

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
July 24, 2018

In Attendance: John Rescigno, Kyle Andrews and Sara Smith (Administrative Assistant)

Audience Members Present

John called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

MINUTE APPROVAL

John motioned to approve the Work Session Meeting minutes of July 10, 2018 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Non-Public Work Session Meeting minutes of July 10 2018 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of July 10, 2018 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Solid Waste Requests for Proposals (RFP's)

The Town of Groton had sent requests for proposals which were due by July 5, 2018. We received two, one from Waste Management and one from Casella and these were opened at the meeting on July 10, 2018. The Select Board took some time to review these proposals. The prices went up due to recycling. Sara is going to reach out to the companies to see what we can do instead of signing a two year or more contract and see if we can get something in place until March where the Town can vote on if they still want recycling or not. **John motioned to table the Solid Waste Proposals until we get more information and for the Select Board to come in and sign the contract once this information is received since the current contracts expire July 31, 2018, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Update on Kimball Hill

Mark Zankel, the State Director from The Nature Conservancy, attended the meeting to provide the Town with an update on the Kimball Hill property. He first thanked the Town for voting in favor of the funds to support this at Town Meeting. He explained that the project costs \$2.1 million dollars total and their hope was to raise \$1 million from private donations and the other \$1.1 would come from the State to purchase it. They are just about there with about \$75,000.00 left to raise on the private side. They got the property appraised this spring since they needed to see what the property was worth unencumbered and what it would be worth after they put a conservation easement on it and sell it to the state. The math all worked out and the appraisal has gone through a state and federal review process and has been affirmed. They have contract with the State to sell the land to Fish and Game and the contract has been signed. They have terms of easement drafted which was needed to have the appraisal done to see how much the easement devalued the land. The easement is undergoing final review by the attorney general. The State has to go through a lot of paperwork with the federal government since they are using federal funds to purchase the property. The big thing left to do is the survey and they were promised it would be done by December so the plan is to complete the sale by December, January at the latest, with sale to NH Fish and Game. They still have to get approval from governor

and council so it will go before the executive council this fall. They may need a support letter from the Town at that time. The Town voting in favor of the funds may be enough but if not they will come back to the Town and ask for the letter.

Kyle asked if the entire property is going under easement. Mark confirmed that it is. Mark explained the easement removes development rights, removes the right to put up towers, it keeps the property open for low impact recreational access such as hiking, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, and has standards set around the forest management.

Elizabeth asked if horseback riding is allowed. Mark said that would be a decision of Fish and Game. Mark doesn't think the easement says anything one way or another about horse back. Mark said he will look into this and email us.

Letter from The Nature Conservancy

Last meeting the Select Board signed a letter from The Nature Conservancy requesting the funds to be awarded that were voted on at Town Meeting. There have been a few changes to the letter and they are asking that the Select Board sign a new letter. **John motioned to sign the updated letter from The Nature Conservancy, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit for Map 5 Lot 31

The owners submitted a building permit for their property located on Goddard Road. This is for a 2 story log cabin. This will be heated or cooled and has PUC approval. There is also a DES approved wastewater treatment system approval on file. **John motioned to approve the building permit for Map 5 Lot 31, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit for Map 10 Lot 13

The owners submitted a building permit for their property located on Halls Brook Road. This is for repair of the cabin which is replacing an entire rotten end with a new roof. **John motioned to approve the building permit for Map 10 Lot 13, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Disposal agreement- 67 River Road

Roger Thompson submitted a disposal agreement for their property at 67 River Road. **John motioned to approve the disposal agreement for 67 River Road, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Commitment Letter

Sara explained that Sara and Bubba have been working with Newfound Lakes Region Association (NLRA) regarding assistance on culvert replacements. The NLRA is awarding the town \$9,000.00 towards identified culverts on Sculptured Rocks Road and Province Road. In order to do so they need a commitment letter stating that the Town is committed to completing this work in 2018. **John motioned to sign the commitment letter, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

- Bubba stated that they have been working on River Road. At this time they have replaced three culverts and a lot of ditching. Bubba has been receiving a lot of compliments regarding the work.
- Bubba informed everyone that they have the schedule for North Groton Road project which is as follows:
 - 8/6/18-8/17/18: culvert underdrain and ditching

- 9/4/18-9/6/18: reclaiming
- 9/10/18-9/11/18: paving

Bubba will put signs out and Sara will put this on the website.

- Bubba put signs out for Old Home Day.
- The Dodge is broken down but should be up in a few days.
- Norm cleaned out the shack at the Town Garage. There are two rooms and now one is for signs only.

John mentioned that he has gone down River Road and there is a world of difference and looks a lot better. Bubba added in that Dave Leone has done a great job.

Police Department

EJ explained that the Female with firearms class will be next Monday July 30th from 6:30pm-8:30pm. If you plan on coming please let EJ know. You can bring a weapon but it needs to be unloaded and in its case.

EJ

This is EJ's last Select Board meeting so the Select Board thanked EJ for his years of service and all he has done for the Town. He will be missed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Old Home Day

There is an Old Home Day Committee Meeting this Thursday July 26th at 6:30pm.

Bubba asked what time he needs to have the trucks there. Elizabeth said it is a 5:00pm line up and the parade starts at 5:30pm. John explained we are looking into the fireworks.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

April Rogers

April Rogers was the one that was involved with the bear attacking her in her house. Elizabeth went to see April. She is doing well and still has her sense of humor considering all she has been through and all the injuries she endured.

Having no other business to conduct, Kyle motioned to adjourn at 7:30pm, John 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant