

Town of Groton
Select Board Work Session Minutes
December 15, 2017

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

Christina called the meeting to order at 1:15pm.

Christina explained that we called an emergency meeting due to the resignation of the Road Agent and it was deemed necessary to plan for coverage.

Meeting with Robert "Bubba" Ellis

Christina told Bubba we have accepted Glen's resignation effective yesterday. The Select Board asked Bubba if he was interested in being an interim Public Works Director/ Road agent which would mean he would be responsible for scheduling, planning for storms, communicating with the board, clean up of garage, and any and all other Public Works Director duties. The Select Board stated that they would like to offer him \$20.00/hr while he is the interim. The Select Board explained that the position will be posted and Bubba applies for the position and gets it then they can discuss pay after that. If doesn't go for the position then pay would go back once a new Public Works Director/Road Agent is in place. Bubba is okay with that the pay and is taking the interim position.

John filled bubba in on the wires that the mice have stripped the insulation off the wires and the copper is showing. We can't do the insulation and walls until the wires are replaced.

The Select Board informed Bubba of the following:

- Kyle will be replacing the lock on the building and will meet up with Bubba when this happens and give him a key.
- Glen will be making arrangements with him to get his stuff out and he has until Tuesday, December 19, 2017.
- Sara will type up a conditional offer letter next week for Bubba to sign.
- Sara will get Bubba an updated budget next week. Bubba will come in next week and go through the outstanding bills with Sara.

Bubba had a few things he wanted to talk to the Select Board about and went over the following areas:

- The big truck hasn't fully been looked over in years. The Select Board is okay with Bubba making the decisions of what needs to get done and they trust his judgement.
- Sculptured Rocks Road will be finished and cleaned up in spring as with the snow it is too late now.
- The diesel tank hasn't been moved at this time and will need to be
- The screens need to go in truck. Jeremy will help Bubba with this.
- The Backhoe needs tires. It was explained that Bubba should get quotes and see about getting them done this year if we can.
- The new Dorchester Road Agent called Bubba regarding River road. Now that Bubba is the interim Public Works Director/Road Agent he will call him back.

Highway Department Meeting

Robert "Bubba" Ellis, Norm Willey, Ron Madan and Jeremy Haney attended the meeting with the Select Board. Christina explained that the Select Board has accepted Glen's resignation effective immediately. He has until December 19, 2017 to remove all of this stuff out and off of Town property. We will be posting for a new Public Works Director/Road Agent. In the interim, Bubba has been asked to run the department, do scheduling, get things ready, and take on all other duties.

Kyle asked Jeremy if he would be interested in coming back to help plow and other duties this winter. Jeremy said that he would be interested in helping out.

John said that the Select Board recognizes there have been a lot of issues and there is a lot of talk and questions about this resignation. The Select Board asked that everyone present it with a positive attitude, work together to get things back to where they should be and let the Select Board know if they have any concerns.

The Select Board provided everyone with an update on the garage. There are wires that have to be replaced and then we will proceed with the insulation and walls. Gary Eason will be taking a look at it and giving estimates to replace the wiring. Clean Harbors will be coming out Monday, December 18th at 9:00am to look at the ground work that needs to be done from the spill.

The Select Board asked if anyone notices anything that needs attention to let Bubba know.

Bubba will work out a time to meet with everyone to get a schedule in place for work, plowing, etc. Bubba did let the Select Board know that if we were ever in an emergency situation that he has a truck and sander that can be used. Kyle explained that the Select Board would rather have Charlie Coursey help out when needed like he did during the last storm. Jeremy said that if it is snowing then Charlie will most likely be available to help. Bubba will reach out to him and discuss this with him.

John mentioned we are trying to get the department where it should be and need to get back to basics. There should be no personal equipment on Town property; there is no smoking in town trucks, the buildings, etc. Christina explained that they understand they let things go for so long so we want to start over, make everyone comfortable and hope everyone will want to come to work.

Kyle explained that he will be putting new locks on the door this weekend and Sara will have the keys. Everyone can see Sara for a key. He mentioned that if anything else has locks and needs new ones they can get a new one.

The Select Board explained that there is a lot of clean up inside and outside of the building that will need to be done. There is calcium chloride, crack sealer, etc. in a few different places. Some is open and needs to be disposed of but others are not open and can be used later. This all just needs to be organized.

Bubba asked Sara to look into who owns across from 452 Sculptured Rocks Road. Sara will get this information for Bubba next week.

Bubba asked Ron if he is available to drive the big truck if Bubba needs a backup since he is the only other one that can drive it. Ron said he would be available to drive the big truck if needed and is willing to help in other areas if needed as well. Jeremy and Norm will be working on getting their CDL's which would provide the Town with more options of drivers for this truck.

Transfer Station item

Norm asked if the Select Board made a decision on Richard getting some of the Transfer Station Supervisor Stipend for when there was no supervisor. Norm said he is okay with Richard receiving this if the Select Board is and that there is plenty of money in the budget. The Select Board explained that Sara asked Richard to provide a list of the Supervisor duties he did during this time so the Select Board can review this and make a decision.

Having no other business to conduct, Christina motioned to adjourn at 1:55pm, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant