

Town of Groton
Select Board Work Session Minutes
June 17, 2025

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

John called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

John motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (b) at 5:00pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to return to public session at 6:30pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to seal the non-public minutes, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Interviews with Highway Department candidates

The Select Board conducted interviews with Highway Department Candidates.

Meeting with Bubba

Bubba went over the following:

- They did the chip sealing.
- He mowed the park so it should be all set for John Faucher's celebration of life.

Rons term- email from NHMA

NHMA sent the following email regarding our questions about the Select Board position:

"To start, I must mention that there is no such thing as a "pending" or future resignation. Resignations must occur immediately in order to trigger a vacancy in an elected public body and begin the process of filling the vacancy. I would caution against doing too much to fill a position where someone has not actually resigned since there is nothing which would compel this person to resign in July if they changed their mind. Again, you can take this announcement as a heads up or a courtesy notice that a vacancy may occur, but the official process really cannot begin until this person actually resigns as effective immediately.

As for the process of filing a vacancy on the select board, the two remaining members will choose who to appoint to that position. The appointed individual will serve until the next town election where the town will vote to elect someone to fill the remainder of the term, or to a new term, whichever is up this coming year.

There are no legal requirements for filling this position except that it must be done by a majority decision of the remaining members and the person filing the position must be qualified meaning that they could have legally run for that position. This means that they must be a resident and registered voter. You do not need to post this position or hold interviews, although the board may choose to do so if they wish."

Ron said he understands this but has his mind made up. Sara said that all this means is that we cannot appoint Amy or swear her in until Ron finishes the end of July, in case he does change his mind. We can appoint Amy at the first meeting in August and then Ruth can do the oath so that we can have the Treasurer complete all necessary paperwork for the bank.

Junkyard Hearing

There is a hearing scheduled for the junkyard that has been in violation. This is scheduled for July 15, 2025 at 2:30pm. All of the information has been in the Select Board review folder. The attorney will be there and said that one of the Select Board members and Audrey should be there. Sara already talked to Audrey and she will put it on her calendar. Sara asked which one of the Selectmen would like to attend and also said she would attend with them. Tony said he should be able to attend. John said if anything changes to let him know and he could try to make arrangements at work.

Dave Switaj retirement

Dave Switaj is our computer/IT guy. He told Sara the last time he was here that he would be sending an emailing stating he will be retiring. He said this email will give the dates he is working through and the projects he will complete before he leaves. She still has not received this and sent another email today asking for this. She needs this information before we look for other companies so we know when we expect their start date to be. The Select Board agreed Sara should reach out to other towns now to get an idea of who they are using.

Window in meeting room

Mr. Maintenance looked at the window and then came back out yesterday to fix it. It cost \$250.00.

Mike Ethier response to letter for site visit

Mike Ethier came in to see Sara. He wanted to know what the concerns were on his property. He knows it is only one neighbor complaining and he has all permitting that is required. Sara explained that as stated in the letter it is due to allegations that he is working in the flood plain and other excavation concerns. He said he is not working in the flood plain. Sara said that is why they want to come out to confirm if he is or is not. He asked who would be attending the site visit. Sara explained that it would be the Select Board, Planning Board, Town attorney and representatives from the State. Mike said no, that he will not set up a site visit, and we can take him to court. The Select Board agreed that Sara should to let the attorney know this so she can move forward with the administrative warrant.

Updated Ordinance in folders

Sara let the Select Board know that she updated the ordinance based on the updates that were agreed on at the meeting. She has put a copy in each of their folders and gave a copy to Chief Bagan to review. She has this be signed at the July 15, 2025 meeting so she asked the Select Board and Chief Bagan to review it and provide feedback prior to that meeting. The Select Board agreed to send this to Primex for review to make sure all legal areas are covered.

Use of Table and Chairs

Caitlin Faucher requested to use some tables and chairs for the celebration of life for John on Saturday. She will pick them up Thursday and drop them off on Monday. The Select Board approved the Faucher's to use the tables and chairs. Sara gave Ruth the paperwork to have Caitlin sign at pick up/

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 6:56pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith
Town Administrator