

**Town of Groton  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
June 22, 2010  
7:00pm**

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

**Audience Members Present**

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. **Christina made a motion to amend the minutes on page 4, paragraph 1, as follows:**

- **change measures to measurements followed by a comma and add the word 'stating'**

**Miles 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, so voted, Kyle abstaining as he was not in attendance at last week's meeting.**

**Miles made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted, Kyle abstaining.**

**Updates:**

Groton Wind LLC has declined to research the two additional options put forth by the Board regarding a decommissioning guaranty as the company is not interested in pursuing those options. They feel that the latest proposal to insert a bond rating trigger mechanism in the agreement is a good proposal.

The Board is awaiting responses from Cindy Williams and Elizabeth McNaughten regarding acquiring additional information on the Spectacle Pond Landing area.

Mr. Clancy and Mr. Peverley have submitted documents for the Board's review regarding the intersection of Blanchette Lane and North Groton Road. Both parties have been cooperative. Tree limbs have been trimmed in order to increase visibility. Miles visited the site and spoke with Alan Barnard. Mr. Barnard's survey shows that the curve in the road has slowly migrated and encroached upon Mrs. Rukus' property. Glen Hansen contacted Bill Chamberlin, Access and Utilities Supervisor with the Department of Transportation. Mr. Chamberlin visited the site with Glen, and he will submit a written report of his findings to the Town.

Alan Barnard made copies of the road maps Dave Leone had loaned to the town, and he included copies of a few other maps of the town that he had. Mr. Barnard did not ask for any compensation for this service. However, he would like the Board to extend to him like consideration when he needs a copy of something from the town. The Board members agreed to this arrangement.

**Old Business:**

**Kyle made a motion to sign the signature cards for the Meredith Villages Savings Bank accounts, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

After reviewing State Statute regarding the Conservation Fund, the Board agreed that it is the Conservation Commission who has the authority to determine powers granted to the signers of that account. Pam will contact the commission chairman Gordon Coursey.

**Miles made a motion to sign the Spectacle Pond Emergency Action Plan, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Originally, the plan committed the Town to stockpiling sand, filling sand bags and using town employees and equipment. After meeting with the Board, the Spectacle Pond Association removed the areas in the plan that the Board had concerns with. If there is an emergency, the Town will assist as with any other emergency.

**Kyle made a motion to continue use of the annual inventory form, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board reviewed the Junkyard License renewal applications for Douglas and Sandra Hutchins and James Rego. Both parties completed background checks, submitted site sketches and provided certificates of compliance for best management practices as established by the Department of Environmental Services. **Kyle made a motion to sign the Rego Junkyard License renewal, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina made a motion to sign the Hutchins Junkyard License renewal, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Currently there are two owners with a total of 4 dogs that have not gotten dog licenses. In response to Kyle's question Miles said he has contacted each party on more than one occasion in an attempt to get them to comply with the law and has confirmed that the owners still have the dogs in question. **Kyle made a motion to sign the warrant for unlicensed dogs, allowing the issuing of civil forfeitures, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** As the Animal Control Officer Miles abstained from the vote.

Color copies of the monuments in the Perambulation Survey for Groton and Plymouth will be made on the Groton Police Department copier in order to save time and money.

At Pam's request **Miles made a motion to table the Junkyard Dog recommendation for another week, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina made a motion to sign the building permit for Cole, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### **New Business:**

James Cross addressed the Board. Mr. Cross owns property off of Province Road and is currently having it logged. The first 250 yards of the access road known as the old Coolidge Road is Class VI and includes a bridge across the Cockermonth River. Recently, he replaced the planks on this bridge. Mr. Cross would like to know about the liability of anyone crossing that bridge as he feels it is hazardous. In the past the Town has never said they are liable or that he is not. Because of the logging operation the road leading up to the bridge is quite wide, inviting people to turn off of Province Road onto it. He noticed that someone has taken a vehicle beyond the bridge onto what was once the old road causing considerable rut damage. Because the Town will not admit liability and because the logging operation will be finished on Friday, he would like to instruct his loggers to place two large boulders in front of the bridge blocking any vehicle traffic from passing. Mr. Cross does not want motorized vehicles on the property. He also mentioned pulling up the new planks that he placed on the bridge. He suggested that the Board discontinue the road which would allow him to place a locked gate either at the entrance or at the bridge.

The Board's position at this time is:

- If this road is class VI subject to gates and bars it is a public way. It could be gated but not locked.
- It is not within Mr. Cross' rights to block the road or bridge
- The Board will need to contact the Local Government Center and/or the Town's attorney regarding liability and whether or not Mr. Cross has the authority to take up the planks
- Mr. Cross does have the right to place the boulders on his property at the end of the Class VI portion of the road
- The status of the road can only be changed by vote of the people at Town Meeting. Mr. Cross can present a petitioned warrant article for the Town's people to vote on.

Mr. Cross is willing to do anything the Board wants him to do but he would like to have some kind of resolution on this issue as soon as possible. He will instruct the loggers to place the boulders at the end of the Class VI

portion of the road to prevent vehicles from travelling onto his property. **Miles made a motion to table this until they have the necessary information to revisit this issue next week, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA) would like to post “Entering the Newfound Water Shed” signs on existing structures or a tree on Province Road at the Groton/Dorchester town line and in the State right of way on North Groton Road near the power lines. **Christina made a motion to approve their request to put a sign on Province Road provided they place it on their own structure or, if on a tree, with permission of the property owner, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** The Association will need to contact the State for permission to put a sign at the North Groton Road location.

**Kyle made a motion to sign the Intent to Cut for Maurice Smith, Map 10 Lot 10, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Groton Wind LLC is required to make certain timely postings prior to holding the public hearing scheduled for June 28. The Hearing was correctly posted in the Union Leader but due to a mistake on the part of the Record Enterprise, the Hearing was not posted during the time period specified in State Statute. Orr and Reno, the attorney’s for Groton Wind LLC, would like to know whether or not the Town of Groton has any objection to the Hearing taking place on the 28<sup>th</sup>. They have provided documentation to the Site Evaluation Committee clearly showing that they submitted their posting requests to the Record Enterprise in the timely fashion. The Record Enterprise admits to making the mistake. **Miles made a motion to let Orr & Reno know that the Town does not object to the hearing going forward, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Anyone interested in participating in the site visit for the Groton Wind project should meet at the Wal-Mart parking lot at 1:00pm on Monday, June 28. Although Christina & Miles will travel together they stressed that this is not a meeting and they will not be discussing Town business. The Administrative Assistant would like to use some comp hours that day in order to accompany them. The Board is okay with that. The office will close at noon. If Kyle is able to attend he will take his own vehicle.

Miles announced that this year’s Average Daily Membership (ADM) percentage for Groton for number of students in school has decreased from last year, thus monthly school payments will decrease by approximately \$10,000. The ADM for this year is 4.38%.

**Christina made a motion to sign the letter to Aiello regarding their building permit violation, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Kyle made a motion to sign the letter to Jolly regarding his building permit violation, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

A welfare applicant has requested to make after hours appointments. Pam explained that since this is not an emergency and the applicant is not working full time, she believes that appointments should be scheduled during normal business hours. The Board agreed that every effort should be made to come in during business hours. Under extenuating circumstance this could be revisited.

**Kyle made a motion to sign the building permit for Glose, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles made a motion to adjourn at 9:00pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant