

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
July 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 7:00pm.

The Town Clerk/Tax Collector is looking for a Deputy. The position will be posted for 2 weeks (until August 11). Please contact Laura Hauser for more details.

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

Updates:

The grants for the base station/repeater/radios have been submitted.

The Town's Attorney has sent a 30 day cease and desist or come into compliance letter Frederick Sewall, Miles Friend and William Robertie.

Old Business:

The Board received the letter from William Chamberlain, NH DOT Access & Utilities Supervisor, regarding the intersection of Blanchette Lane and North Groton Road. He reported the site distances looking south (350-360 feet) and north (240-250 feet) which are both less than the State's current 400 foot requirement for new driveways. Complicating matters a bit more is a cut stone granite wall and some roadside vegetation which obscures vehicles traveling south on North Groton Road toward Blanchette Lane. Mr. Chamberlain suggested that an engineering study would probably give a clearer picture of the best options to improve this intersection. Given the perception that Mr. Chamberlain will not be offering any opinion for improvement, the Board discussed the following three options:

1. Forward all information to the Town's Attorney for her opinion
2. Have an engineering study done (no money budgeted for this)
3. Post the intersection with a Right Turn only sign (coming off Blanchette Lane). If someone chooses to make a left turn the Town could be protected because the person would be breaking the law. This would have to be verified by the Attorney.

Mr. Peverley commented that in the eight years he has been living there, there has never been an accident. He said Bill White had confirmed with him that there hadn't been an accident there during his tenure as Groton Chief of Police.

Kyle made a motion to forward all information to the Town's Attorney for her opinion, Christina 2nd, so voted.

The Board was able to locate the Town's Records regarding the Return of Layout for Spectacle Pond Road. Although 50% of the record was damaged by the flood they were able to decipher that there was nothing in this record which they didn't already have. The Board would like to post the area with verbiage such as "No Parking beyond this sign, temporary loading and unloading only".

Miles made a motion to have Pam look into the process of drafting a parking ordinance to address this issue, Christina 2nd, so voted.

The Board reviewed the information Miles had gathered regarding Carbon Monoxide Detectors. Based upon this information, the current detector could be located in the correct location if it is installed according to the manufacturer's instructions. However, the Board would like to install a detector on the second floor. Kyle offered to pick one up at Rand's.

Christina made a motion for Kyle go to Rand's to choose a competitively priced plug in carbon monoxide detector with battery backup, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Christina reported that John Faucher has indicated he is willing to offer some time to help with hazardous tree removal. However, he feels the work should be done with his tree company and in the fall. At this time nothing has been confirmed. Christina and her husband Jeremy will have time in their schedules to help in another few weeks.

Kyle made a motion to table this for one more week, Christina 2nd, so voted, Miles abstaining.

Miles expressed concern about waiting too long as the Town has identified the possible hazard and should address it. Kyle suggested contacting Gordon Coursey to find out if he would be willing to assist. Pam will contact him prior to next week's meeting.

Christina and Pam will attend the House Bill 1448 training session offered by the Department of Revenue (DRA) on August 9, and they are looking to schedule, for the same day, a meeting with DRA representative Scot Dickman to discuss Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements and their impact on the municipality. Groton Wind LLC is proposing a PILOT agreement with the Town. Mr. Dickman has asked the Board to submit a list of questions this week to give him the opportunity to have all his research done prior to the meeting.

Miles will attend the Groton Wind Technical Sessions on August 9 & 10. During these sessions those with intervener status in the Groton Wind Site & Facility permitting process may ask questions of the applicant's technical witnesses. Although these meetings are open to the public only those with intervener status will be allowed to pose questions. The Attorney for the Site Evaluation Committee would like a list of those who intend to attend, and which witness they plan to ask questions of. The Board does not feel that the Town's Attorney needs to attend as there shouldn't be any new information disclosed, only perhaps more details. **Miles made a motion to have Pam contact the Town's Attorney to let her know that she does not need to attend, that he will attend, and that he reserves the right to ask any questions he feels are appropriate that day, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Iberdrola has submitted another proposal for decommissioning, and has changed some of the wording in the agreement they have been working on with the Town. The Board would like to meet with Ed Cherian to discuss this. Pam will set up a work session for 6:00pm on a Tuesday that is convenient for all parties.

Christina made a motion to table signing the Addendum to the Transfer Station Supervisor Responsibilities until the word Addendum is added to the title, Miles 2nd, so voted.

The August 3rd Selectmen's work session has been rescheduled for August 10.

Kyle made a motion to sign the Building Permit for Aiello, Map 5 Lot 92, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Miles reported that Frank Tolman had contacted him to let him know that, due to health reasons, he will not be able to come into junkyard compliance within the 30 days given. However, he has been making some progress. The Junkyard Dog will visit the property again in August. The Board has made it their practice to work with any property owners who are working toward compliance.

Kyle reported that he had second thoughts about delivering the 30 day junkyard compliance letter to Mr. Kolomick. He turned the letter over to the Chief Dickerson to make delivery. The Chief has attempted to deliver but to date has not been successful.

Kyle and Christina will hold a meeting next week even though Miles will be unable to attend. Agenda will be kept light.

The Board reviewed the Irving fuel contract for the 2010-2011 heating season. They are offering a price for pre-buy (unable to accept as it would include funding for the 2011 fiscal year), a 30 day net, and budget. The Board would like Pam to contact Dead River and Fuller Fuel for quotes. **Miles made a motion to table this issue until next week, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

The Board discussed the Robert Powell property. Mr. Powell reported a partially constructed tool shed on his 2006 Inventory. He reported the tool shed again in 2007. The assessor added it to the assessment card in 2008. However, he did not walk up to the building as the land is posted. On his 2008, 2009 and 2010 Inventories, Mr. Powell reported no changes regarding any structures on his property. When the assessor visited the property this spring he found an A-frame style cabin with a large deck on the front. Although the building does not yet have electric and plumbing, and the interior is still under construction, it is set up for a bathroom and bedroom. When asked about the building Mr. Powell said he considered it a tool shed. Although he said he had a building permit for the shed and would submit a copy of it, the Town has no record of it nor has Mr. Powell submitted this copy. Under RSA 74:12, the selectmen or assessors shall charge doomsage in the amount 4 times as much as such property would have been taxable if truly returned and inventoried. The difference in assessment between the tool shed and the cabin is \$21,000. **Kyle made a motion to table this until the 10th while Pam does all the necessary research involved with this, Miles 2nd, so voted.**

It appears as though a logging company has made improvements to Orange Road, a class VI road, without receiving prior permission from the Board. Although the logging operation is not in Groton it looks as though the access roads will be Orange Road and either Sculptured Rocks Road or Province Road. The location would indicate Sculptured Rocks Road. **Miles made a motion to forward this to the Road Agent to make contact with that logging operation and have them contact the Administrative Assistant to get on the Agenda so a representative can attend a Selectmen's meeting, additionally to have the Road Agent address whatever issues he needs to address with them directly concerning the work done or to be done on the road and the E2 bridge posting(80,000 lb limit), Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Pam Yinger expressed concern about the logging trucks coming down North Groton Road and past her house. She feels they are using excessive speed and is wondering if anything can be done about it. Miles explained that since this is a State road any change in speed or other postings would be done by the State. However, speed enforcement issues can be dealt with locally. The Administrative Assistant will inform Chief Dickerson of Ms. Yinger's concerns.

Chuck Stata reported that stipulations to Maxam's special exception included improving the line of sight coming off Hardy Country Road and paving the entrance to that road. To date this has not been done. He also inquired as to whether Maxam had applied for their building permits for the detonator magazine and office building. They have received building permits but the office is not built. Miles said he had heard that the company is experiencing some financial difficulties in this present economy. He also asked if the ZBA had put a time limit on the stipulations. They did not. The Board asked that Glen Hansen make contact with the company to find out their intentions.

Miles made a motion to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (b), hiring, at 9:21pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Miles made a motion to return to public session at 9:57pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Miles made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:58pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant