

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
January 20, 2014

In Attendance: Kyle Andrews, Robert Ferriere, Christina Goodwin and Sara Smith (Administrative Assistant)

Audience Members Present

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

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Bob motioned to approve the minutes of January 13, 2015 as written, Christina 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Intent to Cut for Map 2 Lots 68 and 92

This was the Intent to Cut that was discussed at a previous meeting. Christina explained that the residents came in and paid their taxes.

Kyle motioned to sign the intent to cut for Map 2 Lots 68 and 92, Bob 2nd, so voted.

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.

Kyle mentioned that we need to pick a candidates night as well. He explained we have seven more Tuesdays until Town Meeting so we can schedule this at a later time. Christina explained that candidates running for all open positions are allowed to speak and answer questions and the Board usually picks two nights for this to happen.

NEW BUSINESS:

Road Maintenance Issues

Kyle mentioned that he received a complaint about the roads not being plowed or sanded or salted before the school bus. The complaint said it happened more than once. Kyle mentioned that the Board talked to Glen and he over slept and didn't realize it snowed and will not let it happen again.

Health Trust Certification to Protect Information

Christina went over the letter that the Town received from HealthTrust and explained it is regarding privacy issues and protecting information.

Bob motioned to sign the Health Trust Certification to Protect Information, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Joe Koslow

Joe presented the lists from Gilford and Laconia which shows their fees for a dump sticker and for items dropped off. Kyle mentioned he never wants to charge the Groton residents for this and if we decide to go with a sticker it should be free. Christina explained that we have talked about this before and the dump would like these to be handed out. We have a lot that are from previous years that we can use, the year wouldn't matter. The Board explained that we should hand these out with registrations. They would be

able to get them from the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office. Anne stated that there are only about 100 left of the older years stickers. When these are gone we will order more.

Joe would like to know how we are going to communicate this to the Town. Christina explained we should get through budget first and then we can revisit this to decide the process. Slim mentioned that we used to get these in with the tax bill. The Board stated that this is a good idea and this will allow us time to order more and fine-tune the process.

Joe asked about the window in the Transfer Station. Kyle talked to Matt Fysh about this and he will be in soon to do this.

Joe also said that he talked to Joe Higgenbotham and he will be in to measure the garage door. We will look at the Transfer Station budget so we can look at adding the cost to do the repair to the budget.

Joe also mentioned that Glen still hasn't come to get the scrap metal. Sara talked to Glen last week and told him this needs to get done. Kyle asked that Sara contact Glen. The Board agreed to a deadline by the end of this week since the weather will be nice.

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Cleaning

Kyle asked Sara if she talked to Cassandra about cleaning. Sara and Cassandra have been playing phone tag. Sara will try calling again tomorrow morning or will talk to her when she comes to pick up her check.

Key to bulletin board

Laura doesn't have a key to the bulletin board. The Board agrees that Laura should have a key in Sara's absence to be able to post. Sara will look for an extra key and have one made if there isn't one.

Scheduling Work Sessions for budget

Christina explained that we need to schedule more meetings. Kyle mentioned that he would prefer to come in at 4:00pm next Tuesday to get it done and then we can schedule more if needed. Sara will see if the meeting with Robert Berti can be at 4:00pm or sometime between 4:00pm and 7:00pm.

Ordinance from attorney

Christina mentioned that someone asked if the public can have the notes from the attorney. We are not sure if this will break confidentiality. Sara will check with Laura Spector to see if we can do this.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Chuck Stata

Chuck returned his key to the building. The Board asked if he is still on the Zoning Board. He stated he is. They would like him to keep the key so someone from the zoning board has access to the building for meetings.

Slim Spafford

Slim mentioned that the concerns from the attorney were addressed and the proposed ordinance revised. Sara confirmed that the revised version was put on the website as of Tuesday.

Slim also wanted to inform the Town that Sherry is not running this year for the SAU Budget Committee. The School Board meets all year round but the Budget Committee does not. If someone is looking for a part time position they should apply for this.

Slim also mentioned that every year there is a warrant article for money to be added to the Fire Capital Reserve Fund. Slim feels that Groton will never have a Fire Department so we should not be putting the funds into this. He explained that last year it was agreed to reduce the warrant article down to \$0.00. Slim said that he feels the \$55,000.00 that is in this fund could be used for areas that we need it. Christina explained that we haven't gotten the numbers from Rumney and there is probably going to be an increase. Kyle stated that because of all these increases he believes that maybe not in our lifetime but this Town will need its own Department. The Town wanted this fund and last year was the first year it was ever zeroed. Christina also said that the Hebron contract expires this year and we have a heads up that it will go up next year. She said she isn't saying the Board is for or against this but it should be heavily weighed before just closing this account. Joe Koslow states that we don't have the population in this Town but since we don't know what the future will bring we shouldn't close this. Kyle said he doesn't want to dissolve the fund but agrees maybe we shouldn't put money into it again this year. Bob agrees that even if we put zero in for a few years that we should keep the fund open in case we need it that we can use in the future for volunteer firemen. Christina mentioned that it could be like a satellite station. Joe Koslow mentioned that the majority of the calls to this area are ambulance calls. Christina also mentioned that some peoples insurance is affected by how far away your fire trucks are.

Chuck Stata mentioned that there is an Emergency Planning Conference in Manchester on June 10th.

Christina mentioned that we haven't finalized the warrants but we think it should go to the Town. Kyle mentioned that Slim can petition against this warrant or to make it 0.00 again.

Scenic Road Warrant Article

Slim asked where this stands. Christina explained that the Board agreed to put this on the warrant article with the same language as last year.

Full day kindergarten

Christina asked when the public hearing is for the full day kindergarten. Slim was not sure. Christina explained there is a warrant article for \$250,000.00 to have full day kindergarten so they have to hold a public hearing through the school to go over the pros and cons and answer any questions.

Kyle motioned to adjourn at 7:50pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant