

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
May 17, 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 10 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Updates

- The Board received a notice from the Newfound Area School District announcing that in response to citizen requests to hold the school district's first deliberative session on Saturday instead of on Friday evenings, next year's session will be held on a Saturday, February 4, 2012 at 10:00am.
- The Board signed the building permits for garages for Titus and McCarthy during their Wednesday evening work session. Pam had confirmed that neither structure would be heated.
- Senator Forrester responded to the Board's letter regarding the Department of Revenue Timber Tax Appraisal position, informing them that it is the Senate's intention to reinstate the unit.
- Governor Lynch sent a letter of response to the Board regarding the proposed Northern Pass transmission project. In the letter he states: "...this project should not go forward without the support of the citizens and communities who will be affected by it."
- The amount Grafton County will need to raise through local taxes for their proposed budget is 13.8% higher than last year.

Miles read a letter of resignation from Selectwoman Christina McClay. Christina is resigning due to personal reasons. Miles expressed his gratitude and thanks to Christina. She brought a lot to the table including diversity and her knowledge of municipal affairs. **Miles made a motion to accept Christina's resignation with regret, and thank her for her service to the Town, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Anyone interested in filling this position should submit a letter of intent to the Select Board. Deadline is June 7.

Old Business

Building Permit Guidelines

Jon Osgood from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) submitted excerpts from the state building code regarding heating sources. The code uses the term energy sources not fossil fuels. Pam printed a copy of the PUC residential energy code application for approval which is required for any new buildings or additions that will be heated or cooled. The application is short and straight forward, and the PUC offers assistance with it for anyone who requests. Kyle would like the opportunity to think about this issue before discussing it further. **Miles motioned to table this until next week, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Spring Cleaning at Park/Playground Inspection

Spring clean up at the Everett Hobart Memorial Park took place on Sunday, May 15. This included a safety inspection as well. The metal stakes from the bases were removed, and Kyle did some online research for new bases to replace the existing ones. The Board has received the full Playground Inspection Report from the Local Government Center. Overall the equipment is in good shape with only a few changes needed/recommended/suggested including addressing the pinch hazards/missing or rusted bolts on the spring horse rocker and the addition of some bark mulch or chips under the horizontal and dome climbers. Since there is no Recreation Committee at this time the Board will see that any necessary changes are taken care of.

Flag Pole/Park Signs

Kyle has volunteered to spruce up the last remaining sign for the park. The flag pole anchor will be set to the right of the sign. The Board chose to make the anchor permanent, and Miles has volunteered to do the work. Marina Chase reported that the daisy chain signs are ready.

Building Permit for Santoro/Fleming

Kyle made a motion to sign the building permit for Santoro/Fleming for a 15x13 lean-to, Miles 2nd, so voted.

We Log

During the last contact with owner Malcolm Washburn of the We Log Trucking Company, Mr. Washburn said that by late April or early May he would visit the site on Sculptured Rocks Road where damage was done to the road by his company last year. **Kyle made a motion to contact Mr. Washburn to see what the status is, Miles 2nd, so voted.** The Board asked Pam to relate to him that they would like to see this resolved at this level, but they are prepared to do whatever it takes to see that the Town gets reimbursed for the damage. Mr. Washburn was billed for \$1,005.77.

New Business

Coutu

The Board set up a work session with Richard and Tammy Coutu for Monday, May 23 at 6:30pm.

Department of Revenue Excavation Mini-Course

Neither Miles nor Kyle will be attending the Excavation Mini-Course as the Planning Board has jurisdiction over excavations. Pam reported that the Mini-Course is on the Planning Board agenda.

Tax Warrant for Escobar

Miles motioned to sign the Timber Tax Warrant for Escobar, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Questions and Comments

Pam Yinger gave the Board an update on the Groton Historical Society's upcoming Memorial Day Celebration at the Everett Hobart Memorial Park. She clarified that this is a rain or shine event.

Kyle made a motion to adjourn at 7:36pm, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant