

Town of Groton
Select Board Work Session Minutes
November 8, 2016

In attendance: John Rescigno, Kyle Andrews and Christina Goodwin

Absent: Sara Smith, Administrative Assistant

Christina called the meeting to order at 4:55 pm.

Fairpoint Appeal – Letter for Avitar

The Board discussed the negotiations for the settlement in the Fairpoint appeal. A letter granting permission to Avitar to act on the Town's behalf in the negotiations will be written. **John motioned to compose a letter granting Avitar permission to act on the Town's behalf during negotiations with Fairpoint, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Review of Credits/Exemptions

Christina and Sara would like to meet on Monday night after hours to review the current credits and exemptions. Christina asked the Board if they would approve the extra time for Sara. **John motioned to approve the time to review credits/exemptions, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Complaint – Brock Lane

The Board discussed the response to the complaint between neighbors on Brock Lane and formulated an email response, which was sent during the Work Session. Mr. Aguiar was advised that this is a civil issue that Mr. Leone is in compliance.

MS-5 Issues

There are some questions from the Department of Revenue (DRA) regarding discrepancies in the MS-5 reporting from the Town's financial audit. Sara is working with the DRA to answer the questions. This is delaying the tax rate from being set. Christina also feels that the Board should consider other auditors for 2017.

Computers

Christina met with a computer company to discuss options for the Town of Groton. The company recommends that the Town consider leasing a server to get all the computers set up with backups, antivirus etc. The Board will need to discuss this more during budget season.

Agenda – 11/15

The Board reviewed the Agenda for 11/15/16.

Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge

Kyle will check with some vendors for information on the Bridge project. Christina will check with the vendor KV Partners, LLC.

Budget

The Board reviewed the budget submissions for: Advertising Regional Association Dues, Executive, Financial Administration, General Government Buildings, General Insurance, Legal, Other General Government, Parks and Recreation, Patriotic Purposes, Personnel Administration, Health, and Welfare.

Questions/To Do:

- Comp time vs Overtime – what is the law? Can employee choose to take or what is the Town's policy?
- Eliminate the Overtime lines in budgets
- Will Workmen's Comp go up if there is another full-time officer?
- Are there any other alternatives to the Junkyard Dog?
- What was billed out of Grants?
- Why over on maintenance – get break down for this line?
- Electricity status – get monthly break down for new billing
- Reduce lines to 0 in Health Budget – Supplies/Postage and Mileage
- Board will continue to be Health Officer and propose to split the stipend for the work but not eliminate in case a new Board chooses to appoint a Health Officer
- Add funds to Training in the Health Budget – change to \$350
- Add funds to the Dues in the Health Budget – change to \$100
- Review full budget and come back with questions

Zoning

John inquired about Groton looking into a Building Code Officer. Christina explained that the Town cannot enforce building code unless they adopt building code and she doesn't feel that they are at that point in Groton. She said the Fire Chief can enforce the Life Safety, which is the mirror of Building Code.

Christina motioned to go into non-public pursuant to RSA 91-A: II, (a) and (j) at 6:30 pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Christina motioned to return to public session at 7:15 pm.

Christina motioned to seal the non-public minutes, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Christina motioned to adjourn at 7:16 pm, John 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Goodwin
Select Board