

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
May 5, 2015

In Attendance: Christina Goodwin, Robert Ferriere, John Rescigno

Audience Members Present

Christina called the public hearing to order at 7:06 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING ON RSA 74:10 – REGARDING ONE’S LIABILITY TO BE TAXED

Mr. William Jolly inquired on the email he sent while he was away to make sure that it covered the annual inventory. Christina responded that it did.

Christina explained that the RSA indicates, that Towns who use the inventory form, must hold a public hearing to discuss one’s liability to be taxed, but there are no guidelines on discussion other than this.

Hearing no other comments or questions, **Christina motioned to close the public hearing at 7:10pm, John 2nd, so voted.**

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Bob motioned to approve the minutes of April 28 as written, John 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Meeting Room Name Suggestions

The Board had requested suggestions for naming the meeting room and agreed to poll the audience to determine what the new name would be. Suggestions were the Victoria Collins Room, the Groton Community Room, the Rolfe Meeting Room, the 1810 Room, the Veteran’s Hall, the Polling Place and the Groton Historical Room. After polling the audience, the Board agreed that the new name would be the Groton Community Room.

Video taping

Christina reminded the public that the meeting was being video-taped. A posting was placed on the outside of the door to update people as they come into the building.

Mr. Jolly inquired on the Town considering a Youtube channel, which would allow a lengthier archive of meetings. The Board agreed to look into this possibility. The Board has talked about adding videos to the website for townspeople to access easily. Links can be added to Facebook and other sites to access the videos as well. The Board will have Sara look into the website options.

Road Bans

Town Road bans have been lifted and the signs should be completely removed this week. The State removed their bans at the end of last week.

Transfer Station Ad

The Board is advertising for a Temporary Part-Time Attendant for the Transfer Station. John asked to add that applicants must be 18 years of age or older and applications will be accepted through May 22, 2015. The corrected ad will be placed in the Pennysaver, on the website, at the Town Offices, and also the Transfer Station.

Fraud Information Class

The Police Department sponsored a Fraud Information Class on April 29th. There was a packet of information that was distributed, which has been added to the website for anyone to view. The Police Department is looking to hold additional classes this summer.

Agenda Postings

Agendas will be posted by the end of the work day on Mondays. Currently, the website has an option for Select Board Meeting Minutes, which will be changed to Select Board Meetings. Under this title will be Agendas and Minutes. Agendas will be on the site until a new one is posted. The process will be better fine-tuned once started.

Mr. Jolly inquired about archiving agendas. Christina explained that there is not a requirement to post an agenda, but the Board has agreed there is a benefit to posting the agenda for the public in advance. In addition, the minutes are the official transcript of the meeting so there should be no need to archive the agenda. Therefore, at this time, there is no plan to archive but if there is a need, the Board will take this under advisement.

Reports of Cut – Map 2 Lot 48/Map 2 Lots 68 and 92/Map 5 Lot 158

These reports had an error on the billing, which did not affect the amount. **John motioned to re-sign the reports for Map 2 Lot 48, Map 2 Lots 68 and 92, and Map 5 Lot 158, Bob 2nd, so voted.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Report of Cut – Map 1 Lot 59

The Report of Cut for Map 1 Lot 59 was for a location off of North Groton Road for owner Andrew Carroll with Duke's Logging completing the cut. **Bob motioned to sign the Report of Cut for Map 1 Lot 59, Christina 2nd, so voted.** The Tax amount is \$471.51.

Reminders will be sent to any Intent to Cuts that have not filed reports as the reports are due by May 15, 2015.

Intent to Cut – Map 2 Lot 48

The Intent to Cut for Map 2 Lot 48 is for a property located off of North Groton Road under owner Morning Dove Holdings, LLC with Jon Martin of Martin Forestry the logger. **Bob motioned to sign the Intent to Cut for Map 2 Lot 48, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Septic Plan – Map 6-22-5

The Septic Plan for Map 6-22-5 was received by the Board to verify the correct owner, address and Map/Lot #. The Septic Plan is for Alan & Mary Barrett on Rock Road. **John motioned to sign the Septic Plan for Map 6-22-5, Christina 2nd, so voted.** There were only three copies submitted.

Office Closings

Christina reported that Sara has returned to full-time status, but to call ahead for this week and then next week all hours should be back to normal. The Administrative Assistant inquired on taking time off, which is done under comp time, vacation time or taken with no pay. The following hours and dates will apply: Tuesday, May 19 closed from 8 to 11; Thursday, September 10 open from 7 to 3 and closed after 3; Friday, September 11 closed for the day; Wednesday, July 15 closed; Thursday, July 16 closed; Friday, July 17 closed. The Board approved all closings and will have them posted.

Avitar Concern

Christina requested that this item be added to the agenda, as Avitar wasn't giving advanced notice as requested when doing property visits. Christina filed a complaint with Avitar and received an apology from Mark Stetson that he should have let us know. Christina would like the Board to write a letter to Avitar to express their concerns. The Board agreed and a letter will be created for next week's meeting.

Avitar will be out in the community in the next two weeks to finalize their property visits. The Board will have Sara post this information on the Town's website.

Mr. David Leone suggested that the Board add a blurb to any building permit issued that alerts property owners that Avitar will visit the property to assess the changes. The Board agreed that this might be a good alternative.

Avitar visits properties when building permits are issued, when the Board requests that a property is reviewed, when a change is indicated on an inventory, or when a property is considered under construction. Properties could be visited multiple years in a row until the changes are considered complete.

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Police Chief

The Board will be posting an advertisement soliciting for a Full-Time Police Chief as Chief Pivrotto will be retiring in March 2016. Resumes will be accepted through September 25, 2015. The ad will be placed on NHMA's website, the Town's website, the Union Leader, any free sites, and in the building.

Private road concern

The Board has received comment from the Town's attorney with regard to the private road concern. The person inquiring is going to be notified first and then the public will be notified at next week's meeting.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Joe Koslow inquired on the items listed for repair/update from the Joint Loss Safety Committee Meeting (JLMC) and if those items have to be paid for out of his budget. The Board agreed that they should but that not all items have to be done this year. The list can be prioritized and the most important things accomplished this year. Also, it was reported that Glen Hanson is able to do some of this work at minimum cost to the Transfer Station. Joe was asked to get a quote from Glen and then a Work Session can be scheduled to look at the budget with Joe.

Mrs. Anne Joyce inquired if the Transfer Station still takes money in. It was explained that it does, but budgets have to be gross budgeted and then offset with revenues, as you can't expend what you haven't budgeted.

Mr. Leone inquired on his inventory. He put it in the outside mailbox on the 15th, it was stamped on the 17th and then returned 10 days later. Any of the inventories that were considered late by a few days are being reviewed. One of Sara's recommendations have been to review and wave fees because the office was closed during this time frame and there were some discrepancies that are being researched.

Christina advised Mr. Jolly that the Board has been working on his inquiry about elections. She referred him to the minutes for last week's conversation and that a more formal response will be issued within the week.

Having no other business to come before the Board, **Bob motioned to adjourn at 8:09 pm, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Christina Goodwin
Select Board