

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
May 10, 2011  
7:00 PM**

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

**Absent: Christina McClay**

**Audience members present**

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

**Minute Approval**

**Miles made a motion to accept the minutes of May 3 as written, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Updates**

Miles announced that the County Taxes will be increasing by about 14% largely due to the new jail.

**Appointments**

Frank Dumont of Resident Power addressed the Board and the audience. Resident Power offers the opportunity for residential electric users to purchase their electricity from someone other than their current supplier. Because they buy directly from ISO New England they are able to offer electricity at a lower rate. Mr. Dumont said they have partnered with the Towns of Claremont, Berlin, Auburn and Bedford to supply power to any of their respective property owners who choose to sign up with them. In return, the municipality can receive from \$.50-\$1.50 per month for each customer enrolled. Customers still receive the same bill with all the same charges except the power supply line. That amount will reflect the pricing offered by Resident Power. The Board is interested in investigating this proposal further. Mr. Dumont offered to supply contact information of those municipalities already enrolled in the program. He also stated that should the Town choose not to partner with Resident Power individual residents may purchase their power through the Company.

**Old Business**

Proposed Parking Ordinance, Building Permit Guidelines & Junkyard Ordinance Revisions

**Miles made a motion to adopt all proposed revisions for the Building Permit Guidelines and Junkyard Regulations, and the proposed Parking Ordinance, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles motioned that those signs that are already in place be covered by the new Parking Ordinance, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles motioned to sign these documents effective today's date, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The Board discussed the wording for the new parking signs that will be installed at the Spectacle Pond Boat Landing. They agreed on the following language: "No parking beyond this sign. For temporary loading and unloading of boats only." **Miles motioned to order the signs and posts, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Victoria Collins

Pam confirmed that Ms. Collins is able to meet with the Board on Thursday, May 19 at 6:00pm.

### Spring Cleaning at Park

Spring clean up at the Everett Hobart Memorial Park will take place on Sunday, May 15 at 9:00am. Volunteers are welcome.

### Delegation of Authority

**Miles made a motion to sign the Delegation of Authority to update it to represent the current Board and Treasurer, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### Playground Inspection

The Board received the preliminary results of the Playground Inspection conducted by the Local Government Center (LGC). A complete report is forthcoming. LGC reports that the bases on the ball field are anchored with stakes. They recommend that these be removed as the stakes can be dangerous. They further state that bases should not be secured at all as players sliding into them can be injured. Miles suggested that they take a look at the situation on Sunday while they are at the park cleaning.

### Flag Pole/Park Signs

Miles reported that the Library Trustees are fine with the Groton Historical Society (GHS) borrowing the flag pole for their event on Memorial Day weekend. Darlene Andrews has agreed to lend the GHS the flag that was given to her family when her brother was killed in Vietnam. Jo O'Connor suggested that the GHS acknowledge Darlene Andrew's brother during the event. While at the park on Sunday the Board will determine the location of the pole and whether to install a permanent or temporary anchor for it. Marina Chase reported that she and her husband are almost finished sprucing up the signs. She will contact Miles when they are ready. In order to avoid the problem of the screw eyes working their way loose in the wind, Miles suggested anchoring the signs from the bottom. Jo O'Connor reported that she does not yet know if Rich O'Connor will be repairing the remaining park sign. She hopes to know this week.

## **New Business**

### Cemetery Trustees

The Cemetery Trustees and the Board looked at the work being done to create an access to the far end of the Rolfe Hill Cemetery. The Road Agent will be removing the brush piles and the stumps that are along the rock wall. Some stone will be brought in. The Board would like the Road Agent to at least make the area passable. At that time they will reevaluate the cost of the project and make a determination regarding funding.

### Generator

Miles reported that when checking the oil in the generator he noticed that the lid was not locked. He and Kyle both feel that the unit should be locked. Pam will take care of this.

### Junkyard Dog

Ken Knowlton will begin his inspections this month. He will meet with Pam prior to visiting any properties to discuss any changes the office is aware of. The Board would like him to include the Sewall/Friend property and report on any changes. The Planning Board sent a letter to Attorney Ray (represents Sewall/Friend) inquiring about the status of the property but to date has not received a reply. The Board will also clarify whether or not there are any new properties that they would like Mr. Knowlton to look at.

### Maintenance Contract 1-2-3 Lock-Key Security

**Kyle made a motion to sign the annual maintenance contract with 1-2-3 Lock-Key Security, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** The contract amount, which increased by \$10 over last year, is \$95. The Company will remove the current carbon monoxide detector in June during the annual servicing. The Board will replace it with one that plugs into a regular electric outlet.

Maintenance Contract All-ways Accessible

**Miles motioned to sign the annual maintenance contract with All-Ways Accessible, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Contract amount is \$585 and did not change from last year.

Contract for 2011 MS-5

**Miles motioned to sign the 2011 contract with Mason & Rich for the MS-5, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** The contract is for \$3,836, an increase of \$135 over last year. Miles pointed out that over the last few years many companies have been working to keep costs down but the Board has noticed that they are seeing some increases this year.

Patti Bailey

Ms. Bailey said she knows that the Town has been looking for land for an additional cemetery. She owns a 10.6 acre parcel of land that abuts the River Road (Union) Cemetery. She would be willing to consider some kind of agreement to transfer/sell 2 or 3 acres to the Town, perhaps in lieu of back taxes owed. The portion she is considering is cleared and relatively flat, and it is directly behind the current cemetery. The Board is willing to consider this proposal. They would need to investigate all the legalities as well as walk the property. They also believe that this might be something that would need to go before the voters. Cemetery Trustees Betty Smolinsky and Pam Hamel will take a look at the property this week and give a recommendation to the Board. This will be on next week's agenda.

Building Permit Applications

The Board reviewed three building permit applications and discussed the requirement in RSA 155-d that new buildings and additions heated or cooled by fossil fuels necessitate the approval of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). **Kyle made a motion to sign the building permit for Whitworth, Map 4 Lot 6, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted. Miles motioned to contact McCarthy and Titus to ascertain whether or not their proposed garages will be heated with fossil fuels, and if they are not, to approve their applications. Further, he would like Pam to contact the PUC to see how these (structures heated with fossil fuels) are handled, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

2011 Spring Tax Warrant

The Board discussed the wording of the order to the Tax Collector that appears on the 2011 Spring Tax Warrant. Pam had prepared 2 versions for their consideration. **Miles motioned to sign the 2<sup>nd</sup> version of the Tax Warrant, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** This version makes direct reference to RSA 41:35.

**Committee Updates**

Pam Yinger gave the Board an update on the GHS' upcoming Memorial Day Celebration at the Everett Hobart Memorial Park. She requested the use of tables and chairs from the Town House, and volunteers to bring them to the park the morning of the celebration. The GHS is expecting 150-200 people. The Board is fine with the GHS borrowing the chairs and tables. Ms. Yinger noted that there is no rain date for this event.

Patti Bailey asked if there was someone who could insure that the Town House is open for the Zoning Board meetings as they have held their last two meetings outdoors. The Board responded that typically one member on each of the Town Boards will have a key and access code. They ask that the Zoning Board decide who on their Board will have the key. Pam will then provide them with an access code and key, and show them how to work the alarm system.

**Kyle made a motion to adjourn at 9:10pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant