

TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
August 16, 2016

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

**Audience Members Present**

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

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

**Christina motioned to approve the Work Session minutes of August 2, 2016 as written, Bob 2nd, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to approve the Non-Public Work Session minutes of August 2, 2016 as written, John 2nd, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of August 2, 2016 as written, John 2nd, so voted.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Iberdrola presentation of check*

Pamela Hamel from Iberdrola presented the Police Department with a check for their protective vests. Pam explained that Iberdrola changed their name to Avangrid Renewables, Inc. after merging with a utility in Connecticut.

EJ was wearing one of the vests that had been purchased by the donation from Avangrid. EJ explained that the former chief was thinking body cams but the state hasn't come up with a policy yet and the older vests were outdated. He explained that soft body armor as changed. It used to be under the clothes and now it is on the exterior.

The Police Department explained how appreciative they are for the donation.

Pam asked what the update is for the grant for the cisterns/dry hydrants. It was explained that the Fire Chief recommended pull off locations for stationing a pump truck or pump and we reached out to Eva at Avangrid to see if it was okay to use the money donated.

*MS-1 Extension Request*

The Department of Revenue requires that an extension be filed if the MS-1 will not be submitted by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Avitar contacted us and let us know that since this is the year of the re-valuation that we should request the extension. We are meeting with Avitar to go over updates on August 30, 2016 so this would not allow enough time after the meeting to enter all of the information and file the MS-1. **John motioned to sign the MS-1 extension request, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

*Easement and quote from NHEC*

The Select Board asked that NHEC come out and review the property at the field and then provide a quote to run electricity there. We have received this information. We would need an easement to run the electric. **John motioned to sign accept the quote and easement from NHEC, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

*Report of Cut- Map 2 Lots 115 & 115-4*

The report of cut for Map 2 Lots 115 & 115-4, which is located on River Road, were filed. The total billed amount will be \$131.76. **Christina motioned to sign the Report of Cut for Map 2 Lot 115 & 115-4, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

*Intent to Cut-Map 2 Lot 115-5*

Rick Simula submitted an Intent to Cut for his property on Map 2 Lot 115-5, 189 River Road. A timber tax bond was required and collected. **John motioned to sign the Report of Cut for Map 2 Lot 115-5, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

*Solar Power for property at the new Town Garage location*

Slim met with the company regarding solar power. He was informed that we would need to submit the forms by September 1<sup>st</sup> in order to be guaranteed the best return rate. This will not commit the Town to anything; it will just guarantee the rates. Sara had provided three months of electric bills for the Transfer Station, the Town House and the current Highway Garage.

Slim met with the salesman and took him to the site of the new garage and showed him where the building will be located and where he thought the solar panels would be located. He thought on the ground would be better due to the wind up here on the mountain. The gentleman said the spot we had was good but he would rather put it on the roof, as it is cheaper. The only thing that may get in the way is the gables on the roof may have to change.

The next step is that he will be sending the information to Sara in a few days and there are two forms that will need to be signed. One is an intent to send to the NHEC and then the PUC. There is no obligation to the Town to complete the project. Christina stated we would have to bid this project out so we have to make sure there is also no obligation to do the project with this company.

Slim mentioned that the reason that we gave bills for all buildings is because we will get a break in the bill at all town buildings, not just the garage.

Pam said that she would imagine that anyone that would want the job would have to meet the same deadline. It is the state that gives the lower rates so Pam doesn't think this would lock us in with a certain company. Pam also said we should look at how long we are locked into the rates.

Christina mentioned if the Select Board needs to come in before the next Select Board meeting on August 30, 2016 then Sara will let them know, forward the email and we can set up a work session to discuss this, review it and sign it.

The Select Board thanked Slim for his work on this.

*Quote for front deck paint job*

Paul Cole re-submitted the bid/quote to complete the painting project on the front deck. He changed the quote to reflect the natural stain instead of paint on the floor of the deck but keeping the white paint on the rails. The total quote to finish the job is \$435.00. **John motioned to sign the quote for the front deck stain/paint, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**SELECT BOARD ITEMS:**

*Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA)*

John was involved with a project with NLRA about what affects the lakes. He wanted to let the Town know that there is a Meeting tomorrow at the Bristol Town Office from 6:00pm-8:00pm and everyone is welcome to attend.

*Park*

Under the Pavilion at the Park has been paved. We chose the paving because it was cheaper, quicker and made under the pavilion safer and better to use.

*Old Home Day (OHD)*

Christina explained that Old Home Day is scheduled for this Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. The signs have been put out, posters have been put up, and everyone is looking forward to a good time. 5:00pm is the lineup for the parade. If you are interested in being in the parade show up to Town garage at 5:00pm and the parade will start at 5:30pm. 6:00pm is the barbeque, 630-830 live music with the Express Revival Band, which is the same as last year and at dusk is fireworks. There will be raffles and we received a donation of tickets for John Cafferty & the Brown Beaver Band and there will also be gift cards. Once again there will be guessing jars. The letters to abutters went out last week, letters to business were also sent out last week, the fireworks will be picked up tomorrow and Gary Easson will set up temporary lighting like last year.

Ruth asked who is cooking. We are not sure yet. John and Gina are picking up the food. Ron will donate the popcorn maker.

*Reminder*

The Services for Pam Yinger are August 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at the church in Hebron. Elizabeth added that if anyone would like to speak they can at that time.

*MS-434*

Revised estimate revenues for Groton. Sara submitted this as an FYI. The Select Board does not need to sign it but needs to review it. The estimated revenues for 2016 are about \$767,000.00.

