

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
November 17, 2015

In Attendance: Christina Goodwin, Robert Ferriere, John Rescigno, and Sara Smith
(Administrative Assistant)

Audience Members Present

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:09pm.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Bob motioned to approve the minutes of November 10, 2015 as written, Christina 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Quote for Deck and Stain

Christina explained that we had received an additional quote on two projects for the outside deck replacement and the staining of the emergency egress, last week. After getting clarification on the railings for the deck, an updated quote was provided for the two projects totaling \$1,863.35. **John motioned to approve the deck and stain quote with Paul Cole, Bob 2nd, so voted.** Sara will ask Paul to draw up a contract for the Select Board to sign. The Select Board also agreed to go with clear stain.

Senior Dinner

The date was set for Saturday, November 21, 2015 from 11:30am-1:00pm. Alison Bagley is the contact with regard to any questions, delivery requests or to donate and she can be reached at 744-5268.

NEW BUSINESS:

2015 Equalization Municipal Assessment Data Certificate

Christina explained the equalization review process. The Town received the preliminary equalization ratio from Mark Stetson of Avitar and explained that being as close as possible to 100%, which is representative of market value, is the goal. The Town's preliminary ratio to be submitted to the Department of Revenue (DRA) is 98.94%. The Board agreed to sign the Data Certificate, submit it to the DRA and submit the data electronically to the DRA. Once the DRA reviews the information and finalizes it, they will send the Town a completed ratio study. **Bob motioned to sign 2015 Equalization Municipal Assessment Data Certificate, Christina 2nd, so voted.**

Transfer Station RFP's

The Transfer Station Request for Proposal (RFP) was sent to Casella, Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) and Waste Management. The RFP was updated and resent, as there were multiple contracts with different expiration dates. The proposals received were from Casella and Waste Management. NRRRA emailed that they were not going to submit a proposal at this time but offered their input if needed. The RFP's from both vendors are not clear, therefore, the Select Board chose to schedule meetings to review the information submitted before a decision is made. Sara will contact them to see if they can meet on Tuesday December 1st at 5:00pm and 5:30pm.

Holiday Meeting Schedule

With the Holidays fast approaching, the Select Board discussed meetings and decided that the Select Board would not meet on Tuesday, December 22, 2015. They will review the schedule once again to determine if they should meet on December 29, 2015 or not.

December Work Sessions

The Select Board scheduled work sessions for the month of December to continue the budget process. The sessions are:

- December 1, 2015 at 5:00pm
- December 8, 2015 at 5:00pm
- December 15, 2015 at 5:00pm

December 29, 2015 will be decided at a later time.

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Transfer Station Repairs

Bob inquired on the boards and cement he saw at the Transfer Station. Richard Cross confirmed that this was for the bollards to be installed around the propane tank. Richard wasn't clear on the time frame for completion, but the Select Board decided that Glen should have this done by the end of next week along with the guardrail project and also the paving projects.

Resignation from Cemetery Trustees

Christina explained that she has submitted her resignation from the Cemetery Trustees. If anyone is interested in joining Sharon Nelson and Elizabeth Jespersion as a Trustee they should contact the Select Board Office.

Town Report

Christina asked if the other board members would like her to write up the letter from the Select Board for the annual Town Report. They agreed.

Christina also mentioned that we should think about the dedication. Sara recommended that since Jo O'Connor has been so involved that it would be nice to dedicate it to her and since her husband was a Selectman who has passed away it would be nice to dedicate it to them together. The Board will review other potential candidates and make a decision in the next week.

Christina also explained that the Board is soliciting submissions for the cover photo for the Town Report.

Tax Rate Setting

Christina explained that we hope to have the tax rate set tomorrow. We have a preliminary number, which has not been approved by the Department of Revenue (DRA) and it is anticipated that the rate will be the same or lower than last year.

Light at Transfer Station

Bob mentioned that Richard Cross inquired about installing a new light at the Transfer Station. Christina explained that this will need to be added to the budget for next year and Joe should get a quote to provide the Select Board with a number.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Electronics

Joe Koslow explained that they are picking up a watermelon box and a pallet so they are ready to go with storage for the electronics. The Board will discuss fees with Joe and Richard on December 1st at 6:00pm.

Assessment Data Certificate

James Gaffey asked if by signing the Assessment Data Certificate does this mean that the Board is agreeing to something. Christina explained that this means the Board is agreeing to submit the information to the Department of Revenue.

James also asked if the 22 sales that the Assessor used are qualifying sales in other towns? It was explained that these are in Groton only and are a mix of properties.

Quote on Deck question

James asked if the quote on the deck was a response from an invitation to bid that was sent out. Christina explained that we did not do an invitation to bid, we just solicited for quotes. We solicited for four to five but only received two for the deck and two for the egress.

Having no other business to conduct, Christina motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91A:3(b) at 7:54pm, Bob 2nd, so voted.

After the non-public session, the minutes were sealed. Christina motioned to adjourn the public meeting at 8:33pm, Bob 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant