

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
April 9, 2013**

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

**Audience Members Present**

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Time was set aside at the beginning of this meeting to hear any property owners who wished to speak to the Board regarding their liability to be taxed. Hearing no comments, the Board meeting continued.

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

**Christina motioned to approve the minutes of March 26 as written, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**UPDATES**

Newfound Area School District (NASD) Meeting

Christina attended the meeting to discuss the petitioned warrant article recently passed in Danbury to direct the NASD to undertake a study of the feasibility and suitability for Danbury to withdraw from the district. A staff attorney with the New Hampshire School Board Association presented an overview of the withdrawal procedures. There remain a number of items to clarify but the study shall be conducted by a committee consisting of all School Board members, a member of each Select Board in the district and any others as the School Board deems appropriate. The School Board must make a formal decision to form this committee, and once formed, the committee has 180 days to submit a report to the State Board of Education. Christina reported that the School Board was meeting after the presentation to discuss the next step.

Groton Wind Partial PILOT Year Payment

The partial PILOT year payment (which was due March 31) has been received.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Groton Wind Pre PILOT Donation

The Board discussed the donation money from the Groton Wind Farm. The Board agreed to designate the funds for the following items:

- Replacement signage for the Town Hall and Everett Hobart Memorial Park
- New Table(s) and Folding Table/Chair Truck(s)
- New copier/scanner/printer/fax machine

**Christina motioned to sign the letter requesting the donation, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Rumney Fire/EMS Coverage

The Board received a letter from the Town of Rumney stating that they do not accept the Board's counter proposal to their contract. The letter does not state anything in particular that they are not accepting. The

changes in the counter proposal were based upon Fire Chief Roger Thompson's recommendations and dealt with roll call, employee costs per hour (differentiating between certified and noncertified personnel), and receiving prior approval from Chief Thompson for any special training specific to the Town of Groton. The Rumney Board set a dead line of April 12 to agree to sign the contract or they will no longer respond to Fire and EMS calls in Groton effective that date. Any potential special training would deal with the Wind Farm and the Board believes that specialized training dealing with a Fire/EMS response in Groton should be overseen and approved by Roger. Although Roger does not believe there is a need for this additional training the Board feels that Rumney will be requesting it.

Gary Easson stated that a matter of 10 minutes could be life or death. From his perspective of living in that end of Groton, he would like the Board to agree to continue service with Rumney. As a firefighter on the Rumney Department, he does not see an issue or need for special training for the Wind Farm.

Lou Lieto recommended that they sign the contract and see how the year goes. The amount of money represented in Roger's recommendation might be a few thousands dollars. He also stated that there should be more advanced prior notification from the Town of Rumney regarding contract amounts and changes.

**Christina motioned to have Pam contact Rumney to let them know that the Board will sign the contract, and ask them to submit the revised contract, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** The Board does not want to discontinue emergency services with Rumney as they are the first responder to the end of Town from Halls Brook Road north, and although they will sign the contract for this year they have asked Roger to be prepared with viable alternatives/concrete choices for next year.

Roger also expressed some concerns over the billing for Fire/EMS calls. The bills do not contain sufficient information regarding who has responded to calls and the amount of time each responder is being paid for. He will be looking for this information to be included in this year's bills.

#### Revised Building Permit Guidelines

**Christina motioned to officially adopt the revised Building Permit Guidelines, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Lou Lieto: Conservation Commission & Kimball Hill Property Acquisition Committee

Lou Lieto reported that the Conservation Commission (CC) had their first meeting. One member has decided that he does not have sufficient time to serve. Term limits were chosen for the remaining members, they appointed a chair and agreed to appoint 2 members to the Kimball Hill Property Acquisition Committee if that is acceptable to the Board. Four members attended a workshop on Saturday where Mr. Lieto met and had a discussion with Brian Hotz from the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF). Mr. Holz informed him that he had written a plan for a grant to put the Kimball Hill tract into conservation easement. The owner at the time did not follow through but Lou would like to contact Mr. Hotz and have him come and speak with the Conservation Commission. In addition, he believes the Town needs to make some decisions regarding the intended purpose for purchasing that tract of land and what, if any, future restrictions should be placed on it. At this week's CC meeting he will recommend that the CC write a letter to the current owners introducing themselves and requesting permission to enter their land as a Commission. This permission is required by law for CC. They will also discuss asking the Planning Board if they will appoint a member from their Board to serve on the Commission. Mr. Lieto encouraged the Board to appoint a member of the Select Board to the committee and decide on the scope of responsibilities and limitations for the Kimball Hill Committee. Miles stated that should the Board choose to have a member on the committee he would be interested in serving. As he is a member of the Hardy Country Snowmobile Club (which has trails through that area), he would only serve on the Committee as long as there was no conflict of interest. He does not see this as a conflict at this time however, should the Town purchase the land then a possible conflict could exist. At

that time he would recuse himself. Both Kyle and Christina do not believe there exists a conflict at this time.

**Christina motioned to appoint Miles to the Kimball Hill Committee, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted, Miles abstaining.**

**Christina motioned to table the remaining appointments until the 23<sup>rd</sup>, after the Planning Board and Conservation Commission have chosen their representation, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted.** Lou suggested that once the committee is formed they allow the committee to determine whether or not they want to appoint additional members.

#### Groton/Alexandria Town Line Perambulation

The Town of Alexandria received a quote from Colin Brown for survey work. The Board will also get a quote before moving forward.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Emergency Management Director (EMD) & Deputy EMD Appointments

**Christina motioned to sign the letter appointing Roger Thompson as the EMD, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Anyone interested in serving as Deputy EMD should contact the Board.

#### Fire Proof Filing Cabinets

**Miles moved to table this until next week, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Junkyard Enforcement

**Kyle motioned to sign the junkyard enforcement contract, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### As Built Septic Plans for Escobar, Map 2 Lot 50

**Kyle motioned to sign the as built septic plans for Escobar, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Appoint Local Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District Representative

**Miles motioned to appoint Joe Koslow as the local Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District representative, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Statewide Emergency Notification System

The State is setting up an emergency notification system (similar to a reverse 911) to use in the event of an emergency. **Christina motioned to appoint Roger Thompson and Joe Pivrotto as points of contact should they be willing to accept this, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Septic Design for Pilcher, Map 2 Lot 20

**Miles motioned to sign the septic design for Pilcher, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### Antrim Wind/Town of Antrim/DRA Case

Miles will attend the hearing on May 6 if he is able.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

The Road Committee will meet on April 15 at 6pm at the Town House.

The Library will be submitting a new ad for a Library assistant. Interested parties should contact the Library Trustees.

**Christina motioned to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 9:15pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to return to public session at 9:37pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Christina clarified the Road Committee's role/responsibilities in the bidding process for the road work that will be done on North Groton Road this summer. They will be offering a recommendation to the Board. The Board will solicit the bids and make the final decision.

Kyle and Christina agreed that Miles will continue with hazardous tree removal. The project is almost complete. Miles will try to get John Faucher to help but will take care of as much as he can even if Mr. Faucher is unable to assist.

**Christina motioned to return to non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 9:44pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to return to public session at 9:46pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Kyle motioned to adjourn at 9:47pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Hamel