*Request for Town property*

OHD Committee requested to use Hobart park, Town Office tables and chairs, and the Town's grills, generators, etc. The Select Board is okay with this.

*Added days for closings*

This Friday August 19th the office will be closed and Tuesday August 23rd the office will be closed from 11:30am-1:30pm.

### *Gary Easson Septic*

There have been some concerns on Gary Easson's septic. Gary didn't know what was there when his Dad passed away, but he has done what the Board has asked and the Board will continue to work with him until everything is finalized. Bruce Barnard has been working on it and submitted a septic plan.

### *Laconia Monument*

Laconia Monument has approved the use of the D2 biological cleaning agent on the Town signs. The Select Board is okay with the Cemetery Trustees using this to clean the town signs.

### *Evaluation Training*

Christina asked if any of the Select Board members were able to attend tomorrow's evaluation training. They are not. Sara will tape record the training and will also send over any PowerPoint Presentations or any handouts.

### *September meeting schedule*

The Select Board would like to continue every other week meetings through September. September 13<sup>th</sup> is the State Primary elections so we will meet September 6<sup>th</sup> and September 27<sup>th</sup>. On the 27<sup>th</sup> we will revisit the meeting schedule to see if we can still continue with the current schedule of every other week. We will have to move the Department Head meeting to the 27<sup>th</sup>.

### *Driveway concern from last meeting on North Groton Road*

Christina updated the concern discussed at one of the last meetings regarding the driveway. We looked into it and there was no driveway permit granted, there are no approvals, it was just a discussion.

### *Resignations*

Kyle Andrews has resigned as Animal Control Officer (ACO) effective immediately. The Select Board met with the Police Chief and we are not going to hire a new ACO yet, the Police Department will cover the calls and EJ is looking into options. **Christina motioned to accept Kyle Andrews resignation with regret as he did an excellent job, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

The next resignation was from Bob Ferriere as he is resigning as Member of the Select Board as of September 1, 2016. The Select Board will be taking intent letters from any interested parties that would be willing to take over from September 1st to March until Elections. We would like to fill this before Bob leaves so intents will be accepted by the next meeting. **Christina motioned to accept Bobs resignation, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.** Christina thanked Bob for everything he has done and explained that we do not like to see him go. Bob said it has been a great 30 months and he has learned a lot but it is time to move on.

### *North Groton Road Project*

Paving will take place Saturday August 27<sup>th</sup>. Be prepared for delays. This has to be finished before school starts on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

### *NHEC*

A member of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) met with the Select Board regarding spraying. They are concerned that we do not allow it and asked the Select Board to consider letting the property owners decide if they can spray. The Select Board is not comfortable considering it has been voted on at two different Town Meetings. Both warrants, 1972 and 2008, were not clear if it is just the big powerlines or the lines that run through town. We will add a warrant for March 2017 meeting to clarify this and so we can get a vote to move forward. We have the information from them with how they

spray. We will invite them to the Town Meeting so they can answer questions if needed. We will put the letter and the data sheets online for everyone to review.

Slim said that in 2008 someone from NHEC came to speak at the meeting.

#### *Rumors around Town*

EJ wanted to update the Town about some rumors. It was said there are robberies and attempted robberies around Town. EJ said there have not been any while he has been on and the only thing the State Police covered was a domestic assault. EJ looked into it a little more because he was worried if this is going around but they are not being reported. He back tracked it to the houses. A month and a half ago there was a burglary which he is aware of. There was a suspicious truck that went down someone's driveway but there was no burglary. He was also told of another one so he went to the resident and the resident said there was nothing and they don't know where this is coming from. EJ said the rest are rumors. He said if you see something say something.

EJ said we are going to have crime, everywhere does but he would prefer to be at a minimum.

John said that when it was brought to his attention he asked if it was brought to the Police and it wasn't. John said it would be best to bring it to the Police first so they can investigate.

Helen said there was a GMC outside of her house standing at the electrical pole, but she found out that he did work for the electrical company.

#### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

##### *Building Committee*

Next meeting is sometime in September. Nothing is set yet, we are just having meetings for ideas. Everything that is decided will go to Town Meeting.

#### **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:**

##### *Culvert near Nadeau Lane*

Helen asked if they are going to fix this culvert. The road is falling apart. This was supposed to be paved and never was. Christina explained that we have a Work Session coming up with Glen and will discuss this.

##### *Road damage*

Christina reported that the road damage off a driveway on North Groton Road that was previously discussed is getting worse. This spot is across from the Demers family and needs to be patched up. John drives by every day and also agreed it is getting worse.

##### *September 17<sup>th</sup> Cleaning of headstones*

The Cemetery Trustees are going to be starting something new where they take a half day to clean the cemeteries and will ask for volunteers. The first day they will be cleaning Rolfe Cemetery on September 17 and they will be cleaning from 9:00am-12:00pm. Anyone who helps can stay after and join them at 12:00pm for a luncheon. Sara will mark this on the calendar.

*Town Pound*

Christina mentioned that we need to decide the next step for Town Pound.

Slim mentioned that all of the trees that were taken down at Town Pound look good. Christina mentioned John Faucher cut them down for the volunteer group.

*Park Porta Potty*

Ron Madan mentioned that the porta potty needs to be cleaned at the Town Park. This should be cleaned more often since the people at Sculptured Rocks Park use it. Sara will contact them and ask what the price is for the extra cleaning.

*Old Home Day*

Elizabeth Jespersen asked what needs to be done for Old Home Day. Christina said she can help set up which will be starting around 4:00pm or selling raffle tickets, but all help is welcome!!

**Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 8:31pm, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith  
Administrative Assistant