

TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
November 15, 2016

**In Attendance: Christina Goodwin, Kyle Andrews**

**Absent: John Rescigno and Sara Smith (Administrative Assistant)**

**Audience Members Present**

Christina called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

*Road Agent Forum*

The first Road Agent Forum was held with seven (7) towns in the Newfound School District invited. The Forum stemmed from the area Select Board forum. They met for two hours and discussed different ideas such as purchasing sand, salt or equipment as a group or shared services. Once the minutes have been completed from the Forum, then they will be submitted to the area towns. The Road Agents also would like to get together once every other month if the area Select Boards approve.

*Animal Control Officer*

The position was discussed by the Select Board and they have chosen to not fill the position at this time, but to incorporate it into the Police Department responsibilities and to be covered by the current staff.

*MS-60W – Waiver Request*

This is a waiver request for the locally elected audit that allows towns, under population of 700, to request permission to complete sections 1 and 2 only for the audit. The Select Board signed and approved this in the last Work Session.

*Intent to Cut – Map 2 Lots 115 and 115-4*

An Intent to Cut was filed for Map 2 Lots 115 and 115-4. The intent was signed at the last Work Session, in order to not keep the property owner and logger waiting

*Health Trust Contract Update*

The Health Trust Renewal Contract is ready to be signed by the Board. The renewal is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a 3-year contract signed in 2015. The overall increase for Health Trust benefits for members is 8.6%. However, Groton's increase is 3%. **Kyle motioned to sign the Health Trust Contract, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### *Town Owned Property – Map 2 Lot 123*

A member of the public approached the Town with a request to purchase a piece of Town owned property located on Map 2 Lot 123. Christina feels that the full Board should consider the request and Kyle agreed. **Christina motioned to table the Town Owned Property – Map 2 Lot 123 request for consideration until the November 29, 2016 meeting, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### *2016 Equalization Certificate*

The Equalization Ratio is where the assessments fall during the year and should reflect market value as close as possible to 100%. The trial ratio is 99.71%. The State will review the information submitted, which will be reviewed by the State Department of Revenue. The Certificate is what the Town needs to submit to release the information to the State. **Christina motioned to sign the 2016 Assessment Equalization Certificate, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### *Openings for Zoning Board*

Mark and Nancy Watson submitted their resignation to the Zoning Board and alternate Otto Jespersen, was moved up to a regular Zoning Board position. Otto reported that there is one full-time position and 1 or 2 alternates. Any interested parties should submit their names to the Select Board for consideration.

### *Christmas Baskets/Children's Gifts*

The Town will be putting out donation boxes for Christmas baskets of food and gifts for children. In 2015, the Town volunteers organized and provided food for four (4) families. We collected \$178.00 and used that money to purchase items. We also donated clothing and coats to Newfound Grocery for families. The advertisement will be posted within the next few weeks. If anyone knows of a needy family, we request the information be submitted to Sara in the Select Board Office.

### *Avitar – Mapping Contract*

The Board previously put the Avitar Assessing Contract on hold to complete a Request for Proposals (RFP). The Board would like to determine if they can do only a one year contract with Avitar instead of a 3 year. We also would like to determine if we can do a one year Assessing contract with Avitar. Items to consider for the Assessing contract are what type of revaluation the Board is going to have completed in the next 5 year cycle. **Christina motioned to table the Avitar mapping contract until the November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### *Building Permit for Map 2 Lot 115-1*

A building permit for Map 2 Lot 115-1 on River Road was submitted to build a 15X10 carport/shed which will be attached to the garage. **Kyle motioned to sign the building permit for Map 2 Lot 115-1, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

## **SELECT BOARD ITEMS:**

### *Building Committee*

Christina suggested that we meet with the engineers/contracts at the site either at the next meeting or another meeting. Any members that would like to participate can. This meeting

would ask for all the same information, a request for a plan to be developed, a quote submitted and then the Committee can determine which plan would work best for the Town.

Slim Spafford updated some information on Rural Development and solar panels. A request needs to be submitted by January 18, 2017.

#### *Road Committee*

The Road Committee has three recommendations for the Board to consider at the next meeting.

#### **Committee Updates**

Elizabeth Jesperson reported that Sally Mummy will be performing as Dolly Madison at the Plymouth Senior Center on Tuesday, December 22, 2016 at 1:00pm. The Board approved posting the flyer on the website and in the building.

Elizabeth Jesperson reported that the Senior Center is looking for volunteers for delivering meals. If anyone is interested they should contact 536-1204 and speak to Lisa or Gayle.

Elizabeth Jesperson reported that the Library Trustees met with Mike York and the Trustees from the Hebron Library. Effective December 1, 2016, any Groton resident will be able to use the Hebron Library at no charge and be issued a library card. The Trustees will be sending a flyer to all Groton residents and an article will be submitted under Talk of the Towns to get the word out.

Slim Spafford inquired on any applications for the Conservation Commission. The Board hasn't received anything as of this meeting.

**Having no other business to conduct, Kyle motioned to adjourn at 7:31pm, Christina 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christina Goodwin  
Select Board Chair