

**TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
February 12, 2013**

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

**Audience Members Present**

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

The following individuals participated in Candidate's Night:

- Christina Goodwin: running for re-election for Select Board, Cemetery Trustee and Library Trustee. She has been a Groton resident for 20 years, appreciates working with the current Select Board and is looking forward to taking the Library into the future.
- Glen Hansen: running for re-election for Road Agent and Zoning Board. Finds the job of Road Agent very rewarding. Has a back ground in paving, road repair, welding, auto body painting, and does as much mechanical work in house as possible. He has a lot of experience with Zoning Boards how-be-it on the other side of the table as a contractor. He would like to keep in touch with the development in town.
- Jennifer Burnett: running for Planning Board re-election. She has been a resident for over 10 years and believes it is an exciting time to be on the Board as it appears that the Town is at a point where it is probably going to grow. She would like the opportunity to steer development in a direction that the Town wants to go.
- Celine Richer: running for Planning Board re-election. She has been a resident since 2006 and enjoys being on the Board. Ms. Richer says she believes that they currently have a good diverse team. They have begun work on the Master Plan and she would like to see it through. She believes that we need to consider the changes that are coming and be in control and steer the town.
- Chuck Stata: running for Planning Board. He believes the Town is facing possible uncontrolled growth, and if the Town does not get some way of identifying how to control the future then they would have no say in the development. He would like to be involved in how the Town addresses the future. Mr. Stata currently serves as an alternate on the Zoning Board.
- Jeffrey Levesque: running for School Board. He has been a resident here for 25 years, and currently owns a small business in Plymouth. He has wanted to become more involved in local matters and believes that now is time. Someone with good business sense will bring the ability to balance the needs of students and taxpayers both.

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

**Christina motioned to approve the minutes of February 5 as written, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**UPDATES**

Petitioned Warrant Articles

Christina read an email from the Town attorney stating that the two petitioned warrant articles dealing with wind development are not legally binding. "The Town cannot stop reviewing valid applications before the Planning and/or Zoning Board.....cannot require anything relating to wind farms of over 30 MW...". Therefore, the articles are considered advisory only.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Groton Wind Payments During Facility Testing Period

In order to supply a quote to install electric service at the park, the NHEC needs the following information:

- 100 or 200 amp service – the Board chose 200 amp
- distance from hook up to the nearest pole
- nearest pole number

Miles will get pole number and distance information. There was also some discussion regarding running the line underground. The Road Agent suggested this as the best option.

Regarding additional projects to earmark for the two testing period payments; Chuck Stata suggested looking at the list of things the Town needs to do that are included in the Master Plan.

### Select Board Report for Annual Report

The Board discussed/edited Christina's submission for the Town Report.

### Groton Wind Environmental, Health and Safety Plan

The Board reviewed the packet submitted by Groton Wind regarding the Company's Environmental, Health and Safety Plan. Included is a map of the snowmobile trail that runs through the property. Miles does not feel that the location of the snowmobile trail on the map is accurate. Pam will contact the company.

Groton Wind has made the decision that it is safer to use a SnowCat to access the towers during the winter months instead of plowing the roads. The Town of Rumney is contending that the roads should be open for emergency vehicle access and believes the roads must be plowed. The provision for road maintenance is not in the Rumney agreement but it is in the Groton agreement. Before going to the public meeting next Tuesday Miles would like to know the Board's position regarding this issue. Do the Board members feel that the language in the agreement speaks for itself or are they satisfied that as long as the Company has a plan on how to access the sites in case of an emergency they are okay with that decision? The Board will have a brief work session on Thursday at 5:00pm to discuss this.

### Groton Wind Signage

**Miles motioned to table this for a week to make sure that the proposed signs conform with the Site Evaluation Committee and/or Planning Board regulations for signs, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 2013 Warrant

**Christina motioned to sign the 2013 warrant, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### 2013 MS-6

**Miles motioned to sign the 2013 MS-6, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

## SB121

This Senate bill proposes to change the formula used in the meals and rooms tax distribution to municipalities. The current formula is based upon population. The new formula would apportion 44% of the total based upon the proportion of meals and rooms tax revenue collected in each municipality and 56% based upon population. This change would result in a potential cut to the Town's rooms and meals tax amount by approximately 50%. The Board does not support this bill and will draft a letter to the Town's representatives.

## Letter of Resignation

Ann Joyce submitted a letter of resignation as a Supervisor of the Checklist due to incompatibility of office. State statute says no one can hold the office of Town Clerk (according to Secretary of State and the Local Government Center this includes the Deputy Clerk) and Supervisor of the Checklist. Ann said she is resigning under duress. **Miles motioned to accept the letter of resignation with regret, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

## School Board Request to extend use of Building

The Board granted permission to the School Board to use the Town House to hold a public meeting immediately after the upcoming public hearing (Monday, February 18) in order to introduce a candidate for the superintendent's position. The School Board urges the public to attend.

## Work Session

Christina asked the Board to consider a time to schedule a work session to determine/delegate responsibilities for speaking regarding the warrant articles at Town Meeting and also to consider some items under legal in the review folder.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

The Road Committee meeting has been rescheduled to February 20 at 6:00pm and the Library Trustees meeting has been rescheduled to February 27 at 5:00pm.

Christina announced that the donated library circulation desk was picked up by RJ Crowley and will be stored with them for the remaining winter months.

**Kyle motioned to go into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 8:20pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to return to public session at 8:52pm, Miles 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Miles motioned to adjourn at 8:53pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Hamel