

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
February 7, 2012
(Meeting began after Budget Hearing Closed)

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

Audience Members Present

Kyle called the meeting to order at 8:55pm

MINUTE APPROVAL

Kyle motioned to approve the minutes of January 31 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

UPDATES

Kyle announced the Groton candidates for office. Candidate's night is next Tuesday. All candidates for school offices who will be voted on by Groton voters are welcome to attend and address the audience as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Krueger Property

Kyle motioned to sign the letter to Mr. and Mrs. Krueger, Ron 2nd, so voted. This letter explains the mistaken seizure of Map 10 Lot 12 in 2006. That lot number covers a portion of the Krueger property. With their permission the Select Board will file a document with the Registry of Deeds correcting this error.

NEW BUSINESS

Library Trustees

The Trustees are requesting to use the Town Hall/Building for the following events:

- Event#1: March 2nd and 3rd to hold a book sale. They will set up on the 2nd and hold the sale on Saturday, March 3 from 10:00am – 3:00pm. In addition, they will be cleaning and reorganizing the Library, basement and Town Hall.
- March 13, Election Day: small book sale to be held in the Library section of the building
- March 17, Town Meeting Day: small bake sale in the Library section of the building. Coffee will be available for a small donation.

The Select Board granted permission for the first event; and to the extent that they have authority over the building they granted permission for events 2 and 3 but stated that the Trustees must address this with the Moderator as he is in charge of the polls on Election Day. Trustee Christina McClay stated that the Moderator has confirmed this would be fine as long as they are utilizing the Library room. She will confirm that the voting booths will be set up in the Hall, not the Library. The Trustees are asking anyone who wishes to donate baked items or a coffee maker for Town Meeting Day to please contact Ms. McClay at 744-5274.

Hazard Mitigation Press Release

At the beginning of the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update the Town is required to post a notice of the update in a local paper. Mapping and Planning Consultant June Garneau submitted a notice to the Board for their review. Because of the cost associated with publishing the notice as submitted, Pam worked with Ms. Garneau to eliminate any unnecessary language. She presented the Board with two options. The cost for posting will go toward the Town's 25% grant match even though in the initial discussions regarding costs to update the plan there were not supposed to be any direct costs to the Town. The 25% was to come from in kind services. Pam explained that a second notice will be needed immediately before the Board signs the approved updated plan. The Board agreed to use the smaller notice as long as it meets the minimum requirements and use the Emergency Management Director's name and number for contact information.

Septic Plans for Iberdrola/Green Acre Woodlands, Map 9 Lot 8

Miles motioned to sign the septic plans for Iberdrola, Map 9 Lot 8, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Intent to Cut for Iberdrola Renewables, Map 9 Lots 2,8,10

Ron motioned to sign the Intent to Cut for Iberdrola Renewables, Map 9 Lots 2,8,10, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Avitar Software & Third Party Access to Application Data Waiver

The Board set up a work session for next Tuesday at 6:30pm to discuss this waiver with the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. **Kyle motioned to table this until the Tuesday work session, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

House Bill 1428

Jim Rubens, from the Union of Concerned Scientists, contacted Miles regarding a hearing this Thursday at 8:30am for House Bill 1428 which will abolish the renewable portfolio standard which was adopted by the State. The goal of the portfolio standard is to have 25% of the State's energy provided by renewable resources by the year 2025. Mr. Ruben's organization believes we need to get away from fossil fuels and increase the use of renewable energy. They would like Miles to speak at the hearing and convey the benefits of the wind farm for the Town. With permission from the other two Board members, Miles would speak on behalf of the Board to stress the financial benefits, the support of the Town, some job creation, and the impacts if the renewable portfolio standard is abolished. Credits that are supplied under the portfolio to companies developing wind, solar, water, or other renewable energy projects allow them to compete with fossil fuels. Ron and Kyle agreed to have Miles attend the hearing and speak on behalf of the Board.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Christina McClay announced that the Groton Public Library website has been updated with all of their minutes and upcoming events. A link to their site can be found on the home page of the Town's website.

Kyle motioned to adjourn at 9:23pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant