

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
January 17, 2012
7:00 PM**

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

Audience Members Present

Kyle called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

APPOINTMENTS

Chandra Engelbert and Diane Scarborough from Pemi-Baker Home Community Health addressed the Board. Pemi-Baker provides home care and hospice as well as outpatient therapy. As more and more people are choosing to not keep health insurance Pemi-Baker provides the opportunity to receive care at a lower cost than the hospital. Ms. Engelbert stated that they also do blood pressure and foot clinics in Plymouth and Ashland, and are considering holding them in smaller communities as well. Ms. Scarborough explained that through these clinics someone who is diabetic or has circulatory problems can get help at a reduced cost. She also stated that instead of staying in the hospital people can request to go home for recuperation and have some in home care at a reduced price. Pemi-Baker is trying to get the word out regarding what they have to offer. They do receive Medicare and private insurance however, they are finding that Medicare is requiring more from them and giving less. Donations from municipalities are for those who have no insurance or are on Medicaid or are underinsured.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Kyle motioned to approve the minutes of January 3 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

UPDATES

We Log

The Town received a check from Malcolm Washburn for the damage done on Sculptured Rocks Road.

School Budget Hearing

The Newfound Area School District budget committee put forth a proposed budget of approximately 21.5 million dollars. This budget represents a 1.7 million dollar decrease from last year, and is the budget recommended by the School Board as well. During the meeting cuts to staff and benefits, and the possibility of moving 5th grade to the middle school were discussed. One resident asked how much of an increase would need to be proposed in an amendment at the deliberative session in order to have no staff cuts, etc. Business as usual would mean a budget equal to last year. The deliberative session is scheduled for Saturday, February 4 beginning at 10:00am at the Newfound Regional High School auditorium.

OLD BUSINESS

Assessing Proposal

The Board announced that Avitar was the lowest bidder for a fixed amount. Commerford, Neider &

Perkins (CNP) gave a fixed amount for cyclical and revaluation work but not for general assessing, abatements, etc. Their general assessing proposal had some per parcel and per hour costs that included fixed annual increases during the life of the contract. Under this proposal it would be possible to save money or expend more depending upon the amount of annual pickups etc. As the Board feels that Avitar has satisfied the needs of the community and the Department of Revenue, and is offering a fixed amount for all the assessing work, **Miles motioned to sign the Avitar assessing contract, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Tax Mapping Contract

Miles motioned to table this for another week, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Letters to Bryer/Ashley re Perley Matthews' Lots, Sculptured Rocks Road

Ron motioned to sign the letters to Bryer and Ashley regarding the Perley Matthews' lots on Sculptured Rocks Road, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Letters to Abutters of Map 10 Lot 40

The Board is seeking information regarding the ownership of a one acre lot on Halls Brook Road, Map 10 Lot 40. **Ron motioned to sign the letters to the abutters of Map 10 Lot 40 on Halls Brook Road, Kyle 2nd, so voted.** Pam will prepare an ad to be published in the Record Enterprise for the Board's review. It will include a portion of tax map 10.

Posting and Snow Date for Budget Hearing

The snow date for the budget hearing is February 8 at 6:00pm. The ad will be posted in the Record Enterprise for one week.

Blasting Schedule

The Groton Wind blasting schedule has been posted on the Town's website. They are scheduled to begin blasting sometime this month.

2012 Town office position

Kyle announced the 2012 Town Office positions that are available. Filing period runs from January 25 through February 3. Available positions are posted online.

2012 School District positions

There is one 3 year position available for School Board and one 3 year position for Budget Committee as well as a 1 year School District Moderator position. Filing period for school positions is also January 25 through February 3.

Eastern Analytical 2012 Groton Landfill Testing Quote

Kyle motioned to sign the 2012 Eastern Analytical contract, Ron 2nd, so voted. The contract is for the same amount as last year; \$2,506.

Timber Tax Warrant for Blinstrub Revocable 6/01 Trust, Map 6 Lot 24

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

Timber Tax Warrant for Raymond J Gaganon Revocable Trust, Map 6 Lot 109

Miles motioned to sign the Timber Tax Warrant for Raymond J Gagnon Revocable Trust, Ron 2nd, so voted.

2012 Candidate's Night

Candidate's night is scheduled for February 14 at 7:00 pm. Those who cannot make it that evening are welcome to address the public at any other Select Board meeting.

Roberta Smolinsky Resignation

Roberta Smolinsky has submitted her resignation as Cemetery Trustee and Trustee of the Trust Funds effective January 24. **Kyle motioned to accept her resignation, Ron 2nd so voted.**

Kyle motioned to go into non public session pursuant RSA91-A:3 II(b) at 8:21pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Kyle motioned to return to public session at 8:41pm Ron 2nd, so voted.

Miles motioned to adjourn at 8:42pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant