

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
March 15, 2011
7:00 PM**

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

Audience members present

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. The Board had discussed some possible future changes to the chair position including the sharing of duties. Christina said, and Kyle confirmed, that neither she nor Kyle feel prepared to take on that role at this time. They would like Miles to continue in the position for now.

As a representative of Congressman Charlie Bass' outreach program, Harold Parker was present at the Select Board meeting. He said he was here to get feedback from the Board and the Town on any issues of concern, and to see if there is any way that the Congressman can be of help. Concerns raised included the Northern Pass project, possible future limited funding for the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, limited Federal funding for NH roads, possible curtailing of Federal resources for NH timber, forest and ecosystems, and excessive and wasteful Federal spending including subsidies. As a part of Congressman Bass' outreach program Christopher Collins will hold office hours on Wednesday, April 27 from 1-2pm at the Groton Town Office. Anyone who wishes to speak with Mr. Collins is invited to attend.

Miles made a motion to accept the minutes of March 1 as written, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Christina motioned to sign the New Hampshire Electric Coop abatement denial letter, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

The Board reviewed the various contract proposals submitted for completing the Town Tax Maps. **Kyle motioned to sign the Avitar contract for \$450, Miles 2nd, so voted.** This contract includes any changes from the last time the maps were updated (November 2010) until April 1, 2011. Replacement sheets will be provided. **Miles motioned to table discussion on the contract for next year until they get additional billing information from Avitar, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

The Board set up a work session for Thursday, March 24 at 5:00pm to discuss the Groton Wind PILOT.

The Board discussed the disposal of material collected when the Road Agent is cleaning ditches, etc. Ron Madan pointed out that the material collected on Sculptured Rocks Road last year was deposited at the Town Garage and not on Giovanna Road as previously thought. Glen also said that some of the fill that was brought to Giovanna Road was from a private job and not in any way associated with the Town. He went on to say that the material taken out of the ditches is full of leaves, garbage, dirt, twigs, sand and muck, and in general it is not suitable for any needs the Town might have for it. In the past, the Road Agents have tried to get rid of this fill in the easiest and cheapest manner. Currently, he has the names of residents who have asked for this fill. Kyle feels that the Town should continue with what was done in the past and look to dump this fill at the most convenient location. Christina said that although Lewis Albert said the Town voted to have this fill dumped at the Town Garage the Board has no frame of reference to determine when this might have happened. Pam reported that Mr. Albert told her it was around the time that the state was building what is now the town portion of North Groton Road. Miles said he is not looking to have Pam research 50 years of Town Reports to confirm Mr. Albert's assertion, nor does he feel that this Board should be bound by a possible decision made 50 years ago. Glen had submitted a waiver request form that the Board could review and alter to meet the needs of the Town. If the Town can use the fill then it can be stockpiled. If it cannot be used then the Board would like to give property owners an equal opportunity to request it. Kyle said the Board could then choose the recipients based upon location to the project site. Pam suggested posting this on the website. Anyone interested in receiving the fill

from ditch cleaning should contact the Select Board's office. Pam will contact Mr. Albert to let him know the Board's decision.

Rita Greenwood has contacted the Board regarding the Junkyard licensing packet she recently received. Mrs. Greenwood does not understand why the Board feels she should have a license as she does not have a junkyard, only a junky yard. The Board would like Pam to contact Mrs. Greenwood and review Ken Knowlton's past junkyard reports with her. These reports clearly note the violations. The Greenwoods have the option to fix those violations or become licensed.

The Board would like Pam to contact Health Officer Chuck Stata regarding the outhouse built at a residence on North Groton Road. The Board had received a written complaint about the structure several months ago and asked the Health Officer to look into it. To date the matter has not been resolved.

Sandra and Doug Hutchins presented the Board with several photos of the roadway in front of their home on Sculptured Rocks Road. The roadway was covered in water. Mrs. Hutchins explained that the water is coming from the field next door. She has seen the field covered in as much as 8 inches of water. Mr. Hutchins feels that the extensive logging that has been done on the properties next door and up on the mountainside beyond their house is responsible for the current water problem. They would like the Town to put in a culvert to divert some of this water. Glen Hansen said that a few years ago he had approached a prior Board about installing a catch basin and culvert to divert the water but was told that it would be too costly, too involved with wetlands and not effective. He recognizes that there is a low spot there. The area is scheduled for shimming this year. Alan Barnard is working with property owner Stanley Jackson who owns the field and the property across the street. Mr. Jackson is considering subdividing the property and installing a septic system. Glen will work with Mr. Barnard, Mr. Jackson and the Hutchins regarding the water issues. He feels the problem can be addressed. He also said that the addition of a culvert could present some significant issues with the Department of Environmental Services. Lou Lieto said the New Hampshire Cooperative Extension offers assistance in designing properly sized culverts and water diversion. Kyle would like Glen to work with Alan Barnard and the Hutchins to get the problem resolved. Christina agrees that they should start out with Glen's plan and see what develops.

Kyle made a motion to sign the 2011 MS-2, Christina 2nd, so voted.

In preparation for this year's Department of Revenue (DRA) assessment review Pam will attend the DRA assessment overview mini course in Thornton on May 5. Therefore, the Select Board's Office will be closed until 1:00pm that day.

Miles made a motion to sign the supplemental Intent to Cut for Green Acre Woodlands, Map 9 Lots 2,8,10, Groton Hollow Road, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Christina made a motion to approve the Lane request to use the Town Hall on Sunday, March 26 for a memorial to celebrate the life of Buddy Lane, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Kyle made a motion to sign the Rumney Emergency Medical and Fire Services Contract for 2011, Miles 2nd, so voted.

The Select Board's office will be closed Friday, March 25. The auditor will be in to do the 2010 MS-5.

The Board set Tuesday, May 3, for a public hearing to discuss the Building Permit guidelines, the Welfare guidelines, the Parking Ordinance and the Junkyard Ordinance.

Miles made a motion to go into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (b) at 9:01pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Miles made a motion to go out of non public at 9:22pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Kyle made a motion to adjourn at 9:23pm, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant