.

Ballot Clerks/Counters

The Moderator recommended a decrease of \$500.00 making it \$1,100.00.

Assistant Moderator

Stayed the same

The Select Board is okay with the Moderator budget as submitted.

**Cemetery Budget**

Jon did not feel a meeting was needed since it is pretty straight forward.

Repairs & Maintenance

Jonathan proposed an decrease of \$2,000 making this \$2,500.

Wages

Stayed the same

Supplies

Stayed the same

Mileage

Stayed the same

Fuel

Stayed the same

Advertising

Stayed the same.

Site Work- River Rd Cemetery

Stayed the same.

The Select Board was okay with the Cemetery budget as submitted.

**Zoning Board Budget**

The Zoning Board submitted the budget but didn't think a meeting was needed since the budget doesn't have any changes from the year before.

Legal

Stayed the same

Seminars

Stayed the same

Postage

Stayed the same

Mileage

Stayed the same

Advertising

Stayed the same

Supplies

Stayed the same

The Select Board was okay with the Zoning budget as submitted.

**Library Trustees Budget**

Library Trustees didn't feel there was a need to meet since everything is staying the same.

Wages

Stayed the same

Library expenses

Stayed the same

The Select Board is okay with the library budget as submitted.

**Conservation Commission Budget**

Virginia submitted the budget but no one was attendance to discuss the Conservation Commission budget since it stayed the same.

Conservation

Stayed the same

Workshops/Seminars

Stayed the same

Postage/Supplies

Stayed the same

Mileage

Stayed the same

Other/fishing derby

Stayed the same

Water Testing

Stayed the same

The Select Board was okay with the Conservation Commission budget as submitted.

**Supervisors of the Checklist Budget**

Pam Hamel submitted the budget but was travelling for work so she was not able to attend.

Town Elections

Stayed the same.

Town Meeting

Stayed the same.

Wages: State Primary

The Supervisors proposed a decrease to \$0 since there are no State Primary in 2025.

Federal Election Primary

The Supervisors proposed a decrease to \$0 since there are no Federal Election Primary in 2025.

Wages: November Elections

The Supervisors proposed a decrease to \$0 since there are no November Elections in 2025.

Pre/Post Election Meetings

The Supervisors proposed a decrease to \$540. This is based on 4 three-hour sessions. The State is requiring that Supervisor's meet every 90 days.

Training

The Supervisors proposed a decrease to \$120.

Mileage

Stayed the same

Supplies/postage

The Supervisors proposed an decrease to \$50.

New SAU Elections

The Supervisors proposed this new line and requested \$270.00. They do not know if this will happen but feel it is a good idea to set aside some funds just in case.

The Select Board was okay with the Supervisors budget as submitted.

**Treasurer Budget**

Pam Hamel submitted the budget but was travelling for work so she was not able to attend. Everything stayed the same.

Stipend

Stayed the same

Deputy

Stayed the same

Mileage

Stayed the same

Supplies

Stayed the same

The Select Board was okay with the Treasurer budget as submitted.

**Emergency Management Budget**

The Emergency Management budget didn't change so no one attended the meeting.

Supplies

Stayed the same

Workshops/Training

Stayed the same

Equipment

Stayed the same

Equipment Maintenance

Stayed the same

Mileage

Stayed the same

Wages/Stipend

Stayed the same.

The Select Board was okay with the Emergency budget as submitted.

**Legal**

Sara met with the Select Board to discuss this budget.

Claims, Judgements and/or Settlements

Stayed the same

Attorney Fees- General Advice

Stayed the same

Junkyard Dog

Stayed the same

The Select Board was okay with the Legal budget as is.

**Other General Government**

Sara met with the Select Board to discuss this budget.

Exigent/Hazardous Circumstances

Stayed the same

Forestry

Stayed the same

Tax Mapping

Stayed the same; waiting on 2025 numbers.

Grants/Engineering

Stayed the same

The Select Board was okay with the Other General Government budget as is.

**Advertising Regional Association Dues**

Sara met with the Select Board to discuss this budget.

Advertising

Sara proposed an increase of \$100 making this \$600 because we have been over the last few years.

Dues

Sara proposed an increase of \$50 making this \$2000 due too the dues but we are still waiting on some.

GHS

Stayed the same

NLRA

Stayed the same

The Select Board was okay with the Advertising budget as is.

**Patriotic Purposes**

Patriotic Purposes

Stayed the same

The Select Board was okay with the Patriotic purposes budget as is.

***Updated Insurance Dual Obligee Rider and Performance Bond***

Casey's Accountant submitted an updated insurance dual obligee rider and an update performance bond. There is a spot on the update dual obligee rider for the Town of Groton to initial and sign and the USDA. We do not

need to sign the performance bond. **Tony motioned to sign the updated insurance dual oblige rider, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### ***November Meetings***

The first meeting in November is scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup>. However, this is general elections and we do not have Select Board meetings on election days. We also anticipate this to be a very busy election day. It was agreed to schedule a work session on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm in case we have any permits or anything that need to be signed since we will all be here. It was also agreed to only have one Select Board meeting that month which will be on November 19, 2024. Sara wanted to remind everyone that we want to take time in November or December and go through the basement and the meeting room.

### ***Meeting with Bubba***

Bubba met with the Select Board and went over the following:

- The International is in the shop. It needs quite a bit of work. They are waiting for parts. It needed brakes, hangers for the exhaust, oil change and other stuff. He checked and the repairs are not covered under warranty.
- He took the big truck to Langs for inspection. He did a great job so he may try to use him more. Dan the mobile mechanic doesn't seem to be around anymore. Morrisons has a mobile mechanic but he comes from Newport. He may look into him.
- The Chip Sealing came out really good. Tony said he agrees. He is very happy with it. It rides smooth. Bubba said he didn't find loose stone after it was swept. We have not heard of anyone complain since the beginning. Tony said it doesn't work if the roads have holes in it but it works well on roads like ours that are in flat and in good shape. We will see how it holds up over the winter and go from there to see what roads we could do next. Ron said he hasn't had anyone complaining at the dump.
- They got the plows painted. They are waiting on more paint. They are starting to put the plows on.
- They are going to do the culvert when they get the truck back.
- They cleaned up the town house parking lot.
- They put the "clean up after your dog" sign at Spectacle Pond.

**Having no other business to conduct, Tony motioned to adjourn at 6:45pm, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith  
Town Administrator