

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
October 16, 2012**

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

Audience Members Present

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Miles asked to amend the last sentence of the minutes to read “State statute does not address trespassing fowl” and remove “in the road ways”.

Christina motioned to approve the minutes of October 9 as amended, Miles 2nd, so voted.

School Board representative Vincent Paul Migliore gave the following updates:

- The School Board has made a change in their meeting format to allow for public comment on any topic at the very beginning of their session. Elected officials would be given the first opportunity to speak.
- They have hired an independent firm to do a review of the current Special Education program. Their report is due by October 22. The Board is concerned that they might be either over identifying special ed. or perhaps under identifying it.
- They have put together a study committee to look at the possibility of implementing a 3 year, K-8 pilot at the Bridgewater/Hebron Village School. The motivation is to improve student outcomes and reduce special education costs. The committee has a December target to report to the School Board.
- Superintendent Marie Ross is making recovery progress. Erik Chase, principal of the middle school, has been appointed as acting superintendent.

In response to questions from Miles, Mr. Migliore stated that to his recollection, he believes the School Board determined that the end of the junior year marks the beginning of the senior year, not the actual school start date. However, he asked for the opportunity to verify this and report back as he is not certain. Regarding the impact of the \$1.9 million budget decrease voted on in March, he stated that the Board is keeping on top of what affect this might have. Of the 15 teacher reductions throughout the district only 2 have resulted in unemployment. The other reductions were the result of retirement, resignation, etc.

OLD BUSINESS

Junkyard Letters

The Board reviewed the reports of the Faucher property on Bailey Hill Road. Because this has been considered a marginal violation the Board believes that instead of pursuing legal action it is more prudent to send a letter asking Mr. Faucher what his intentions are and let him know that it is a marginal violation.

Miles motioned to sign the Fleming letter, Kyle 2nd, so voted. Christina motioned to sign the Kolomick letter, Miles 2nd so voted. These are letters giving them 30 days to come into compliance or the matter will be forwarded to the Town attorney for further action.

Kyle motioned to sign the Lane letter, Christina 2nd, so voted.

River Road Cemetery

Because the Town is not able to locate a deed to the River Road Cemetery they will be unable to do a lot line adjustment with Patti Bailey's property. The Local Government Center said they can accomplish the same goal by doing a subdivision and that the Town is not subject to local zoning/lot size regulations. The Board agreed to move forward with the subdivision. They would like the statutory reference to the municipality not being subject to zoning, etc.

Groton/Dorchester Road Agreement

Miles motioned to sign the letter to the Dorchester Board of Selectmen regarding our arrangement for maintenance of River Road and Province Road, Christina 2nd, so voted.

NEW BUSINESS

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

The Board reviewed the EMPG agreement for mobile radios for the Highway Department and a mobile and portable radio for the Fire Chief (total cost is \$9,000, local match is \$4,500), and agreed to the terms of the agreement. **Kyle motioned to sign the EMPG grant agreement, Miles 2nd, so voted.** Funding for this was approved at the March Town Meeting.

Election Warrant

Christina motioned to sign the election warrant, Kyle 2nd so voted. The general election is November 6. Polls are open from 8:00am-7:00pm.

Building Permit for Miller

Miles motioned to sign the building permit for Miller, Map 1 Lot 41 on Betty's Lane, Christina 2nd, so voted.

North Groton Road Construction

Christina announced that the section of North Groton Road where the Road Department has been working might be closed on Thursday morning from 9:00am to approximately noon while the Road Agent grades the area and builds a crown. If he is not able to do the work on Thursday then it will be done on Friday.

Soccer Nets

Miles will take down the soccer nets. He reminded the other Board members that when he had put them up he noticed they were deteriorating, and new nets might have to be purchased next year.

Kyle motioned to adjourn at 8:23pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel
Administrative Assistant