

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
January 13, 2015

In Attendance: Kyle Andrews, Robert Ferriere, and Christina Goodwin

Absent: Sara Smith (Administrative Assistant)

Audience Members Present

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

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Bob motioned to approve the minutes of January 6, 2015 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Disaster Relief Capital Reserve Fund

Christina updated the use of the Disaster Relief Fund for the damages to Edgar Albert Road and Sculptured Rocks Road. Upon request of the Select Board the Trustees of the Trust Funds transferred a total of \$7,710.89 to the Town's General Fund.

WebEOC Training – rescheduled

WebEOC Training is our Emergency Operations Center. The training is required and Sara has rescheduled for February 12, 2015 at 1:00pm. The Board approved the closing of the office at noon and will have Sara post.

USDA Grant Update

The Grant for the new Highway truck was received but not the full payment. The amount received so far was \$23,793.71 with approximately \$1,200 held back. The Board will have Sara check why the full amount wasn't received or if we are expected to receive any additional. Jo O'Connor inquired on the total cost for the truck and was referred to call the office for that information.

NEW BUSINESS:

Intent to Cut for Map 2 Lots 68 and 92

The Intent to Cut is for Edgar Albert Road, owners Gannon and Forrester Jon Martin. The taxes were due around January 7, 2014, but they haven't been paid as of the date of this meeting. The Board agreed that the owners need to pay their taxes or file a bond for the timber cut.

Christina motioned to table the Intent to Cut for Map 2 Lots 68 and 92 for further resolution, Bob 2nd, so voted.

Report of Cut for Map 2 Lot 81-1 and Map 3 Lots 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 18

The Report of Cut is for JH Treehouse on Edgar Albert Road in the amount of \$4,397.69. **Kyle motioned to sign the Report of Cut for Map 2 Lot 81-1 and Map 3 Lots 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 18, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Planning Board

The Planning Board asked to be added to the agenda for two reasons.

The first is a proposed addendum to the Zoning Ordinance with regard to industrial wind turbines. The Planning Board took the recent survey into consideration where the majority of surveys received back do not want to see any additional wind farms. They reviewed an existing ordinance from the Town of Temple, which was 50 pages long and edited it down to 15 pages which apply to the Town of Groton. The Planning Board is hosting a public hearing on January 21, 2015 at 7:00pm. If there are no substantive changes from this hearing then the Ordinance moves to the ballot for a Town vote. A copy of the proposed Ordinance will be given to the Select Board's office to post on the website and also have available for the public to view. Chuck Stata inquired about whether or not the proposed Ordinance has been reviewed by an attorney and Slim stated it had not. The Board offered to submit it to the Town's attorney on the Planning Board's behalf. Bill Jolly also thought that because of the change in the document, it would be best to have it reviewed. Slim Spafford agreed. Once the attorney provides feedback then Sara will get that back to Slim.

The second item was a request to add the warrant article for requesting that Province Road become a scenic road. The Planning Board could do it as a petitioned warrant article if it so chooses but they wanted the Board to consider this request first. A brief discussion was held with regard to the following questions/concerns:

- The choice of scenic versus historic – scenic keeps the road historic and is regulated by the Town, but historic is a much longer process that is a State designation only.
- Did the Planning Board consider protecting the Cockermouth River as part of the scenic cut of the road? Slim explained that the land up to the river is all private property but not something that can be done as part of the scenic road.
- Does the Planning Board know where the survey of the road is? Slim confirmed that the Planning Board has all of the points and doesn't need to do an additional survey.
- Concerns were raised about a letter disputing the scenic warrant article from an abutting landowner that isn't a registered voter. These concerns would be discussed at Town Meeting.

The Board took this under advisement and will discuss at the Work Session on Wednesday and let Slim know by Friday.

Memo from Sara

Martin Luther King Day is considered to be a Float Holiday for the Town of Groton. Sara has asked for Fridays, March 6 and May 1. She has also requested for a Vacation Day for April 30. The Board is fine with this as long as Sara has the time and posts the closings. **Christina motioned to approve all three days as requested, Kyle 2nd, so voted.** Kyle believes that the holiday has been changed from Martin Luther King Day to Civil Rights Day. The Board will have Sara update the paperwork as needed.

Excavation/gravel mini course

Sara inquired about taking time to attend the Excavation/gravel mini course, which has a tentative date of February 26, 2015 from 9 to 12. Christina mentioned to Slim Spafford that the Planning Board might be interested in attending for Excavation purposes as well. There is a small

fee associated with the course. The Board agreed that this is fine for Sara to attend and to have the office posted.

SELECT BOARD ITEMS

Letter to the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC)

Christina read the proposed letter and some changes will need to be made. The changes will be completed and signed at Wednesday night's Work Session so that the letter may be submitted this week.

Open positions

Christina read the list of open positions for the Town of Groton, the Newfound Area School Board and the Newfound Area School Budget Committee.

Budget reminder

The Board agreed to notify the Departments that any 2014 receipts/bills need to be submitted by the end of the week. Sara will contact them to inform. There may be two check runs on Tuesday, one to finalize the 2014 budget and one for the 2015 budget.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Open positions

Jo inquired on getting a copy of the list of open positions so that she can add to her column. Christina will make sure she gets a copy.

Kyle motioned to adjourn at 7:57pm, Bob 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christina Goodwin
Select Board