

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
May 24, 2011
7:00 PM**

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

Audience members present

Miles called the meeting to order at 7:09pm.

Minute Approval

Miles made a motion to accept the minutes of May 17 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Miles announced that Avitar will be mailing notices to all property owners containing their new preliminary assessed values and information on how to access the Avitar website in order to view the property cards for all Groton properties. Anyone without internet access can use the computer in the Library to go online, and a listing of the assessments will be available for review at the Town Office. Avitar will be making appointments to meet with property owners at the Town House to discuss their assessment. The notice includes detailed information on how and when to contact Avitar to set up these appointments. The new values will not be implemented for tax purposes until the December tax bill. Notices should be mailed out no later than Thursday.

Updates

Anyone interested in filling the vacant Select Board position should submit a letter of intent to the Board by the June 7 deadline.

The Board met with Richard and Tammy Coutu on Monday evening to discuss the ongoing maintenance work on Nedeau Lane. They feel that the meeting went well, and the Coutus have agreed to comply with the Board's request to submit a list that in general terms lays out the work they would like to accomplish from spring through fall for the Board's review and approval.

Old Business

Building Permit Guidelines

Property owners are required to receive Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approval for any new buildings or additions that will be heated or cooled. A line will be added to the Town's current Building Permit application asking if the structure will be heated. If so, PUC approval will be required before the permit is signed. The Select Board's office will have copies of the PUC application and provide PUC contact information. Pam will try to set up a link to the PUC website on the Town's website.

We Log

Pam has placed three calls to We Log in an attempt to reach owner Malcolm Washburn regarding compensation for the damage done to Sculptured Rocks Road by his company last year. The Board is willing to wait until the beginning of the month to hear from him. If they do not hear from him, they propose to send him a letter giving him 14 days to resolve this or they will pursue the claim in small claims court. They would like Pam to make one more attempt next Tuesday to contact Mr. Washburn.

2010 MS-60

The Board reviewed the 2010 MS-60 submitted by the local auditors. Although there was one question still unanswered they felt the form should be submitted to the Department of Revenue as the deadline was March 1. **Miles made a motion to accept and submit the MS-60, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

SB 156

The New Hampshire City and Town Clerks' Association is asking municipalities to make one last effort to stop SB 156 from becoming law. This bill gives auto dealerships the authority to handle vehicle registrations. The legislation has passed in both the Senate and the House, and Governor Lynch has said he will sign it into law. Town Clerk Laura Hauser will be sending an email to the Governor. She explained that this bill could cause problems for Groton. One example has to do with residency. Because all Groton residents have a mailing address that is either Rumney or Hebron, or some other municipality there is a significant likelihood that registrations that should be accredited to Groton will be applied to other municipalities. **Kyle made a motion to email Governor Lynch on SB 156, Miles 2nd, so voted.** Pam will have a draft ready for the Board to review during their Wednesday work session.

Verizon Wireless

Kyle motioned to sign the Building Permit for Verizon Wireless, Miles 2nd, so voted.

New Business

Abatement for Cincotta Map 5, Lot 131

Miles made a motion to grant the abatement for Cincotta as recommended by Avitar, Kyle 2nd, so vote. Avitar recommends a \$1,900 reduction in the assessed value which amounts to a \$24.66 tax abatement. This amount will be applied to the balance of Ms. Cincotta's unpaid 2010 taxes.

Groton Historical Society (GHS)

Roland Bixby discussed the layout for parking/parade vehicles/vendors, etc., for the GHS Memorial Day event. They would like to put up some temporary signs to direct guests, parade participants and vendors. The Board gave them permission to put up these temporary signs. GHS has made most of the signs. Marina Chase reminded the Board that there are two parking signs that were made for the park that are currently in the Town Hall. Miles will see to posting those two signs, some handicap parking signs and the remainder of the signs that were recently spruced up by Ms. Chase and Kyle. With the Road Agent's approval the GHS may use the highway safety cones as well. The Board expressed some concern regarding the use of heavy equipment in the parade around the park perimeter. Because of an excessive amount of rain the ground is very soft. The Board agreed that this will be a game day decision. Arrangements were made for transporting tables and chairs from the Town House to the park on Saturday morning. Mr. Bixby asked if they could put a banner advertizing the event on top of the pavilion. Although the Board is fine with this, Kyle suggested that putting the banner at Ryezaks would make better use of it. The GHS will look into this. The Board asked Pam to speak with the Police Chief regarding having an officer on duty during as much of the event as possible.

Intent to Cut for Green Acre Woodlands, Inc. Map 1 Lots 29 & 33, Old Rumney Road

Kyle motioned to sign the Intent to Cut for Green Acre Woodlands, Map 1 Lots 29 & 33, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Questions and Comments

Jo O'Connor feels that the fee the Town charges for photocopies is too high. She would like the Board to consider charging \$.25 instead of \$.50. Pam will gather some fee schedules from the surrounding municipalities for the Board to use for comparison. The Town is allowed to recoup the cost of producing the copy which includes more than just the sheet of paper.

Judy Grimes, on behalf of the Spectacle Pond Association (SPA), thanked the Town for putting a picture of Spectacle Pond in the 2010 Groton Town Report. Ms. Grimes reported that the work is progressing on the pond restoration project. They poured cement today on the dam. Once the dam work is complete the only remaining item will be to repair the dike. In an effort to raise some additional money for the project the Association is

having a raffle. Prizes include a weekend get-a-way at the pond, gift certificates and firewood. The SPA is sponsoring Ben Kilham, the Bear Man, at the Common Man on June 26.

Kyle made a motion to adjourn at 8:15pm, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant