

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
December 14 2010
7:00PM**

In Attendance: Miles Sinclair, Christina McClay, Pamela Hamel (Administrative Assistant)

Absent: Kyle Andrews

Audience members present

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:08p.m.

Miles made a motion to accept the minutes of December 7 as written, Christina 2nd, so voted.

The Board spoke with Glen Hansen regarding the glass at the Transfer Station. The Board wants to insure that he is able to meet all the criteria for Aggregate for Construction made with crushed glass as stipulated by the Department of Environmental Services (DES). Glen said that in the past he has worked with engineers and used crushed glass as a subbase for a parking area. This is what he would like to use the material for now, and it would be sufficiently covered with other aggregate material. The glass would be broken up with the backhoe and Glen understands that it must pass through a one inch screen. Glen said he has not had the opportunity to speak with his engineer on this particular project, and the DES rules are unclear as to what exactly is expected of him. Miles replied that his engineer should know what is required and, if not, DES can be contacted for clarification. Christina inquired whether the Board is requiring him to submit something or are they telling him that these are the conditions of their approval and expecting him to comply. If they are not requiring him to submit something how will they know if the guidelines are met? Miles' position is that because Glen is an elected official and employee, he would want to insure that whatever they do is in compliance thus avoiding any kind of predicament. If the engineer knows what is expected and lays out what needs to be done and Glen says that he will do it then the Board has covered itself. Glen asked the Board to table this for one week in order to give him the opportunity to speak with his engineer. He does not want to be targeted or get anyone in trouble. There is not a lot of glass there but it would save the Town disposal costs if he is able to use it.

Miles motioned to table this until Glen gets those required answers, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Glen reported a plugged culvert issue near the Goodwin's home on North Groton Road. It has been addressed a few times but is now believed to be completely plugged and may be frozen. He has contacted the road agent from Bristol and they will attempt to use high water pressure to clean it out.

Glen also reported that they are having some problems with the one ton, which include: severe hesitation caused possibly by a fuel issue and a spinner chain broke. He will change the filters in an attempt to fix the problem. Because of these issues, he had to use his vehicle today. Christina brought up that the former Board wanted a call whenever Glen had to use his truck. She does not want to get a call at 2:00 in the morning just to find out that he has to use his truck. She said the current Board understands that if the Town truck breaks down he will be using his own vehicle. Miles said they can revisit this next week when Kyle is present to make sure that everyone is on the same page, and between now and then Glen will use his truck as needed and let them know about it after the fact. In addition, Glen informed the Board that his Blue Ford dump truck has been hired by the state as a back up. If he is using it in town it will be for the state only.

The Department Of Transportation has updated their list of trucks being used by the town for state roads. Although Glen has been giving them an updated list each year the State has been remiss in changing this information. They have updated their rates as well thus the town will see an increase for taking care of the state portion of North Groton Road and any other state roads they might be asked to cover in an emergency.

Miles asked for Old Rumney Road to be on the agenda again as the Board had made no decision regarding this issue. Mr. Martin was given the opportunity to give his side of the story. Marina Chase mentioned some concerns she had expressed when this topic was discussed a few weeks ago:

- The Town had lost a fire lane. She said the response was that we can back pack in.
- They could possibly lose a snowmobile trail. She said she was assured that those ditches could be filled in with snow.

Now she says that Mr. Martin maintains that the road was in poor condition last year. It has become a case of he said/she said. Ms. Chase still believes as she did from the beginning, that the road is not in as good condition as before the logging operation. And now it will never be improved because any future operations will base how they leave the road on its current condition. Miles agreed that it is a he said/she said as there are differences of opinion. By law they have to leave it in at least as good condition as before the logging operation. The Town has to be able to show that the road is in worse condition in order to get them to make any improvements. Ms. Chase replied that the road itself is in better condition but they left three ditches that can no longer be driven through and, although that first one was always the most difficult, it was driven through. She had hunted in that area both last year and this year. She showed the Board some photos she had recently taken. She said the ditches are more than six (6) feet across and could be at least ten (10) feet across. All the rubble that they used to cover the culverts is now piled up on the side of the ditches. All of these ditches could have been stepped over in the past. Pam also verified that although she hasn't seen the current condition of the road she has been out there in the past and she could always either step or jump over the ditches. She never had to walk down into a ditch in order to cross over. Miles again stated that unless it can be demonstrated that the road is not in as good condition as before the improvements then what can be done? If they can make that fight then he will be in it. But the Board needs some help in this. They need to have a position of strength. If there are witnesses then there is strength. Ms. Chase said she knows of two (2) others who know what is going on, but she won't ask them to become involved. The Board does not want people to get the impression that they are unwilling to pursue something, but they need to evaluate the facts to determine how to move forward.

Miles motioned to table this issue until next week when the full Board is able to discuss it, Christina 2nd, so voted. Pam has agreed to look at the ditches to compare them to what they were like in the past.

While preparing the invoice for We Log Pam realized that she had failed to include some Road Agent wages when calculating the expenses for the repair. This resulted in a slight increase in We Log's portion of the expenses.

Miles made a motion to revise the amount to be billed to We Log to \$1005.77, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Fire Chief Roger Thompson had let the Board know that all the outlets in the basement are supposed to be GFI (ground fault interrupter). Miles reported that he had run a coax cable up through the floor from the basement to the Library computer. After assessing the wiring in the basement he proposes that they remove the plug for the alarm system from the current GFI outlet, route a much shorter wire up into the Library and plug it in up here as these outlets do not have to be GFI. This should solve the problem.

Christina made a motion that the Select Board take care of moving the wire and changing the power supply outlet for the alarm system, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Miles announced that the SEC will have a prehearing conference/tech session on Friday, Dec 17 at 10am. He is planning to attend.

Christina wanted to verify that when a motion to dismiss bankruptcy is granted then bankruptcy protection no longer applies. This is in reference to a Groton property owner who owes back taxes. The property owner, who had filed for bankruptcy, has not complied with the conditions of settlement. The Town is a secured creditor; therefore there is no need to respond to the motion to dismiss.

Christina gave a brief update on the upcoming Library Christmas Party. They will be decorating on Thursday evening. This party has been advertised in a number of places and the Trustees are hoping for a good turnout.

Miles motioned to have the Board sign Forms A and I for New Hampshire Police Standards and Training once they have confirmed with Joe Pivrotto that all the criteria have been met, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Miles made a motion to adjourn at 8:24pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant