

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
August 26, 2014

**In Attendance: Christina Goodwin, Kyle Andrews, Robert Ferriere, Sara Moores
(Administrative Assistant)**

Audience Members Present

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

9/9/14 Primary Election Voting from 7am to 7pm. There will not be a Select Board Meeting this day but there will be a work session.

Select Board Work Sessions at the Town House

- Tuesday September 2, 2014 at 6:00pm
- Tuesday September 9, 2014 at 6:00pm
- Tuesday September 16, 2014 at 6:00pm
- Tuesday September 23, 2014 at 6:00pm
- Tuesday September 30, 2014 at 6:00pm

Planning Board meetings at the Town House

- Wednesday August 27, 2014 at 7:00pm
- Wednesday September 24, 2014 at 7:00pm

Library Trustees Meeting at the Town House

- Monday September 8, 2014 at 2:00 pm

Conservation Commission meeting at the Town House

- Thursday September 11, 2014 at 7:00pm

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Christina motioned to approve the minutes of August 19 as written, Bob 2nd, so voted.

UPDATES:

North Groton Rd Project

M.E. Latulippe is moving along on the project. There are two change orders here for things they have run into that they require adjustments on. Both change orders were presented to the Board, who agreed that the changes were necessary. The first is underdrain due to water in the road that would cause issues in the construction if not installed. There are four areas with this type of drainage at \$300 each. The second is the requirement of a hammer to eliminate ledge at a cost of \$1,800.

Christina reported that the intent for the road project is to be completed with the excavation by August 29 as the road can only be fully closed during this time frame. Christina wanted to know

how the Board feels about approving a change order without meeting on it. Christina wanted to know if we are okay with Glen authorizing this if he can reach at least two if not all three Board members. Kyle felt it was important that we also know the price. Christina and Bob stated we are well below the warrant but agree that we should have a limit that the Board feels comfortable with. Kyle said if he cannot get ahold of anyone and needed to continue then \$2,000.00 would be a good amount and would still need a change order. However, if it is over the \$2,000.00 then they cannot continue without the Select Board approving this and a change order is also needed. The Board agreed with the stipulation that Glen has to contact the Board either way, before moving forward if under \$2,000.00.

Kyle mentioned if they do not complete the job by Friday then they will need to keep at least one lane open with flaggers. Kyle asked if they are blocking the road. Christina and Bob mentioned there is a sign but nothing to block the cars since they are having trucks in and out to work on the project.

Christina motioned to sign the change order for \$1,200.00 for four crushed stone underdrains, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Christina motioned to sign the change order to remove the ledge on North Groton Road and in the drainage ditch for \$1,500.00 and add 1.5 inches of crushed stone for \$300.00, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

RSA 195 committee

Christina talked to Terry Murphy and the two Board members would like to come meet with the Town of Groton on September 16th at 7pm. If the Board agrees to this date, then it is important to get the word out to the Town including parents. Sara mentioned that she contacted Sue Cross to get the names of the Groton kids that attend the Newfound Area School District and is waiting on this list.

Christina also reported that on September 8th, at 6:30 pm there is a School Board meeting at the High School to consider a motion to close the Newfound Memorial Middle School, moving the 6th grade to the Elementary schools and the 7th grade and 8th grade to the High School. Christina mentioned it would be beneficial for everyone who can attend to do so.

Building light replacement

Sara contacted the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) and they do not do a grant for light replacements, but have rebates for up to 50% off installation costs. Joseph from NHEC contacted Gary Eason and is awaiting information on the quote. Joseph also offered to walk through and do some inspections of the Town buildings to see if there are any other opportunities for improvements. Kyle asked if this costs us anything. We do not believe that it does but Sara will look into this. Christina mentioned that he recommended meeting with the Road Agent but she thinks Sara can do the walk through, Bob and Kyle agreed. Sara will contact NHEC to set up a date.

No Trespassing signs

Christina had no trespassing signs for the old building in her car and stopped at the Highway Department to have them installed. She spoke to James who said they would put them up this week. There are 4 that they have to put up to block all ramp entrances.

OLD BUSINESS:

Junkyard inspection dates/letters

Christina presented letters that were requested last meeting for 24 Old Rumney Rd and 38 Giovanna Rd to be cleaned up within 30 days and if not the properties would be charged \$50 per day until in compliance. **Bob motioned to sign these junkyard letters, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Christina also presented the letters for the October 7th inspections for the properties at 104 Sculptured Rocks Rd and 56 North Groton Road. **Christina motioned to sign the two inspection letters, Bob 2nd, so voted.**

Spectacle Pond Concerns

Frank Harris emailed back again and requested that the abandoned boats at Spectacle Pond be placed on the agenda again. The Board is not ready to make a final decision on all aspects discussed, as they are still gathering information, but feel comfortable addressing some of the abandoned boats concerns.

Christina mentioned statute states that only people that are allowed to have boats left on the Pond are those that are land owners or abutters to the Pond. Christina asked the Board if they would consider sending letters to the landowners only giving them until October 1st to remove boats or submit proof of permitting. The notification should state that per recent complaints, these boats need to be removed. Bob states the problem is where do we store them? Kyle mentioned we would be liable if something happens to the boat while it is in our possession. Bob agrees that we should send notification stating these boats need to be removed or they will be pulled out. Sara will compose a letter and have ready for next meeting.

Jo O'Connor mentioned that it will cost money to remove and store and suggested that it should be registered with the Town with the owners name, address and description. Christina mentioned that they are allowed to be there but they are supposed to be permitted. Kyle mentioned the ones that are registered we can get the information from the Police but the ones that do not have a motor are not registered. We are looking into having these registered as well.

Rena asked how many use the boats to go back and forth. Kyle mentioned we do not know, some could be from fisherman but we do not know the exact amounts. The only ones that are allowed to have motor boats are those that can use the boats to get to their property but these have to be registered with the Department of Safety. Christina states we have to clarify who is allowed to leave them there or take them home with them. Kyle states we need to look into this because if he owned the land that they are hooked up to he would want this taken care of and charge for it. Christina asked how we feel about contacting Spectacle Pond Association to get information from them. Kyle and Bob were okay with this so we will look into this.

Kyle mentioned that some information we received from Fish and Game also states there cannot be swimming within 50ft of the boat ramp. Christina stated that is if the ramp is department owned. Kyle mentioned this is where the confusion comes in to place about using their rules but we own it. It was suggested to place a sign up about abandoned boats. We stated we should send the notifications first.

Road closure checklist

The Board is okay with the checklist that was created for road closures. Christina asked if we should contact the utility companies and it was agreed that this was not needed. Sara will place the approved copy in the policy file. **Kyle motioned to approve the road closure checklist, Bob 2nd, so voted.**

Transfer Station-scrap metal concerns

Joe Koslow mentioned that we need to do something about the scrap metal concerns, and he was able to have Bob and Kyle review. Christina talked to the Department of Environmental Services (DES) yesterday and they mentioned that Jeff Matthews would have to be a registered hauler and file a report with how much was hauled each year. They did mention that NRRRA has a scrap metal program, which they believe would be done like a milk run with other towns that allows them to do more pick-ups. Joe will call Bonnie at NRRRA and see about this. If we are still having problems then we can call DES back. An attendee asked if we can do it ourselves which we can but it isn't cost effective. Kyle said Glen needs to remove some for now in the dump truck but make it a load worthwhile. Joe suggested making a run to Gilpatrics next week with Glen. The Board asked Sara to make the arrangements with Glen.

NEW BUSINESS:

2013 Tax Appeal- Fairpoint

Christina referenced an email about the new tax appeals that Fairpoint will be filing and the request for legal counsel to accept service. Christina thinks they should keep it all together. Kyle said this is how we have been handling it and should continue to do so. Bob agreed.

Kirk junkyard License renewal

Christina presented the information from the Mr. Kirk to renew his junkyard license. The Junkyard report said we should approve it when Kirk reapplies. The Background check was set and there are no changes so the map on file is sufficient. Sara will have the license renewal for next week for the Board to sign.

NHMA Webinar

On September 17th from 12pm-1pm Sara would like to close the office for a webinar on the right to know, what information is considered public. The Board is okay with this. Sara will post this on the website calendar and on the bulletin boards.

MS-1

Christina presented the MS-1, which is the Summary of inventory valuations. Sara will electronically file the MS-1 and then mail the signature page. **Kyle motioned to sign the MS-1, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

MS-4

Christina presented the MS-4, which is the report of estimated revenues. Sara will mail out tomorrow once approved. **Christina motioned to sign the MS-4, Bob 2nd, so voted.**

Budgets

Christina mentioned that budgets should be submitted to the Board by the end of September. Sara will compose a memo to be submitted to Departments and Committees with the deadline.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Joe Koslow asked if he can get an estimate for replacing the the window at the Transfer Station from Granite State Glass. Kyle mentioned we should have Matt Fysh look at the window when he is at the Town House working on the fire exit. Kyle also wants to talk to him about the deck estimate.

Robert Spaulding was in attendance and asked if anyone knew how an American flag should be taken care of. He said there is a flag at the Park that doesn't get lowered and doesn't have a light on it. Christina explained the solar light is getting repaired. Kyle mentioned that we knew when it was put up that there was an issue with lowering it so it was decided to keep it up at all times. Christina explained the flag pole doesn't have the ability to be put at half-mast. Christina mentioned that she would like to contact the State to see if it is okay to leave these flag poles up that do not have the ability to be lowered. She explained our intent was not to be disrespectful to anyone. Rob mentioned that he has mentioned this before and nothing has been done. Christina stated that in the future if he has concerns that he should be contacting the Select Board's Office.

Ron Madan asked if land swap was finalized. Christina explained that a deed search is being done by Green Acre Woodlands, as they preferred a full search over the Quitclaim Deed. We believe we are almost there.

Kyle motioned to adjourn at 8:01 pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Moores
Administrative Assistant