

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2010
7:00pm**

In Attendance: Miles Sinclair, Kyle Andrews, Christina McClay, Pamela Hamel (AA)

Audience Members Present

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:04pm and read the appointments and announcements. The following amendments to the April 20 Selectmen's Meeting minutes were proposed:

- Page 2: in the motion to accept the minutes strike **ed** from the word accept.
- Page 2, paragraph 3: strike the words **letter of credit**.
- Page 3, paragraph 3 strike the words **by the court**.

Miles made a motion to amend the minutes as proposed, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Miles made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Old Business:

Judie Demers was able to purchase a used Kirby vacuum in good condition with all of the attachments including a carpet shampooer for \$300. The Board will leave it up to her discretion to determine whether or not either of the two old vacuums is worth keeping as a backup.

The Board would like to table discussion of the Building Permit Guidelines until further notice. They will review them along with the current Junkyard Ordinance, and any changes will be brought before the people during a public hearing or Town Meeting.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment is not requiring T-Mobile to get a special exception for the addition of a 10x20 building in the existing compound. **Kyle made a motion to sign the building permit for T-Mobile, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

The Board tabled discussion on media contacts until next week.

Christina found some additional cases, the most recent in 2009, involving Skip Sansoucy as a utility assessor that do not paint him in a favorable light. However, she also had a conversation with a city manager who spoke well of him. Iberdrola does not want the Town to use Mr. Sansoucy as the utility assessor for the wind project, and they have provided documents that call into question his ethics and integrity. **Miles made a motion to not use Skip Sansoucy, Christina 2nd, so voted.** The Lempster wind project was assessed for \$48,000,000 by Avitar, and for a little over \$60,000,000 by the Department of Revenue. Iberdrola believes the Lempster project is worth \$32,000,000, and has filed for an abatement. As Groton's contracted assessor, Avitar will assess the Groton project. However, the Board would like to continue to seek someone else to do the assessment as well. In addition, the Board will do more research regarding the requested PILOT for the Groton project by Iberdrola.

The Board will try to set up another work session with Dave Yetman for Monday, May 10 at 5:00pm.

Christina made a motion to sign the Inventory Penalty abatement denial letters, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Some members of the Board continue to be contacted about the Veteran's Memorial project. The Board would like to clarify their role in this project as there appears to be a misunderstanding about it. The Board of Selectmen was first approached by Roland Bixby and Judie Demers on behalf of the Groton Historical Society

(GHS). The GHS wanted to give a Veteran's Memorial to the Town as a gift. They would do all the planning, make all the arrangements, raise all the funds, etc. They discussed having a celebration the day of the dedication and were also looking to put the monument on Town property. The Board was in favor of the project and agreed to have the monument set up on Town property. At no time did they say they would only support this project if it was done in a certain way. They left the form and location of the monument to the discretion of the Historical Society as long as it was appropriate and suitable. At a later date Roland Bixby approached the Board about a possible location of the monument and to request permission to set up a table at Town Meeting displaying the possible stone choices. He represented that it was GHS's desire to hear from the Town's people. The Board agreed to let GHS set up a display, and discussed possibly locating the monument in front of the Town House on the green beyond the parking area. It was agreed that a work session would be set up after the snow had melted to choose the final location. That work session took place on April 6. The GHS members present chose a location off to the side of the driveway, feeling it better suited the project, and the Board approved. Unfortunately, there are some people who are disappointed in the choice of stone and location for the monument, they feel that GHS has ignored the will of the people and they believe the Board should intervene. It is the Board's position that it is not their responsibility nor do they have the authority to become involved in the inner workings of this private organization. Jo O'Connor mentioned that once the monument has been given to the Town, the Town becomes responsible for any liability issues. She wanted to know if the stone would be anchored down properly. The Board will contact GHS to confirm.

There are 3 zoning positions that need to be filled: one regular and 2 alternate. Last year the Town Clerk contacted all those who received write-in votes to ask if they were interested in the position. **Miles made a motion for Pam to touch base with the Town Clerk to ascertain whether or not this has been completed and if not, does she have a time frame for completion. A work session will be scheduled to discuss this matter should Pam not be able to determine a resolution, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Dave Smith wrote a letter to the Selectmen concerning the reconstruction of the dam at Spectacle Pond. He was informing them of some of the issues he is working through with the Spectacle Pond Association. There is no action to be taken on this at this time.

Kyle made a motion to sign the letter to the Department of Environmental Services (DES), Christina 2nd, so voted. This letter informs James Gallagher of the DES Dam Bureau, that the Board of Selectmen has not endorsed the Spectacle Pond Association's Emergency Action Plan. They will be addressing this in the future.

The Board has received a resume from Darlene Andrews for the vacant Treasurer's position. Before moving forward they would like to post the position at the following locations: Town House, Transfer Station, Hebron Village Store and Post Office, Ryzak, Rumney Post Office and the Town's website. Deadline for filing letters of interest is May 12 and they can be filed at the Town Office or via email at tog@roadrunner.com. Applicants must be Groton residents. **Miles made a motion to post the position at the locations mentioned, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Household Hazardous Waste collection days are scheduled for Sunday, August 29 at the Littleton Transfer Station and Saturday, September 11 and the Plymouth Recycling Center. Flyers will be posted at the Transfer Station, Town House and on the Town's website.

The Board signed the Litter Free New Hampshire registration form. Clean up day is scheduled for May 15 from 10-12. The Town will be receiving 50 bare root lilac bushes.

Rena Chase expressed concern that there is no place to turn around a vehicle towing a trailer at the Spectacle Pond boat ramp area as there are so many cars parked there. Kyle would like to know if no parking signs can be posted about 2 car lengths from the landing allowing vehicles the room necessary to turn around. Chuck Stata believes the State put in the road and landing with the understanding that the Town would maintain it. He also

said that past Boards have allowed overflow parking at the Town Garage. Miles would like the Board to clarify who has jurisdiction over the area. Pam will contact the Fish and Game Department.

Chuck Stata announced that the State is looking to create local committees to work with a new Healthy Home Program. If anyone is interested please see Mr. Stata for more details and contact information.

Miles made a motion to adjourn at 8:34pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant