

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2009
7:00pm**

In Attendance: Michael Brogna, Kyle Andrews, Pamela Hamel (AA)

Absent: Miles Sinclair

Audience Members Present

Mike called the meeting to order at 7:04pm and read the appointments, announcements and minutes of the July 14 Selectmen's meeting. **Mike made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

Mike read a memo from the Police Department regarding the recent street dance. Officer Thompson reported there were no incidents that required any law enforcement action. He considered the event successful. In the future he suggested better communication between the Board, Committees and the Police Department concerning their respective responsibilities during a dance.

To date, Mike Ethier has not responded to the Board's requests to provide his excavation permit numbers. This information is necessary in order for them to sign Mr. Ethier's Intent to Excavate which the Board has 30 days to sign if all the criteria are met. If they are unable to sign, they must submit a letter to Mr. Ethier and the Department of Revenue stating their reason(s) for denial and the steps needed in order for Mr. Ethier to be in compliance. **Mike made a motion for Pam to have a letter ready at the next meeting in case it is needed, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

Mike gave the following updates of the Board's July 16 work session:

- The Upper Birch Holdings' Intent to Cut was signed
- The Old Home Day Committee's request to take \$250 from their fund for OHD supplies/preparations was granted
- The Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act, and NH's RSA 91-A:5, III do not allow the school to give out the student list. A Groton resident had volunteered to call the student's parents to verify their enrollment. This will not be possible.

Vickie Kimball outlined the Old Home Day events:

- Kid's games
- Adult tractor pull
- Adult wheel barrel race
- Bouncing house
- GRC vs. Selectmen softball game (more volunteers needed)
- Historical Society Ham and Bean supper from 5-7pm
- Parade at 1:00

Cutting alongside Province Road is scheduled to begin soon.

Wade Reed spoke with the Board about the 80,000 lb weight limit on the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge. He is scheduled to begin logging off of Orange Road. Mr. Reed explained that since he is hauling with a tractor trailer, he will never have that much weight on the bridge at any given time. Mike explained that the E2 bridge rating takes into account the axle weight of a truck that is carrying 80,000 lbs. Mr. Reed asked if it was possible to post a bond for the bridge. Mike replied that the Board is not looking to ask for a bond. They have made the decision to limit the weight to the state's rating for E2 bridges. Mr. Reed replied that it is impossible to make any money logging if the load limit is kept down to 80,000 lbs. He also said that loggers cross dozens of E2 bridges all the time. Mike explained that the Board understands the difficulty that loggers have however they must also consider those residents who live beyond the bridge and the impact on the town should the bridge fail. He suggested moving wood to a landing on the other side of the bridge and loading up from there. Also, they met with the State bridge inspector and the State weigh team about this bridge. The weigh team supports their decision to strictly enforce the E2 weight limit.

Pam Yinger addressed the audience with some concerns she has about the property behind her. There are about 75-100 boats there, old refrigerators, garbage and old tires. She is concerned about what might be seeping into the brook. DES was at the Groton Transfer Station last week and agreed to take photos of the property for Ms. Yinger. At this time, the owners are seeking a special exception from the ZBA for a storage facility and office. Ms. Yinger does not understand why Mr. Roberti can move all these things onto the property without the special exception. She urged the residents of Groton to attend the Public Hearing on Aug 3rd. Mike requested that Ms. Yinger write up a complaint that they will forward to the health officer.

The GRC requested a BYOB permit for a dance they would like to hold on Saturday, August 15 from 8-11 at the Everett Hobart Memorial Park. Kyle expressed concern about having children at this event as this is Old Home Day. Anne Tobine and Mike Brogna both expressed that the town should allow the residents to make the decision about whether or not they want to have their children at this event. **Mike made a motion to grant the GRC's request, and have a work session with the GRC and the Chief of Police.** Motion did not receive a 2nd. Shirley Leone pointed out that at the public hearing dealing with allowing alcohol on town property by permit only, it was stated that alcohol would not be allowed at the park. Mike believes that based upon the last dance, there should not be a problem with having it at the park. Parents who choose to bring their children will be responsible for them. Pam suggested that since there is some controversy over this, perhaps it would be best to hold the dance at the garage or town house. Ms. Tobine replied that the park is there to be enjoyed by young and old. Kyle voiced that at the Public Hearing the Board had agreed to institute the permitting system based upon several things including that there would be no alcohol at the park or at an event that would involve children. He reminded Ms. Tobine that she had been an advocate of this. The GRC then submitted a second request to hold the BYOB dance at the Town Garage. Mike again voiced that he is in favor of granting their request to hold a BYOB at the park. Kyle supported having it at the garage. The GRC then requested \$600 from their revolving fund for the band, decorations, food and related expenses. **Mike made a motion to support the dance at the garage and grant the**

GRC's request for funds, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted. A work session will be set up with the Board, GRC and the PD.

The GRC submitted a request for \$535.76 from their Capital Reserve Fund to reimburse their revolving fund for lime and fertilizer for the park. This arrangement was previously agreed upon by the Board and the GRC at the May 26 Selectmen's meeting. Originally, \$900 had been withdrawn from this fund for material. The unused portion of \$364.24 has already been re-deposited. Ms Tobine submitted the proper paperwork and receipts for the request. **Mike made a motion to forward the paperwork to the Trustees of the Trust Funds, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

Shirley Leone submitted a written request concerning the culverts that were replaced on North Groton Road. She asked for an answer in writing. Mike asked Pam to forward the request to the Road Agent for his response.

Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13pm, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant