

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
June 29, 2010
7:00pm**

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

Audience Members Present

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Miles made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Christina 2nd, so voted, Kyle abstaining.

Updates:

The Board received a copy of the deed from Cindy Williams. Although much of the deed is not legible, the phrase regarding the use of the land as a public parking space and landing place is clear. Elizabeth McNaughten will be forwarding 95% of the content that the state has on file regarding the Spectacle Pond landing. Unfortunately, the hearing transcript is missing. **Miles made a motion to table this until they receive the additional information, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

The remaining two dog owners who had not registered their dogs did so before the civil forfeitures were issued.

Miles researched the 1882 warrant article regarding the discontinuance of a portion of what is now known as Blanchette Lane. Unfortunately, the minutes do not reflect what action was taken on that article. At some point in the mid 60's, allegedly, a member of the Board of Selectmen gave Dick Clancy's father permission to move some foundation stone to enlarge his front yard and close off a section of the Y intersection. This is not disputed by the current property owners. However, this does not constitute the discontinuance of the road. While waiting for the State's report regarding the current intersection of Blanchette Lane and North Groton Road, the Board will be considering how to move forward with this.

Miles reported that Alan Barnard had checked with someone from the Department of Transportation who indicated that the maps of North Groton Road recently submitted to the Board for copying were for a plan that was never laid out or completed, thus they do not represent the Town's current right of way for that section of road. A notation will be placed on the maps indicating this.

Old Business

There was some paperwork in James Cross's property file for a proposed layout of 1,475ft of road on his property that would allow access to a land locked piece behind him. However, from the paperwork it is unclear whether or not this was followed through on. The Board would like Pam to contact Jimmy Albert who was a member of the Board of Selectmen at that time and any other party associated with this in order to get clarification. **Kyle made a motion to table this until the necessary parties are contacted, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

The Town's attorney said the Town has no liability for class VI roads that it has not maintained. By law Mr. Cross cannot block the bridge as it is part of the class VI road and thus a public way, and he could be liable should anything happen as a result of someone using the bridge if he was negligent or wrongful when replacing the planks. Further, Mr. Cross cannot remove the planks as he has the responsibility to leave the road in as good a condition as it was before he worked on it. Removing the planks would leave it in worse repair. She did

recommend that the Town post all Class VI roads letting the public know that they would be passing at their own risk. **Miles made a motion to have the Road Agent provide a list of all Class VI roads in the Town, Kyle 2nd, so voted.** Miles will contact Mr. Cross by phone to let him know that he cannot remove the planks or block the bridge.

The Junkyard Dog (Ken Knowlton) has made recommendations to the Board on the next step to take while working with property owners regarding junkyard ordinance compliance. There are 4 property owners who have 30 days to come into compliance before the matter is turned over to the Town's Attorney. An additional 3 property owners have been working with Mr. Knowlton to get their properties either cleaned up or ready for licensing. **Kyle made a motion to accept the Junkyard Dog's recommendations and sign the letters, Miles 2nd, so voted. Miles made a motion to send the four letters giving 30 days for compliance via certified mail, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

New Business

Kyle made a motion to sign the Timber Tax Warrant for David Stanley, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Christina made a motion to sign the Timber Tax Warrant for Comeau, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Kyle made a motion to sign the abatement denial for Blye based upon Avitar's recommendation, Miles 2nd, so voted.

FORECO submitted a request to install 3 culverts and put some gravel on a section of the Class VI portion of Old Rumney Road for a logging operation. They would like to remove the culverts once the job is finished. The Board will allow FORECO to make the necessary improvements but reserves the right to challenge their request to remove the culverts.

As a Library Trustee, Christina informed the Board that they are looking to apply for a Hazard Mitigation Grant to either move the current library building or build a new one. Part of the process included submitting a letter of intent by July 1st. The Trustees would like to do a site visit at the old building accompanied by any Board members who would like to come as well as someone with expertise in building and construction. Also, they will be sending a survey to residents asking them what they would like to see in their library including whether they would like to have the old building moved and used at a new location or have a new building constructed. They will try to schedule a site visit at a time when the Board members can attend.

Lastly, Christina, reported that usually, all 3 Trustees are not available to meet together. Citing RSA 201-A:10, she said the statute allows them to have up to 3 members as alternates. These alternates would be approved and appointed for a one year term by the Board of Selectmen. The Trustees recommend that Pam Yinger and Brenda Ackerman be appointed as alternates. Both women have expressed an interest in serving in this capacity. **Miles made a motion to appoint Brenda Ackerman and Pam Yinger as Library Trustee Alternates based upon the recommendation of the Trustees, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

The Town has the opportunity to secure a base radio under a Federal grant. This grant would cover 100% of the cost for the radio. The Warrant article that passed in March for radios and a repeater does not include a base radio. **Miles made a motion to forward this to Emergency Management Director Mike Lemieux, letting him know the Board supports this effort, that they feel this should be acted upon as soon as possible and that they are available to assist should he need it, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

As a Party with Intervener status in the Groton Wind LLC application for Site and Facility, the Board has the opportunity to make data requests of the Company as part of the permitting process. As this time the Board does not feel they need to make any data requests.

Miles gave a brief update of the Groton Wind site visit and public hearing. This is the first step in a multi-step process to secure a permit for Site and Facility. The Site Evaluation Committee should render a decision by sometime in December.

Stanley Jackson is looking to clear some land without filing an Intent to Cut under Exemption 5 in RSA 79:1, II. This exemption allows a property owner to cut up to 10,000 board feet of logs and 20 cords of wood from their own land for land conversion purposes provided that all required permits have been secured including building permits, excavation permits, etc. as applicable. However, Mr. Stanley is not planning to build on this lot; he is looking to sell it. Thus he cannot claim this exemption. **Kyle made a motion to send a letter to Mr. Stanley notifying him of what is required by statute, Miles 2nd, so voted.**

Miles made a motion to adjourn at 8:29pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant