

Town of Groton  
Select Board Work Session Minutes  
January 10, 2017

**In attendance: Christina Goodwin, John Rescigno, Kyle Andrews and Sara Smith (Administrative Assistant - AA)**

Christina called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

***Meeting with Right Angle Engineering***

Erin Darrow from Right Angel Engineering met with the Select Board to discuss the proposal that she submitted for the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge.

Christina explained that we called the meeting to ask questions about the proposal. The biggest concern that the Select Board had is that it is wooden. She explained that it doesn't have to be a wooden bridge but she thought it would be a good fit. She thought the most cost effective would be an engineered wood. She explained they have a life expectancy of 75 years without any maintenance but she recommends treating it with a water treatment every 10 years. She said that it meets or exceeds a steel bridge but dependent on the steel they could last 75 years as well. Kyle asked what the expectancy of these is as well. She said it depends on the type of steel but a concrete deck bridge will only last about 30 years maybe 40 years.

John asked about treating it with the water underneath because it could drip into water. She said that you are not allowed to drop anything into the water so you would need to be careful.

As far as the E2 status, Erin would recommend going up to the full load. Christina asked if the extra weight would lessen the 75 year life span.

Erin mentioned she hasn't had a close up look at the abutments. They could be in good condition and not have to be replaced. A lot of times they use 12 inches of bearing but older abutments may need a longer bearing like Alexandria did which was 18 inches. John asked if the soil is needed to be surveyed. She said some times but it wasn't needed in Alexandria but the soil will be a deciding factor in regards to the bearing and support that is needed. John also mentioned that he doesn't like the idea of putting a new bridge on old abutments. He thinks this could cause problems in the future.

John mentioned that a temporary bridge would be needed. Erin said there are a few options for a temporary bridge. She said most contractors do have temporary bridges that they use and these can run anywhere from \$20,000-\$40,000. In Enfield they are purchasing a portable hinged bridge which is relatively lightweight. These range for a 20ft to 40 ft span cost anywhere from new is \$33,000.00 for 40ft span, but you can also get these used for around \$20,000.00.

Erin thinks this size bridge wouldn't take longer than a month to complete. Erin said a lot of the cost has to do with the abutments and if it is a one lane or two lane. John asked what was best to handle flood waters; she said all are durable. The wood hasn't been around as long as the concrete but right now you have to use good engineering practices. She said we will see more and more of them in the future especially in small towns.

Christina explained that we should have a decision made within the next couple of days.

Sara will reach out to Alexandria to see who did the Washburn Road.

Sara will schedule a meeting with KV Partners and White Mountain Precast. We will see about a 4:00pm and 4:30pm meetings on January 17, 2017.

### ***Police Budget***

Christina explained to EJ that there were four changes to the budget.

- Police Chief Wages: this was changed to be the \$56,375.00 to match the evaluation and contract amount.
- Part Time Wages: This was changed to reflect \$18.00/hr at 30 hrs per week making it \$29000.00. Christina explained that they have talked about the Full time officer. It was decided to add it to the warrant to let the Town vote to decide if a full time officer is needed. It was explained that EJ will have to sell the full time officer position to the Town. If they said yes, then we would have to have another warrant article that states the amount that would have to be put in to cover the full time officer. EJ mentioned that he did put in a warrant article. The Selectmen read the Warrant Article that EJ submitted. Kyle mentioned that EJ should include an estimate of what it would cost the Town the fourth year so they know what they are voting for. EJ will have to add the wording to hold the position for one additional year. EJ will rewrite it and give it to Sara. These will also have to say advisory. It was also agreed to have two different warrant articles, one about the grant and then another one about the raise and appropriate funds based on the full time employee. It was decided that when this is discussed at the Town meeting to discuss the Police Department position first, then do budget and then do the rest of warrant article. There should be an amendment ready.
- Animal Control: this was cut down to \$500.00 since this will now fall under the Police duties.
- SOU: This was cut down to \$1.00 since we don't currently pay this out.

There were no other questions regarding the Police Departments budget.

### ***Pump Stations***

Christina presented the draft letter that Sara and Christina created to send to the land owners of potential pump station sites. The letter looked good and no changes need to be made. The Select Board went over where the locations are. These are at McPherson's, Tim Pilcher's on North Groton Road and one at Halls Brook. We will need to look at these properties closely and get a map of the property to include with the letter. Once we know we have the correct Map and Lot numbers Sara will create these letters. It was agreed these letters can come from Sara and do not have to be signed by the Select Board. Christina and Sara will work on getting the information so the letters can be sent this week.

Sara will reach out to Hebron to see if they have pump stations locations.

### ***559 North Groton Road***

Sara mentioned that the Select Board mentioned possibly moving where this clean up was paid out of. Sara would like to do this before she finalizes 2016 expenses. The Select Board agreed to have this come out of the Health Budget.

**Christina motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (b) at 5:40 pm, Kyle**

**2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to return to public session at 7:00 pm, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Kyle motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A II (a) and (b) at 7:48 pm, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to return to public session at 8:15 pm, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to seal all of the non-public minutes, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to adjourn at 8:17 pm, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted  
Sara Smith  
Administrative Assistant