

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2009
7:00pm**

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

Audience Members Present

Mike called the meeting to order at 7:02pm and read the appointments and announcements.

Mike Johnson representing Tower Resource Management (TRM) addressed the Board. TRM builds and manages cell towers. They contacted the town about the possibility of improving coverage here and maybe leasing a 40'x40' area on town property for a tower. Part of the agreement would include allowing fire, police and public safety departments use of the tower to mount equipment at no charge. Lease payments range from \$800-\$1,300 per month with a 3 or 4% annual increase. Average payment is about \$1,000 per month. Mr. Johnson had several photos showing different tower styles including one that looked like a flag pole. Their towers vary in height from 120' to 190'. Once they secure an agreement for location, they wait until they have a lease agreement with a carrier before actually building the tower. It takes about 3 weeks to build one. TRM is willing to look at a few locations in town including the transfer station. Mike said they would need to check on how this would affect their landfill permit. Many members of the audience acknowledged the need for better cell service in town. The Board will need to verify whether or not they can enter into a long term lease agreement without a town vote. Mr. Johnson believes the law in NH requires a town vote for a lease of this duration. In the mean time, the Board will look into possible town properties to consider and submit these locations to TRM who will be able to calculate their suitability. Mr. Johnson also said his company is willing to submit a sealed bid if the town wishes to bid this out to other companies.

Mike read the minutes of the August 11 selectmen's meeting. Kyle asked to amend the minutes on page three, paragraph 2 to read that he visited the Sewall property **before** not after Mr. Robertie applied for the most recent building permit.

Groton Wind LLC will host an open house on Wednesday October 7. Residents will be able to sign up for the Lempster Wind Farm tour that evening. The tour will be on the Saturday, October 24.

Miles made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Pam reported the following corrections for the Aug 4 Selectmen's meeting minutes:

- Adjournment time was 10:18
- In paragraph one initials FCC should be SEC

Miles made a motion to reapprove the re-amended minutes, Mike 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Mike asked Pam to report on her research of Mr. Ethier's gravel permits. Pam spoke with Amy Clark from DES, Alteration of Terrain (AoT) division. Ms. Clark said that Mr. Ethier does not have an AoT permit for his gravel pit. The paperwork that he submitted to the Board last week contained a Wetlands permit number and a plan to satisfy some wetlands violations. This permit is not the same as an AoT permit and does not satisfy RSA 485. Any pit larger than 100,000 sq. ft (app. 2.3

acres) and any subdivision with a road longer than 2,000 ft are required to have an AoT permit. Mr. Ethier had applied for a permit under Ethier Estates for his subdivision in 1988 but did not receive one. Ms. Clark did not know why.

Pam spoke with DRA about RSA 155 which is the requirement for a local permit issued by the Planning Board. That law came into effect in 1979. Mr. Ethier's claim that he did not need a permit from the town because there was no Planning Board in 1984 is false. RSA 155-E:1 clearly states that if a town has no Planning Board then the Selectmen become the regulators.

Pam wanted to make it clear to the audience that Mr. Ethier does not have any outstanding wetlands violations.

Mike made a motion to draft a letter to Mr. Ethier explaining why the Board has denied signing the Intent to Excavate and including what is necessary for him to come into compliance, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

The Board reviewed the Junkyard Dog's (Ken Knowlton) report on his inspection of Map 5 Lot 46. Mr. Knowlton finds that there are junkyard violations on this site. The property owners will be notified. Miles would like the board to have a work session to discuss the violations.

In an email Marie Ross reported that the 2008/2009 school list should be available within 2 weeks. Miles would like the town to begin informing the school when they know that someone has moved out of town, keep record of this correspondence and compare this with the school lists when they become available.

Pam reported that she had worked with Bill Carpenter from DRED regarding some land amount discrepancies over state lands in Groton. He supplied the Town with all the deeds for the properties in question and the adjustments have been made on the DRA's application for reimbursement paperwork. Mr. Carpenter will be speaking with DRA to confirm the changes.

Miles made a motion to sign the DRA application for reimbursement, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

The Board reviewed and made changes to the draft copy of the advertisement for Police Chief. The changes will be submitted to LGC Wed morning. The ad will be out this weekend.

Miles made a motion to approve the building permit for Sawyer, Map 1 Lot 49, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted. Although the addition of a shed does not require verification of septic, Mike would like the Health Officer made aware of an unknown septic on the property to see if he can research the septic data.

Pam Yinger thanked all those who participated in the Old Home Day and congratulated the Board on their softball game win.

Representative Margie Maybeck attended this evening's meeting.

Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant