

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
November 1, 2011
7:00 PM**

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

Audience Members Present

Kyle called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

On behalf of the Select Board and Police Department Chief Joe Pivrotto presented Groton Police Officer Timothy Vincent with a letter of commendation for apprehending fugitive Christopher Patton on Friday, October 20, 2011. Patton was wanted by the Bristol Police Department on several warrants and suspected of several burglaries in the Town of Groton. **Kyle motioned to sign the letter of commendation, Ron 2nd, so voted.** The Chief also recognized Officers E.J. Thompson and Jack Foley who assisted in the initial chase of Chris Patton and subsequent investigation, and commended the Department for working together on this case.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Kyle motioned to approve the minutes of October 25 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

UPDATES

Boat Facility

Fred Sewall came to the office today to give an update on the status of the Boat Storage Facility. He reported that he visited the site and provided pictures for the Board. He expressed his disappointment that some of the items that he had been told were removed are still on site, such as the Ford front ends and a compressor. He made a personal visit to the owner of these items who said they would be removed by tomorrow. The piles of plastic and wood are still there along with one boat top and a small stack of crushed boats that were there prior to Mr. Robertie's venture. Mr. Sewall will do another personal visit next weekend and report on the status of the project. He thanked the Board for their forbearance and reiterated that they are committed to removing all items. Miles stated that judging by the photos, the property is about 99% cleaned up.

OLD BUSINESS

Letter of Response to Spectacle Pond Association

Kyle motioned to sign the letter to David Godbout, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Flush Lines in Heating System

The service tech at Fuller Fuel recommended that the lines have antifreeze in them because even though the building is equipped with an on demand generator the furnace could shut down for some other reason while the building is unoccupied and the pipes freeze. He stated that the antifreeze has additives that neutralize the ph so it will not be corrosive. There is about a 1% heating efficiency difference only. Because this system had antifreeze put in about 8 years ago and there have been some leaks, he

questioned how diluted the antifreeze is now. Fuller will check this when they service the furnace on November 10. Kyle suggested that they get the approximate cost to replace all the antifreeze before making a final decision. **Miles motioned to table this until they get that information, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Request for Speed Limit Change for River Road

Chief Pivrotto believes the speed limit of 35mph is too fast and should be reduced to 25mph. He would also like to have a caution, dangerous curve sign for the first curve. He stated that River Road is a very compact, populated area with dips, curves and blind drives. There are school children and two school busses on that road as well as three horse farms and a lot of activity. Other similar roads are also 25mph. Only 1 mile of River Road is in Groton. The Dorchester Select Board will have to address the speed limit for the remainder of the road. **Miles motioned for the Board to pursue the process that will allow them to reduce the speed limit on River Road to 25 mph, Kyle 2nd, so voted.** The Board will order 2 signs for the dangerous curve and defer to the Road Agent for the specific language.

Kirk Mediation

The Board would like to set up a meeting for sometime during the week of November fourteenth so Ken Knowlton can be present.

Letter of Commendation for the Highway Department

Kyle read a letter of commendation and appreciation to the Groton Highway Department for their work during Tropical Storm Irene and its aftermath. He would like to change the salutation to each individual member of the Highway Department. **Kyle motioned to sign the letters of commendation to the road crew after Pam makes that change, Miles 2nd, so voted, Ron abstaining.** Ron expressed thanks and appreciation to Miles for volunteering his time and tractor to help the road crew.

NEW BUSINESS

2011 Tax Rate

Kyle announced the 2011 tax rate. The Board used \$130,000 of the unreserved fund balance to reduce the Town portion to \$3.87. The overall rate is \$12.24 per thousand, a decrease of \$.74 from last year. There are about \$157,000 in unpaid taxes which is also a decrease from last year. Miles thanked the residents for paying down the unpaid taxes.

Doug Millet

Mr. Millet requested to have the old, unused culverts that cannot be reused by the Town. Ron verified that they occasionally have culverts that they cannot reuse. **Kyle motioned to allow Mr. Millett to have the old culverts, Miles 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit for Blye, Map 6 Lot 42

Miles motioned to approve the building permit for Blye, Map 6 Lot 42, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Intent to Cut for Blinstrub, Map 6 Lot 24

Kyle motioned to sign the Intent to Cut for Blinstrub, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Letter from Attorney Glavey re: McClain Survey

Attorney Glavey has requested that the Town accept the Barnard survey results giving Francis McClain a portion of Map 1 Lot 150-1. This lot was deeded by the Town in 2006 from an 'unknown' owner. Miles told the other Board members that he had the opportunity to look at some deeds for the properties in question. The distances in the deeds are significantly different from what is on the survey. He believes they should do additional research on the properties, looking at as many of the deeds in the subdivision as they can to try get an accurate picture of the area. **Kyle motioned to table this until they get additional information, Miles 2nd, so voted.**

Request from Dorchester Select Board

Dorchester Select Board member Artie Burdette contacted Miles regarding Cheever Road. He said that the supposed problem that took place on Cheever Road last year was unsubstantiated. Mr. Burdette spoke to everyone who lived on the road to verify that there was nothing wrong with the way the Groton Highway Department maintained the road last winter. Dorchester has begun some work on Cheever Road with recently received FEMA money. Because the work is not complete and the road level is uneven in areas, they want their own Highway crew to take care of it this winter. They plan to continue plowing the Groton portion of River Road. Currently Dorchester cannot maintain their portion of Province Road which is between where the bridge use to be and the Dorchester/Groton town line. They would like Groton to maintain this portion of the road. This would be seasonal maintenance for one year. Miles believes this stretch of road is probably less that ½ mile. He spoke with Glen Hansen who was already aware of Dorchester's request as Mr. Burdette had contacted him. Glen is okay with this arrangement. **Kyle motioned to have Pam draft a letter of response to the Dorchester Select Board, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Fire Proof File Cabinets

The Board reviewed quotes for a new fireproof filing cabinet. **Miles motioned to purchase the 31" FireKing fireproof filing cabinet, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Kyle motioned to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (b) at 8:31pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Kyle motioned to return to public session at 9:10pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

The Board discussed the locks at the Transfer Station including adding a dead bolt and how to deal with the frozen padlocks. Kyle will discuss getting a dead bolt for the Police Department door with the Chief.

Miles motioned to adjourn at 9:16pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant