

**TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
November 19, 2013**

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

Audience Members Present

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Christina motioned to approve the minutes of November 12 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS

Property Across From the Transfer Station, Tom Hahn, FORECO

Mr. Hahn submitted a plan for the proposed lot across from the transfer station. Seventy-five feet has been left out on the north border as an access way for Green Acre Woodlands. As a result the lot has shifted south a little. FORECO is still working with the Department of Transportation (DOT) for driveway permits for an entrance way either directly across from the Transfer Station or to the south a little. Another option would be a shared driveway entrance at the north end of the lot but this is not something that the Board would like to pursue. Mr. Hahn explained that the property owner is considering putting a clause in the deed which states that the Town Pound would be preserved for historical reasons. The Board is fine with this as this was their intention. The property owner also asked about a skidding easement on the lot to allow them access to a log landing from one particular section without having to go all the way around the lot. The Board needs some time to think about this as they do not know how the buildings will be situated. Regarding the easement; in fairness to the people, Miles asked if this has some value that should be considered. Mr. Hahn responded that it has some value and that they could contact their appraiser to determine what kind of value change this might have. The Board also discussed the total acreage amount. This plan has 5.835 acres. The warrant article was for 6+/- . Mr. Hahn also stated that when the Town was issued driveway permits for the Transfer Station the State required a small strip of land be conveyed from Yorkshire Timber to the State where the pavement widens out. This will adjust the shape of the lot on the final plan and possibly decrease the acreage amount to 5.82.

Transfer Station Lighting

Gary Easson was unable to look at the lighting issue during the weekend. In an email he stated that he will do it on Thursday. The Board is fine with this but emphasized that he must look at the lighting by Tuesday.

Elevator Door Opener

Miles and Kyle both looked at the door opener and determined that it is a little more complicated than they would like to deal with. They will contact the company for repairs.

Letter to Groton Wind regarding DRA value assessment

The Board reviewed two draft letters prepared by the Town's Attorney to Groton Wind asking them to appeal the Department of Revenue's value assessment of the wind farm. Pam will have a final letter ready

for the Board's signature next week.

Intent to Cut for DiCecca

Mr. DiCecca submitted a notice from Probate Court which was very difficult to interpret and appears inconclusive. The Board will submit the entire packet to the Town Attorney for her review and comment, and prepare a letter to Mr. DiCecca letting him know that they are unclear based upon the documents he submitted whether or not he can legally timber that property and are referring the matter to the Town Attorney.

Cemetery Access Road Change Order

Christina motioned to sign the cemetery access road change order, Miles 2nd, so voted. The Change Order is for a change in culvert length and diameter.

Junkyard

Miles motioned to sign the letter to Mr. Kolomick, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Building Permit for AT&T

Christina submitted a copy of the new legislation that was signed into law last July (effective September). For existing towers, the height can be increased up to 10% and the base can be increased up to 2,500 square feet without going through zoning. New towers must go through any local zoning. It is unclear how the new law affects the Town's building permit process as the law contains some language regarding building codes which the Town has not adopted. The Board will seek assistance in the interpretation of the law from the New Hampshire Municipal Association.

NEW BUSINESS

Library Trustees

The Library Trustees would like to store a section of the Librarian's desk in the Town Hall (they will utilize the smaller section in the library). They are currently paying to store the desk. The Board discussed the possibility of storing it in the loft area at the garage, and will contact Glen to discuss this. They will allow the Trustees to store the desk but are not yet sure where.

NH Timberland Owners Association Request to Use Town Hall

The NH Timberland Owners Association has requested to use the Groton Town Hall for their annual meeting. The Board verified that the hall is rated for 100 people. As the Association usually has 120-140 people attend the Board cannot make the room available for them. In addition, they will contact Roger Thompson to inform him that the rating has expired.

Lakes Region Mutual Fire Association Survey

The Board will take a look at the survey during next week's work session to see what it entails.

Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Municipal Data Sharing Pool

Christina motioned to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the DRA and the Town of

Groton regarding their data sharing pool, Kyle 2nd, so voted. This allows the Town to view the assessing and mapping data of all other participating municipalities and restricts non participants and the general public.

DRA Proposed REV 600 Rule Changes

Although the DRA claims that the proposed rule changes do not increase costs, an examination of the rules shows that they will increase costs to both the municipality and the assessor (which will in turn be passed on to the Towns). In addition, the rules increase the amount of work the Town's assessing office must do. Christina is drafting a response on behalf of the Town of Bristol and will work with Pam on behalf of Groton.

Intent to Cut for Daniel Plumer, Map 2 Lot 115

Due to delinquent taxes Mr. Plumer is required to post a bond before the Intent to Cut can be signed. **Christina motioned to sign the letter to Mr. Plumer for a need to post a bond, Miles 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit for Geoff Browning, Halls Brook Road

Kyle motioned to sign the building permit for Geoff Browning, Map 2 lot 29, Christina 2nd, so voted. The permit is for a greenhouse.

House Cleaning

Deputy Emergency Management Director (EMD)

No one other than the Road Agent had indicated an interest in the Deputy EMD position. Glen Hansen has the required NIMS and ICS certifications. The Board will confirm that he is still interested in the position. Pam will contact EMD Roger Thompson to ascertain whether or not he has received his certifications.

Maass and Gibson Building Permit Applications

Mr. Maass and Mr. Gibson have not supplied the Board with the necessary information for their building permit applications to be approved. The Board has had the Gibson application since August and the Maass application since December of 2012. They will write a letter giving both applicants 30 days to supply the necessary information or the permits will be denied.

December Select Board Meetings and Work Sessions

There will be no Select Board meeting on December 24 or 31. The Board will meet on Monday, December 30. Miles will not be in attendance at the December 10 meeting and possibly some Tuesdays afterward.

Work Sessions:

- November 26 at 5:30 pm
- December 3 at 6:00 pm
- December 10 at 6:00 pm
- December 17 at 6:00 pm
- December 30 at 6:00 pm.

2013 Final Tax Warrant

Christina motioned to sign the 2013 Final Tax Collector's Warrant, Miles 2nd, so voted. This year's tax rate is \$10.95 per thousand.

Christina motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a,d) at 8:34 pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Christina motioned to return to public session at 9:20 pm, Miles 2nd, so voted.

Kyle motioned to adjourn at 9:21 pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Hamel