

TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
August 30, 2016

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

**Audience Members Present**

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

**Christina motioned to approve the Work Session minutes of August 16, 2016 as written, Bob 2nd, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to approve the Non-Public Work Session minutes of August 16, 2016 as written, John 2nd, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of August 16, 2016 as written, Bob 2nd, so voted.**

**VISIT FROM BOB GUIDA:**

Bob Guida is a candidate for the New Hampshire State Senate. He came to the Select Board meeting to introduce himself, explain his background and why he is running for State Senate.

Bob was born and raised in the Northeastern United States. He graduated from a Pittsfield NH High School and from the United States Naval Academy with a Bachelor in Science of Operations Analysis. He has served in the United States Marine Corp, has been an FBI agent, and is a Pilot. He has a wife of 35 years, three children and one grandson. He has served on the Warren Select Board for four years and has been a State Representative for six years.

His priorities for New Hampshire are:

- Jobs and the economy- we need to focus on more jobs and improving the economy
- Defeating the opioid epidemic
- Improving workforce readiness- when students from NH go into the work force the majority of them are not ready. We need to build a better curriculum to prepare students.
- Increasing State Government accountability
- Strengthening families

He recommended checking out his website [www.bobguida.org](http://www.bobguida.org) for more information regarding his goals and plans.

Bob asked the audience if anyone has any questions. The following questions were asked:

*Pam Hamel stated that she listened to the exchange and the topic of qualified workers came up. They stated that only 10% of businesses feel graduating students are qualified workers when they get out of school but 93% of educators feel they are qualified. Bob said we need to get more people to participate*

*in setting the curriculum and standards. It should not just be the teachers doing this but it should be business men, parents, etc.*

*John asked how to protect NH from being overpopulated if we do increase our jobs, infrastructure etc. Bob said to put enforceable covenants in the deeds and put in more zoning controls, etc.*

Bob ended stating that he is conservative, a strong 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment supporter and local government supporter. He will focus on education and take control back locally. The State Primary is September 13 and he would love our support and would love to serve us in the Senate.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### *Junkyard question*

The Select Board previously drove out to the property located at Map 1 Lot 25 and felt after viewing from the roadway, that a meeting be scheduled with the junkyard dog, the Board and the property owner to inspect the property to see if there are junkyard issues and/or health issues. The Board still feels that this should be scheduled. The Select Board is trying to schedule the meeting for September 27, 2016.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### *Warrant for Unlicensed Dogs*

Chief Thompson presented the report for unlicensed dogs to the Select Board. There were seven dogs listed and the warrant was submitted for the Select Board to approve and sign. Ann Joyce reviewed with the Board, advising of some changes in status and the list was reduced to five unlicensed dogs. **John motioned to sign the amended warrant for unlicensed dogs, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

##### *Building Permit for Map 1 Lot 6*

Ray Crosby submitted a building permit to put a 16x18 shed on a slab foundation at his property located on 881 Route 118. **Christina motioned to sign the building permit for Map 1 Lot 6, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

##### *Transfer Station Computer/Internet*

Sara did some research on getting internet at the Transfer Station. Time Warner Cable was very expensive but Fairpoint was around \$27.99. This was not budgeted for this year and Sara thought it would have to wait until next year but the Transfer Station wanted to run it by the Select Board.

Dave Switaj also wants to know if he should keep the lap top with him until they get internet access or what we would like to do for that.

Pam Hamel suggested the Transfer Station use the Town House to do classes online, to communicate with Department of Environmental Services (DES), etc. It was explained that there are down times at the Transfer Station or that they can come in early to check emails. Joe Koslow mentioned that DES strongly suggested internet access.

It was agreed that this may have to wait until it is budgeted and that the Select Board will review for a future meeting.

## **SELECT BOARD ITEMS:**

### *Cleaning position*

Christina shared that the Town has hired a new cleaning person. Karen Olivier had applied and has met the necessary conditions. She will be coming back tomorrow to do a walk around with Sara and then she will be coming in on Mondays to clean the building moving forward and additional days as needed.

### *Pavilion*

John mentioned that the paving that was done under the pavilion at Hobart Park. Christina mentioned it made a nice dance floor at Old Home Day.

### *Solar Panel update*

Last week at the meeting, the Select Board and Slim discussed the possibility of putting solar panels at the new Highway Garage when it is complete. Slim had been working with a gentleman to get more information on this that they were supposed to send the Select Board right away. The Select Board received information later than expected and has chosen to not rush into the September 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

### *Select Board*

The Board did review two submissions for the replacement Select Board member for the vacant position that will be open as of September 1<sup>st</sup> by Bob Ferriere. This will be announced next week at the meeting and the new Select Board member will be sworn in at 7pm.

### *Bob Ferriere*

It was announced that this was the last meeting for Bob as a member of the Select Board. The Select Board thanked Bob for everything that he has for the last 30 months and have enjoyed working with him.

Bob thanked the Town for the opportunity to serve on the Select Board. He said being a Selectman is more than what he thought it was and he has learned a lot since the election. At this time things have come up in his life and his health is more important so it was his time to move on.

The audience thanked Bob!

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

### *Old Home Day Update*

Old Home Day took place on Saturday, August 20, 2016. Christina mentioned she has a brief update for now but will provide more information when the receipts are all in. The event started out slow but ended with close to 100 people. The Parade was nice, food was good, the band was very good and played for over 2 hours and the night ended with fireworks which was a great show.

Christina mentioned that Avangrid donated \$1,200.00 toward the event and that pictures from the event have been posted online.

The winners of the parade were as follows: 1970 Camaro won overall for Dave Madden, for the Tractor it was a 1946 Tractor for Fred Books, and for the kids each received prizes.

Christina read the thank you that was posted on Groton Community Events Facebook page.

*“Thank you very much for a great night at the Groton Old Home Day! Lots of thank you's to be said - to John and Gina Rescigno for shopping and all your hard work, to Elizabeth and Otto Jespersen for helping with everything when you didn't have to, to Ruth Millett for helping out also when you didn't have to, to Glen and Terri Hanson for the parade, sausage, fireworks and all your hard work, to Ron Madan for helping cook, the popcorn machine and all the general help, to Gary Easson for the lighting, to the Express Revival Band for playing extra long and putting in a great show, to chief Thompson and Officer Killam for your help with the whole event, to Sara Smith for helping prepare the event with mailings and check requests, to both the Rumney and Hebron Fire Departments for being in the parade and thank you to Hebron for covering the fireworks, to Avangrid for your donation which helped fund the event, to the townspeople of Groton for coming out to celebrate and to anyone that we missed. All the work that you do is what made this event a huge success!! Thank you and keep up the good work!”*

#### *Library Trustees*

Christina asked if they could think about taking the mail box outside off the wall. Elizabeth said that they would love to but they are waiting for more books to be brought back. Elizabeth said there is a meeting coming up and they will discuss it then.

#### *Cemetery*

Elizabeth wanted to pass on a reminder that they will be cleaning Rolfe Cemetery on September 17 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Anyone interested in helping is welcome and there will be a 12:00pm luncheon for all participants.

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

#### *Transfer Station*

Joe Koslow asked if we can add Richard to the Rands account. Sara will call and see what it entails to add him to the account.

#### *Junkyard question*

Ann asked who the junkyard concern is that was discussed at the beginning of the meeting off Bailey Hill Road. Christina mentioned that it is Coutu property.

#### *North Groton Road*

Pam Hamel asked why the state portion of North Groton Road is getting shimmed but not paved. It was explained that the State said that they don't have enough money to pave. Pam also mentioned that she doesn't understand why they are putting up so many new signs.

Pam mentioned that North Groton Road paving project is done and looks great. She wants to know if the Select Board is thinking of doing a bond to do the entire project from Halls Brook Road up to complete the project in one year as she feels it will be another 10 years until finished if we keep going the way we are. We could just raise the money as a bond payment instead of road work. Pam thinks we did the right thing up to this point but now we need to see if there is a better way.

Bob said the Select Board has thought about it but they also have to think about the moving of the Highway Department. He explained we have talked about bond, doing longer footage, etc. Bob mentioned the Select Board is going to discuss this further later on. Christina explained that we are going to reach out to get some quotes of what the cost would be to finish the project so we can get an idea for the bond.

Pam mentioned that for garage there are USDA loans you can get approved for and it would be a one shot deal for the year you build, which would be a bigger tax year. Pam knows all of these things need to be considered and she is glad they are.

Helen asked if the area on North Groton Road near her house and Nedeau Lane has been discussed. The Select Board mentioned that it has and Glen will be working on it within the next few weeks.

Ann mentioned that Avangrid/Iberdrola pays money every year and she suggested using this money to repair North Groton Road, the garage, etc.

**Having no other business to conduct, Bob motioned to adjourn at 8:12pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith  
Administrative Assistant