

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2009
7:00pm**

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

Audience Members Present

Mike called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and read the appointments, announcements and minutes of the November 3rd selectmen's meeting.

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

The Board reviewed the maps sent by TWC. They would like Pam to contact TWC and ask for some straight answers as to whether or not the company is willing to extend service to the people who request it. It has been over 6 months since the initial request. They are willing to meet with a representative to discuss how to go forward.

Miles reported that both wells on the 67 River Road property are sufficiently covered. He is also open to the possibility of using the property for a future cemetery. The Cemetery Trustees will continue to research state requirements for the establishment of a new cemetery. Ultimately this would go to town vote.

Randall and Donna Goslin are aware of the trees that have fallen across the Cockermonth River from their property. Mrs. Goslin said they have been watching that bank erode away and no one from the town or state has helped them to prevent this. Currently, the trees are diverting the water in such a way as to benefit them so they are not certain if they want to remove them. They would like the town to assist them in getting permission to place some concrete barriers along the bank. She believes the town has some pull with the state. The Board agrees this waterway is regulated by the state and that they have no authority to grant the Goslin's request. However, they are willing to meet with them with the hope of persuading them to remove the trees. **Miles made a motion to try to schedule a meeting, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

The 2009 tax rate has been set. The Board used \$75,000 of the unexpended fund balance to lower the rate, retaining \$200,269. The new tax rate is \$15.44. Changes are as follows:

- Town's portion from \$4.49 to \$4.41, a **decrease** of \$.08.
- Local school portion from \$5.31 to \$7.58, and **increase** of \$2.27.
- State education from \$2.21 to \$2.23, an **increase** of \$.02.
- County portion from \$1.26 to \$1.22, a **decrease** of \$.04
- Overall increase is \$2.17.

The Board would like Pam to call Tom Gillis, our local school board representative, to express their concerns. The Selectmen have tried to hold the line and keep local spending in check. They encourage residents to participate in the school budget process. Pam will be including school budget and board meeting dates on the agenda.

The Board is looking to schedule interviews for the Police Chief position on November 19. James Joyce, Slim Spafford and Nick Blodgett have expressed an interest in being on the interview committee. Mr. Joyce is available that evening. Pam will confirm with Mr. Spafford, Kyle will confirm with Mr. Blodgett. Three candidates will be interviewed. Scot Weden from the LGC will assist in the process. This is not a public meeting.

Mike made a motion to sign the building permit for Aguiar, Map 6 Lot 36, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Mike made a motion to approve the building permit for Hansen, Map 2 Lot 30, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Mike made a motion to approve the building permit for Ingaciola, Map 5 Lot 155, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

The Board reviewed the 2010 Landfill Gas & Groundwater testing quote. Per DES, VOC testing is now required. Groton's consultant, Suzanne Wall, has petitioned the state to suspend this test requirement. **Mike made a motion to table this until they contact Suzanne Wall to get the VOC testing requirement resolved, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

Miles made a motion to sign the E-911 liaison contact form and submit it, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted. State requires signature of the chairman only. Office contact is the Administrative Assistant, field contact is Roger Thompson.

The Board reviewed the initial equalization results and municipal assessment data sheets for 2009. These will be submitted to the DRA for review and final calculations. **Mike made a motion to sign the 2009 Municipal Assessment Data Sheets Certificate, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.**

The GRC will be meeting the first Thursday of every month. All are welcome to attend. They will be having a Christmas Craft/Antique Fair on Sunday, December 6 from 10-2pm at the Bridgewater-Hebron Village School. The GRC requested the following funds from their Revolving Fund:

- \$75 to buy food to sell at the fair
- \$300 to finish the ice rink

Miles made a motion to grant their request, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

The Selectmen's office will be closed Friday, November 20. The Administrative Assistant will be using up some comp time.

Mike made a motion to approve the amended septic plans for Blye, Map 6, Lot 42, Kyle 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22pm, Miles 2nd, all in favor, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant