

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
November 8, 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 7:06pm.

Kyle motioned to approve the minutes of November 1 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

APPOINTMENTS

Ed Cherian of Iberdrola Renewables gave a brief update on the status of the Groton Wind Project and introduced Kelly Revell, site manager for the project. Mr. Revell has worked on a number of wind farm projects for the Company. Currently there are 30 or so people on site. They have begun logging operations and are preparing for road construction. This will continue through the winter. Concrete work will begin in the spring with turbine deliver scheduled for next summer. They hope to be online sometime between September and November. There are a number of local/New Hampshire contractors on site with a few specialty contractors coming in from out of state. Mr. Cherian stressed that this a construction site under Federal and State OSHA rules and they are required to maintain safety. As such no one should be on the property without first contacting Mr. Kelley. Anyone with comments/questions/concerns may contact him at 503-703-3327 or at kelly.revell@iberdrolaren.com.

Glen Hansen

Glen gave a brief update on the Town paving projects. They have been doing their own paving work and saving the Town a considerable amount of money over having it contracted out. The FEMA paving work on Sculptured Rocks Road was completed today. By doing the paving work themselves they saved the Town approximately \$11,000. The paving warrant article has about \$6,000 remaining in it. As the Town has the rented paver for one more day, Glen would like to purchase 50-60 ton of asphalt to do a section of North Groton Road and the curtain of Spectacle Pond Road. The area on North Groton Road is not a candidate for reclamation as there are no major frost heaves located there. He believes this will buy us 5-7 years on that section of road. The Board agreed that this is why the money was allocated.

Regarding mutual aid: Glen reported that the Groton Highway Department has worked with Alexandria for a couple of days exchanging machinery/manpower for paving, trucking etc. This has resulted in a savings of over \$1,200 in truck rentals for one project, \$600 for another. Alexandria is asking for some assistance with paving a section of their road. They have agreed to pay Groton the cost of renting the paver for one day. They will be reimbursed by FEMA as this section of road was damaged by the storm. Manpower will come out of Glen's budget and is a part of the exchange. Glen believes this arrangement has worked very well thus far and is fair on both sides. Last year he traded work/machinery with Bristol. The Board agreed with the swapping of labor/machinery, Ron abstaining as he will be working on this project.

Miles announced that Glen received his Master Road Scholar from UNH T².

OLD BUSINESS

Heating System

The Board reviewed the cost for adding antifreeze to the lines. The service technician will check the system this week and make the necessary changes.

Request for Speed Limit Change on River Road

Kyle motioned to sign the letter of response to the petitioners requesting the speed limit change, Ron 2nd, so voted. The Board explained the statutory process for changing the speed limit. This includes either an engineering or traffic investigation to show justification for any change. The Board would like Chief Pivrotto to conduct this investigation and submit a memo with his findings and recommendation(s) to them.

Junkyard

The Board will meet with the Town attorney and Ken Knowlton at 2:00pm on Tuesday, November 15, and Mr. Kirk and his attorney at 2:30pm.

Kyle announced that the Court has entered a judgment against Mr. Newton. However, Mr. Newton has been making some progress cleaning up his property. Because of this the Board will go with the attorney's recommendation regarding contempt charges.

Letter to Dorchester Select Board

The Board asked Pam to include that the status of winter maintenance on River Road will remain the same; the Town of Dorchester will continue to plow the Groton portion of the road. **Kyle motioned to sign the letter on Thursday after this change is made, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Perambulation

The Plymouth Select Board is in agreement regarding perambulating the Plymouth/Groton Town line. Originally, it was discussed by a former Groton Board that they get documented/reaffirmed GPS points for each of the markers. Going forward these points could be more easily reaffirmed/checked. This would allow additional flexibility to future Boards when perambulating the line such as either hiring someone to check these points or having Town officials do it. The Board would like to meet with the Plymouth Board during this budget season to determine how to go forward next year. In the event they choose to expend more funds than what are currently in the Perambulation non-capital reserve fund they will have something ready for the voters in March.

NEW BUSINESS

Intent to Cut for Yankee Forest

Miles motioned to sign the Intent to Cut for Yankee Forest, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Intent to Cut for Daniel Smith

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

Request to Use Town Hall

Ron motioned to grant permission to Judie Demers and Bonnie Lane to use the Hall on Saturday, November 19 for the senior's Thanksgiving Dinner, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Preliminary 2011 Equalization Ratio

Ron motioned to sign the Municipal Assessment Data Sheets Certificate for the 2011 preliminary equalization ratio, Miles 2nd, so voted

Budget Work Session

A work session was scheduled for Tuesday, November 22 at 6:00pm.

Heat Tape

The Board would like Gary Easson to install an exterior outlet in the back corner of the building so the heat tape donated to the Town by Lou Lieto can be installed.

Disposition of Town Property

The Board agreed to research other options for disposing of Town property and save any properties deeded from unknown owners for last.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Pam Yinger submitted a picture of the Old Peppersass for the cover of the Town Report and a copy of the Groton Historical Society (GHS) annual report for the Town Report.

As a way to remember veterans, Roland Bixby submitted a picture of Darlene Andrews' brother who was killed in Vietnam. He would like to display it in the Town House. Kyle will verify that Mrs. Andrews is okay with having the photo on display. Mr. Bixby also presented Miles with a plaque thanking him for his work making the hand hewn beams that are used under the GHS museum. This plaque is mounted on a section of hand hewn beam and will be left at the museum.

Miles motioned to adjourn at 8:37pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant