

**Town of Groton
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2010
7:00pm**

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

Absent: Miles Sinclair

Audience Members Present

Kyle called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

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

Old Business:

John Faucher submitted a proposal to provide aerial lift with operator, tools and saws, sign package and safety equipment for \$475 a day to perform hazardous tree removal at the direction of the Board of Selectmen/Road Agent. Kyle commented on the generosity of Mr. Faucher's offer. Pam reported that Glen Hansen said that should the Board accept this offer they can use \$950 from his rental line to pay for 2 days worth of work. She also reported that she had left a message with Gordon Coursey asking if he is willing to assist on a gratis basis. Mr. Coursey left a message in reply stating that he would be willing to assist as long as there is some lead time for scheduling purposes. The Board would like Pam to verify that Mr. Coursey is willing to help free of charge. Christina again confirmed that her husband would be able to assist with the most difficult trees. She also mentioned that the Board can ask the New Hampshire Electric Coop to remove hazardous trees in the COOP's right of way. This could be an option should some difficult trees fall into that category. At this time neither Kyle nor Christina feel it is right to accept Mr. Faucher's offer and expect Mr. Coursey to help free of charge. They would like to move forward with scheduling using Mr. Coursey's help. **Kyle made a motion to set up a date and time to start taking trees down, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Kyle made a motion to sign the Addendum to the Transfer Station Supervisor Responsibilities, Christina 2nd, so voted.

After reviewing the fuel bids submitted by Fred Fuller, Dead River and Irving for the 2010-2011 heating season, **Kyle made a motion to accept the Fred Fuller proposal, Christina 2nd, so voted.** The Company is offering a fixed price of \$2.395, almost \$.30 per gallon less than any other bid.

The loggers utilizing Orange Road are a company called We Log. They have been hired by Ted Tichy, Forester for Dillon for a logging operation in Alexandria. Pam spoke with Mr. Tichy on the phone regarding the work that was done on the road without prior approval of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Tichy said he is willing to meet with the Board. Pam will confirm that he is able to attend the August 17 Selectmen's meeting. Glen Hansen spoke with the loggers today, letting them know of the E2 bridge posting and the Town's intentions to enforce that limit.

The Administrative Assistant requested the following days off in order to use up some comp and vacation time:

- Thursday and Friday, August 26 & 27
- Friday, Sept 3
- Tuesday, Sept 14

The September 14 date is the State Primary. As a Supervisor of the Checklist, Pam will be at the polls all day. She requested that the Board consider cancelling the Selectmen's meeting for that evening. Kyle and Christina both agree that they would have no problem cancelling that meeting but before making a final decision they would like to hear from Miles. **Kyle made a motion to grant the Administrative Assistant her requested time off, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Time Warner Cable (TWC) submitted their annual inventory on August 2 along with a letter requesting an abatement of any penalty fees due to the late filing. The Company claims that they were unaware that they have property in Groton. However, the Board noted that they have been paying their taxes (on time) for this property, and, if the Company had any questions about the inventory, they should have called or written prior to the April 15 due date. **Kyle made a motion to deny TWC's request to have the inventory penalty abated, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Christina made a motion to approve the Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) for Parris, Map 1 Lot 98-1, Kyle 2nd, so voted. The tax amount is \$2,350. An additional structure was added to a current use portion of the property triggering this tax.

The Old Home Day Committee and the Recreation Committee will hold a joint meeting on Wednesday, August 4 at 7:00pm. Pam Yinger encouraged anyone with ideas and suggestions for this year's Old Home Day celebration to attend the meeting.

James Cross addressed the Board. He reported that the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has been working with him to develop a plan for his lot with an emphasis on stabilizing the land. NRCS is coming on August 16 to view the recent cut, and Mr. Cross would like the Board to come out to the property to meet with them. He said there are certain regulations pertaining to what has to be done to stabilize the soil once a logging operation is complete. He maintains that the Board's recent letter undoes that. The NRCS has a lot of experience regarding Class VI roads and working with Road Agents. Mr. Cross maintains that the letter sent by the Board releases him from liability and that the Board should contact an attorney. Christina replied that the letter does not do that, and that they had consulted with council regarding this issue. The Board is also moving forward with posting all Class VI roads as unmaintained, pass at your own risk. Mr. Cross has until tomorrow to remove the obstacles. They are willing to meet with NRCS should scheduling allow and requested that Mr. Cross advise them of the time.

Jimmy Albert submitted some paperwork on behalf of Frank Tolman supporting his need for additional time to come into Junkyard Compliance as mentioned in last week's meeting.

Kyle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant