

Town of Groton  
Select Board Work Session Minutes  
January 2, 2018

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

**Kyle called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.**

***North Country Council***

A few residents have expressed some concern about us paying yearly dues to North Country Council but are not sure what they do for the Town. They do assist the Town with projects, help the Planning Board when needed, etc. Since this is a concern, Sara will email them to see what the dues cover and ask if they can provide a detailed list of what they do for the Town since we are sure this will come up at the budget meetings.

***Turnstone Meeting***

Sara will contact them to see if they can meet Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 430pm. The Select Board will stay after this meeting and go over the budget after.

***Budget Meetings***

Deb wasn't able to attend the meeting with the Select Board but she did submit a new updated budget. The Select Board would like to reschedule the meeting with her. Sara will see if she can come in on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm.

We will need to schedule a meeting with Bubba to go over the Highway Budget. Sara will see if he can meet on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm.

***Other Budget Items***

- Cell tower: Christina had reached out to one company but didn't have an opportunity to reach out to the contact Rumney gave us so Sara will reach out to him to see if they would have any interest and to get more information.
- New IT Company: We had done some research and got quotes from other IT companies. It was agreed to stay with Dave Switaj for now. Sara will reach out to Dave and ask for budget recommendations and computer replacements. Kyle suggested that we may need to create a Capital Reserve Fund for computer purchases and maintenance.
- Forester request for Town owned lands: The Forester emailed and asked if the Town had any interest in sustainable maintenance and planning for the forests owned by the Town. It was agreed that the Town does not have any interest this year but we can talk to him and show him the land this year to see what he thinks needs to be done which would allow us to budget for 2019. We also need to look at where we are going to put these cost of his charges for the timber assistance. He charges \$40.00 an hour but we are not sure what he thinks each intent/report would cost. Sara will ask him for costs based on 15 cuts a year.
- Request from Holden Engineering: We currently have engineers for the projects we have going on and we don't have any new projects starting in 2018. Sara will let them know that we do not need their services.

- Mountain Village Charter School request: This is a charter school in Plymouth requesting \$150.00 per child. The Town pays money to the Newfound Area School District so we will not be appropriating funds for any other schools.
- Bridge House request: It was agreed that we will not appropriate funds for this this year
- New Hampshire Public Works Association: It was agreed that we do not need to join.
- Select Board training budget: Next week we will look at if we need to increase the executive training line or if we should create a line for any training the Selectmen may want to attend.
- Email from HEB Engineers: We currently have engineers for the projects we have going on and we don't have any new projects starting in 2018. Sara will let them know that we do not need their services.
- Central NH Chamber of Commerce- IT was agreed that we will not be contributing to this
- Encumbering lists: Currently there are no requests to encumber funds. Sara will look to see if anything needs to be done in regards to the building committee, etc.
- Next week we will look at all the areas we highlighted to revisit and see if we need to schedule second meetings. Our notes show we only needed second meetings with the Planning Board and with the Highway Department now that some changes took place.

### ***Addressing tax rate concerns***

Sara mentioned that in the Select Board meeting after the tax rate was discussed Mile requested that the Town addresses the concerns about the rate increasing. Sara will draft a letter to send to the school, state and country regarding our concerns on the tax rate increasing and send it to Christina for review.

### ***Pump Stations***

Sara will follow up with Roger on this to see where this stands.

**John motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (b) at 6:20pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Christina motioned to return to public session at 6:45pm, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

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

### ***Meeting with Bubba***

Bubba wanted to meet with the Select Board to go over the following:

- He got the sign ordered for no swimming at the boat launch so this will be all set to be posted after the snow melts.
- He found some other saws at the Town that were not working so he brought them to Rands. They were both good saws and they were able to fix them all.
- He couldn't get the tires off the backhoe because we didn't have the right tools. He ended up getting the cheaper tires at Wilson Tire and they will be able to take the tires off. Since the bill is dated for 2018 this will come out of 2018 budget.
- There was a very large ice buildup that crossed the road and was about 100ft long near Rego's on North Groton Road. This was due to ditching that needs to be corrected. Bubba was able to do some ditching, getting the water running, remove the ice and put sand on it. There are cones out there now.
- There is some water leaking under a part of the roof cap at the Town Garage. Bubba will get some estimates and we can look at this when we go over the Highway budget.
- Bubba and Sara are going to be putting together a list of items damaged in the October storm. There were items such as the sander, mowers, etc. The snow blower did get damaged and they said there was nothing they could do to fix that along with the self-propelled lawn mower. Bubba asked if we should buy a snow blower. Also the generators were damaged and they are needed if the power goes out to operate the door and the furnace. Bubba thinks we should look into a diesel generator since we

have a generator right there. We can get some prices on these but will also check with Primex on if a generator and snow blower are covered.

- The garage door motor needs to be replaced. Bubba contacted a few companies for quotes and there was a quote for \$1,160.00. The Select Board asked Bubba to bring this to the budget meeting.

Christina asked Bubba to look into the area at her driveway and make sure it gets fixed in spring

Sara asked Bubba if he can meet on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm to go over the Highway Budget. He can meet at that time.

**Having no other business to conduct, Kyle motioned to adjourn at 7:00pm, John 2nd, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith  
Administrative Assistant