

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
April 17, 2012**

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

**Audience Members Present**

Kyle called the meeting to order at 7:12pm.

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

Miles asked to amend the minutes under Northern NE Telephone Communications to add the following language: "Both Miles and Kyle expressed their displeasure with Avitar's original assessment being so far off."

**Miles motioned to approve the minutes as amended, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Senator Forrester addressed the Board and gave a brief overview of her term in office thus far. She is on the Senate Finance Committee as well as the Public and Municipal Affairs Committee. The Senator stated that she feels fortunate to have heard back from so many communities during the past year, and she encouraged municipalities to continue to let her know how proposed bills will affect their day to day operations. Anyone interested in receiving her e-newsletter can sign up on the home page of her website.

**OLD BUSINESS**

River Road Speed Limit Change

The Local Government Center said the Board has fulfilled the statutory requirements for changing the speed limit on River Road. They suggested that the Board hold a public hearing and make a formal decision after the hearing. The Board agreed to hold a public hearing May 1 at 7:00pm in conjunction with the Select Board meeting.

William Jolly/Garbage Pickup

The Town does not require any specific license for garbage pickup and there is no law forbidding this. They will contact Mr. Jolly to see if he is willing to consider signing something saying he understands that he can only bring in garbage from Groton residents and that he is liable for whatever he brings in. In addition the Board agreed that businesses cannot hang any advertisements on Town bulletin boards. They can leave a business card in the magazine rack located in the hallway of the Town House.

Hazard Mitigation Grant: Town Garage/Kenney Property

Kyle asked the Board if they would consider exploring the possibility and feasibility of relocating the Town Garage to the property across from the Town House (a portion of the lot across from the Transfer Station is also a consideration). The 7+/- acre lot is currently up for sale. Kyle said he walked most of it and believes that it is suitable. The Board asked Pam to investigate the criteria for holding a special town meeting for the purpose of acquiring land, and contact the listing agency to let them know that the Town is interested in the property. If the Board determines that acquiring this property is something they will

pursue they will contact FEMA to see how this works into the grant application for moving or rebuilding the garage.

#### Site Visit to Wind Farm

The Board will meet at the Groton Wind Project office on 3A Thursday at 4:30pm.

#### Rain Date for Saturday Clean up/Inspection of the Park

The Board set Saturday May 12 at 9:00am as a rain date should they have to cancel this week's park clean up and inspection due to the weather.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Cemetery Trustees

The Cemetery Trustees are requesting that the access road to the back corner of the Rolfe Hill Cemetery be built by the end of May. The Highway Department will be doing the work. There was some discussion regarding having a solid surface to drive on yet something that would blend into the lawn. Kyle suggested using traction strips for the tire tracks and seeding the surrounding area including the middle of the roadway. The Board is okay with whatever way this can be accomplished. They also gave Glen permission to cut any trees necessary on the Town side of the rock wall.

Regarding the purchase of a piece of land abutting the River Road Cemetery; the Board asked the Trustees to solicit a minimum of three quotes for the survey and lot line adjustment work.

The Cemetery Trustees would like to utilize current Town employees to maintain the Town Cemeteries. The work would be done under their supervision with the funds coming from the Trustees' budget. They would like to be able to use Town equipment for the work. In the past employees used their own mowers and weed wackers, and Pam donated the use of her truck. The work proposed this year requires the use of the Town truck. Highway Department employee Erik Ljunggren has experience maintaining cemeteries. Glen Hansen stated that the only stipulation he has is that highway work have precedence.

#### Sculptured Rocks Road Closing

Glen reported that a large culvert on Sculptured Rocks Road between Sculptured Rocks Farm and Jewell Hill Road needs to be replaced. He has had a number of complaints from residents and has filled the sink hole caused by the failing culvert several times. He has already secured an emergency permit from the Department of Environmental Services and will call Dig Safe tomorrow. Because of the size of the project he will have to close the road for at least 4 hours. The plan is to work at night between 9:00pm and 3:00am to cause as little inconvenience as possible. Flyers will be made up and delivered to the homes in the area, posters will be put up at the Transfer Station and Town Hall, the closing will be posted on the web, and Glen will make up a large sign for the road. Depending upon the weather he is looking to do the work on Wednesday, April 25. However, that exact date will depend upon how much rainfall is received.

#### Library Trustees

Christina reported that the Library Trustees are recommending that the Board appoint Pam Yinger as an alternate Library Trustee for one year. **Miles motioned to appoint Pam Yinger to the alternate Trustee position based upon the recommendation of the Library Trustees, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted, Christina**

abstaining.

Christina reported that the Library Trustees want to hire a library assistant, and they would like to give the Board the opportunity to look at the job description and advertisement. Before getting involved in the process the Board will find out whether or not they have any jurisdiction in this. If not then they do not want to be involved. Christina stated that she will contact the Local Government Center regarding the matter.

### GHS

Tony Tavares, President of the Groton Historical Society, presented the Board with a proposal for finishing the Veteran's Memorial. Initially, the Society would like to purchase five military emblems for display, darken the lettering on the monument and put in a perimeter frame around the current base that will be filled with crushed stone or some other material. There is also a proposal to possibly add a stone walkway and benches. The stone work would be donated by Glen Hansen and done in the future. **Kyle motioned to approve the Society's proposed donation and improvement for the Veteran's Monument, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### Current Use Application for Blanchette, Map 6 Lots 29 &30, Blanchette Lane

**Christina motioned to sign the Current Use application for Blanchette, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### 2011 MS-5

**Kyle motioned to sign the 2011 MS-5, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### 2012 Municipal Resources Contract

**Miles motioned to sign the 2012 Municipal Resources Contract, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted. The contract is the identical to last year's.**

### 2012/2013 Property/Liability Update

The Board asked Pam to add the portable radios to the schedule of Town property for Property/Liability insurance.

### Intent to Excavate for Maurice Smith, Map 10 Lot 31, Groton Hollow Road

**Christina motioned to sign the Intent to Excavate for Maurice Smith, Map 10 Lot 31, Groton Hollow Road, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### Driveway Permit for Burnett

The Road Agent had made a stipulation that Mr. Burnett wait two or three weeks until the Highway Department completes ditching and grading the area before putting in the driveway. Pam will contact the Road Agent to make sure that the work gets done in the time frame indicated and ask he notify Mr. Burnett about the waiting period.

### Newton Abatement

**Miles motioned to approve the Newton abatement as recommended by Avitar, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so**

**voted.**

Quotes for the New Doors and Overhang

The Board reviewed the request for quotes for the new doors and overhangs for the Town House. They added some language for clarification and asked Pam to solicit a minimum of three quotes. They would also like to have the request for quotes for the new doors for the Police Department ready for their review at next week's meeting.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Christina announced that the Library will be open Saturdays from 10:00am-2:00pm beginning April 28.

**QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

David Leone said that it had been brought to his attention that a Town employee and resident at the Transfer Station were informing people that the Buck N' Horse Campground has e-coli in the water and was contaminating surrounding wells. For the record he did have an e-coli hit in one of his tests last year, and he believes it was nine consecutive tests after that in which there was no e-coli detected. The State Lab reviewed their original test and could not come up with a reason why it showed up in that test. It could possibly have been vandalism or just a fluke test. For the record he wants it known that there is no e-coli in his water and he is not contaminating other wells. He does not feel that it is appropriate for a Town employee to be passing on such information at the Transfer Station. When asked by the Board Mr. Leone did not want to name the employee.

**Kyle motioned to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 II (a,b), Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles motioned to return to public session at 9:57pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles motioned to adjourn at 10:05pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted  
Pamela Hamel  
Administrative Assistant