

Town of Groton  
Select Board Work Session Minutes  
January 31, 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 Wade Reed***

Attendance: John Rescigno, Kyle Andrews, Christina Goodwin, Sara Smith, Chief Thompson, Wade Reed, Jon Martin

Wade Reed is the logger working on a project on North Groton Road. There have been some complaints about the logging starting at 3am and 4am. We had contacted the Forester, Jon Martin who talked to Wade about starting at 6am. Then the Police Chief talked to Wade because the early hours continued to happen. Wade requested to meet with the Select Board.

Wade introduced himself and stated he was there because he received a phone call from the Police Chief which stated he would be arrested if he starts before 6:00am. He is not trying to make people upset. He is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile out from any of the homes and is only running skidders at the early hours, no chippers or cutters. He plays all of this into factors to know when he should start because he had to meet the deadlines and road closures usually start in March. He wants to know what law he is breaking and if anyone who has received the complaints has gone to listen to make sure he is being disorderly. He doesn't believe the noise is loud enough to wake them up but they may be able to hear it if they are already awake. He said snowmobiles can run 24/7 but he can't and that doesn't make sense. He doesn't make any more noise than the snowmobile would. He wants to be workable so that is why he is here.

Kyle asked how much longer this project will be. Wade and Jon Martin both said they would be out of there by the end of next week, approximately 6 more days.

Christina asked if at 6:00am if they are running the chipper. He said yes. Christina explained that she heard it at 6:00am and thought it was very loud and that they had been using the chipper before 6:00am.

John asked if it was possible that something else was started before 6:00am. He said skidders only.

EJ explained that under RSA 644:22, III(a) it is considered disorderly conduct by disrupting the peace. He explained it can be any noise, screaming, etc. In this case, it was 3:00am and 4:00am and that is where the issue lies. EJ mentioned that Wade referenced the snowmobile or groomer but these just go by to pass through but the logging is continuous. EJ said he is just required to put them on notice since there were more multiple complaints.

Jon Martin stated he talked to the Timberland Owners Association (NHTOA) and they explained that other Towns have hung their hat on referencing that RSA but pursuing charges based on that is difficult to prove. Jon also asked The NHTOA if there are other complaints in other Towns. Jon states that they do not want to offend anyone or have any issues because they have great relationships with the Town.

Jon said that they understand to not starting a chipper until 6:00am but they feel running a skidder isn't the same. They are asking for some patience from the Town for a few more days. They won't be back for 40 years. EJ said that he understands but he has an obligation to the Town to take care of these complaints.

Kyle said he understands that they are trying to beat the mud since there is no frost in the ground. John asked Wade if he can wait until 4:00am to start the skidder but 6:00am for the chipper or cutter. Wade felt that this would work.

Sara will email the complainant and let her know what the Board agreed to and that they will be out of there by the end of next week. Christina will also go out there around 4am tomorrow to see what she hears to make sure it isn't too loud. Christina explained that she thinks it is just because people are used to it being very peaceful so any change is different for them.

Wade explained where his frustrations were coming from so that is why he wanted to meet with the Board. Christina explained that the Select Board understands that they have a job to do and want to work with them.

Jon Martin inquired on a Hog Hill Road issue where someone was logging on his client's property. He asked if Hog Hill is a private road, class VI road or what type. Christina thought this was a discontinued road but we will have to look at whatever records we have. They also wanted to know when it changed. Sara will check the Steven's deed and do some other research. Jon would like a letter with the findings so that he has this for his records. They explained it may be awhile until they have any information regarding this.

**Christina motioned to return to public session at 6:05pm, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### *File Retention*

Darlene asked how long we are required to keep files. She needs to make more room. Sara will look into this. It should explain in Chapter 33 or she will email NHMA.

#### ***Pump Station questions***

##### *Pilcher*

The Select Board received an email from Sara regarding Tim Pilcher. He is okay with the pump station and also would like to know what he can do regarding a pond. The Select Board would like to know what size, what kind of area, location, and what kind of pond. Sara will reach out to him to see Christina will then find out from DES.

Since he is on board with letting the Town use his land for Pump Station we can see what the next step would be.

##### *McPherson*

Mr. McPherson has a lot of questions regarding the pump stations. He sent the following questions:

1. What is a pump station? Is it a physical structure with a pump to fill fire trucks or is it simply a place on my property where fire trucks or water trucks could pump water from Punch Brook for firefighting purposes?

2. Would permission for a pump station require formal easement in the state of New Hampshire to use the road on my property for pumping water and if so who would have to pay for the legal fees to establish this easement?
3. Pumping water from the brook has obvious environmental issues that would have to be addressed prior to me giving permission for a pumping station on my property. Is the town of Groton in a position to address these concerns and laws?
4. There are liability issues with allowing governmental or private agencies to have access and use of ones property. Would the town of Groton be prepared to add my name as an "additional insured" on their insurance policy for use of access to my property?

Kyle said that he believes the pumping can be done from the road so we shouldn't have to access this property. It was agreed that we should have Roger Thompson go to the property to be sure of where it will be located. If we can just do this from the road then we will contact him and tell him we do not need use of his property. Sara will contact Roger.

Christina explained there are dry hydrants at the old library, and in Dorchester. The Fire Departments also use Spectacle Pond to access water.

#### ***Late Entry for Atwell/Orange Bridge***

Sara explained she received another entry for Atwell/Orange Bridge after the project was awarded. It was agreed it was too late to be reviewed. Sara will contact them and let them know this and that we will consider for future projects

Mike Vignale would like the bridge information from Michie. Sara will get this information to him.

Christina asked the other Board members if they read the email that Sara forwarded from Mike today which explained the borings have been postponed one day due to weather.

#### ***Schedule upcoming meetings***

The Select Board went over existing meetings and updated the schedule:

- February 7: 6:00pm Budget and Warrant Articles Public Hearing; 7:00pm Select Board Meeting
- February 14: 5:00pm Work Session to clean up from Public Hearing
- February 21: no Work Wession due to the Public hearing for school Warrant Article; 7:00pm Select Board Meeting
- February 28: No Meetings
- March 7: 5:00pm Work Session; 7:00pm Select Board Meeting
- March 14: 4:00pm Work Session to prep for Annual Town Meeting – Elections 11:00 am to 7:00 pm
- March 18: 9:00am Town Meeting

#### ***Annual Town Report***

Sara explained that we need to have this to the printer by February 17. Sara has most of it in order for what people have sent but the rest of this week her focus is the warrant and budget.

Christina will have Old Home Day report and the Letter from Select Board to Sara this week. It was agreed that whoever doesn't have the reports in by February 14 will not be included in the report.

Once complete Sara will let the Select Board know to come pick one up and review for edits.

### ***Public Works Building***

The Select Board received proposals from two companies which were Conneston Construction LLC and Turnstone Corporation for the Public Works Building:

Conneston Construction LLC didn't have complete dollar amounts. It was missing the civil, fire, mechanical and electrical amounts. Christina liked the recommendation to contract in 4 stages. The Board agreed to reach back out and get quotes for these missing pieces.

Turnstone- gave prices for three stages and submitted a complete proposal but the Board had concerns over the proposal and wanted to re-review.

The Select Board agreed that they need to decide on if this will include the Police Department. Christina said that if we don't move it then one room here isn't enough. She said we are going to get in trouble because we are not supposed to keep children and adults together. Also the evidence room is being used for storage and if there is a full time officer we will need more room for that.

John said that he thinks if we do it then there shouldn't be two breakrooms and doesn't need a separate garage for Police Cruiser. They can also use the same locker room, bathroom, etc.

Kyle doesn't think we need to move the Police Department. Kyle thinks we could make some improvements to this building for the Police Department. Christina doesn't agree. It is an additional cost to renovate this building.

It was agreed this should be discussed at another meeting.

### ***Plowing on State Road***

The Town has received two emails from a resident regarding the plowing on State roads. Sara explained that Glen is aware and he put together a response to this. The Select Board reviewed Glen's response and agreed to send the first part of Glen's response.

### ***Budget***

It was explained that Sara will be putting the budget and warrant online on Thursday before she leaves since she is off until after the budget hearing.

### ***Health***

The following were discussed in the November 8, 2016 Work Session and need a final determination:

- Reduce the following lines to 0 in the Health Budget – Supplies/Postage and Mileage; it was agreed to make this \$1.00
- The Board will continue to act as Health Officers and propose to split the stipend for the work but not eliminate in case a new Board chooses to appoint a Health Officer at a later date
- The minutes stated to add funds to Training in the Health Budget – to change to \$350; The Board agreed to keep at \$150
- The minutes stated to add funds to the Dues in the Health Budget – to change to \$100; The Board agreed to keep it at \$50.

**Christina motioned to approve the Executive budget at \$57,675, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Christina motioned to approve the Election budget at \$54,975, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Financial Administration budget at \$19,570, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Legal Expenses budget at \$13,000, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Personnel Administration budget at \$80,000, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Planning and Zoning budget at \$8,502, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the General Government Buildings budget at \$23,680, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Cemeteries budget at \$9,360, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the General Insurance budget at \$15,335, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Advertising & Regional Association budget at \$2,450, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Other General Government budget at \$3,872, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Police budget at \$128,127, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Fire/Ambulance budget at \$73,446, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Highway Administration budget at \$70,535, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Highway & Streets budget at \$63,651, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Street Lighting budget at \$1,100, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Sanitation budget at \$66,321, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Health budget at \$5,532, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Welfare budget at \$7,044, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.  
Christina motioned to approve the Culture and Recreation budget at \$9,959, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.

Christian motioned to approve the operating budget at \$715,037, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.

Sara will create DRAFT copies for the meeting, the Board agreed on 40 copies and will put online after warrant articles are included.

### ***Warrant Articles***

#### ARTICLE 2

The total operating budget was changed to reflect the \$715,037. The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

#### ARTICLE 3

Full-time Police Officer - The Select Board Does Not Recommend This Article 1-2

#### ARTICLE 4

COPS grant

In the event Article 3 passes the Select Board Recommend This Article 3-0

In the event Article 3 fails the Select Board Does Not Recommend this Article

#### ARTICLE 5

\$63,184.24 for salary and benefits of full-time officer

In the event Article 3 and 4 pass the Select Board Recommend This Article 3-0

In the event Article 3 and 4 fail the Select Board Does Not Recommend this Article

#### ARTICLE 6

\$150,000 for Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 7

\$145,000 North Groton Road Project - The Select Board Recommends This Article 2-1

ARTICLE 8

\$25,000 repair of Groton paved roads - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 9

\$5,000 maintaining Province Road - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 10

\$6,000 to be placed in Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 11

\$25,000.00 into the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 12

\$7,000 for Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 13

\$5,000 for Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 14

\$5,000 for Disaster Relief Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 15

\$5,000 for the Perambulation Non Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 16

\$5,000 for Town House Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 17

\$5,000 for the Truck/Sander Capital Reserve Fund - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 18

Dispose of Tax Deeded Property by services of Real Estate Broker for Map 2 Lot 123 - The Select Board recommends this article 3-0

ARTICLE 19

Provisions to the Veterans Tax Credit - The Select Board recommends this article 3-0

ARTICLE 20

\$1,000 for Groton Historical Society - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 21

\$1,000 for Newfound Lake Region Association - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 22

Enter Contract with Hebron Public Library with the sum of \$2,000 coming out of Library Budget - The Select Board Does Not Recommend This Article 0-3

ARTICLE 23

To amend the previous warrant articles regarding no spraying of power lines - The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 24

The Select Board does not need to recommend this article

*Few things regarding warrant articles*

- Sara will talk to DRA about wording on Veterans Credit to see if it is even needed.
- Sara will send the warrant to both the attorney and DRA
- Once all changes are made, Sara will make 40 copies and put it online

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

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

Respectfully submitted  
Sara Smith  
Administrative Assistant