

TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
September 4, 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 August 21, 2018 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

**John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of August 21, 2018 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Yield Certificate and Report of Cut- Map 1 Lots 53 and 54-1*

The report of cut is for Map 1 Lots 53 & 54-1 on North Groton Road for a cut of about 24 acres. The amount of the tax is \$603.35. **John motioned to sign the yield certificate for Map 1 Lots 53 & 54-1, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

*Agreement and Contract with NH State Police*

The Select Board posted an ad for a part time officer. In the meantime, they reached out to State Police to request them to patrol Groton. They can do a month to month basis. John mentioned that these patrols will be weekly and in four hour blocks. Kyle mentioned that we may not need to use them that long it will depend on how long it takes to hire a part time officer. Kyle also mentioned that we still have the option to use the Sheriff's Department if needed as well. The State Police are currently responding to any emergency calls but this will be weekly patrols. John said the cost per hour depends on who is patrolling at the time and what their hourly rate is. They charge by the overtime rate, retirement and Medicare coverage. The overtime rate alone ranges from \$41.85/hr. to \$59.44/hr. **John motioned to sign the contract with the State Police, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

*Junkyard Follow Up Reports*

There were three properties that were not in compliance after the June inspections. Letters were sent to these owners in July giving them 30 days to clean up their properties. Ken Knowlton went back out August 22, 2018 and two out of the three properties had cleaned up and are in compliance now and one had not cleaned up at all. Sara drafted letters to all three properties and will send these along with a copy of the inspection report. **John motioned to sign the three junkyard letters, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

*Letter of concern regarding work on Beaver Pond Road*

The Select Board received a letter from a concerned resident on Beaver Pond Road about road work that is being done by Mike Ethier and if it is being done correctly as far as culverts go, state permitting goes, etc. The concerned residents attended the meeting to discuss their concerns. Beaver Pond Road is a private Road so this would be a civil issue as far as culverts go, dumping on their properties, etc. As far as the permitting goes the State would have to look into this. Sara will forward the concern to DES and the DRA and see if they want someone to come out and see what is being done. One resident stated that they already contacted DES with their concerns but hasn't heard anything.

They are concerned that the footprint of the river is being compromised to save the road. He also fixed the road from the last flood and added so much material that it changed the flood zone which will now flood the other properties. He is doing the work within 50 feet of the abutters without informing them, dumping on neighbors properties, etc. The other concern was that Mike was hired to do some sculptured Rocks Road clean up. He buried some asphalt there and they are not sure if that is okay.

John explained it is a civil matter and since it is a private road the Town doesn't get involved but we can reach out to the state regarding the permitting and the excavation. Sara will reach out to Mary Pinkham-Langer t the DRA regarding the excavation and see who else to reach out to DES regarding the permitting.

One resident asked if there is police to contact to file a complaint. It was explained that they can call the Police Department number and it will dispatch them to State Police. They can file a complaint with them and then they may need to go through the courts.

### **SELECT BOARD ITEMS:**

#### *Memo- Due from Capital Reserve Funds*

The Select Board approved a transfer of \$17,800.00 from the Disaster Relief Capital Reserve Fund to cover work on Sculptured Rocks Road. Sara created a Memo to the Trustees of the Trust Fund request these funds be transferred from the Disaster Relief Capital Reserve Fund to the Meredith Village Savings Bank account. **John motioned to sign the memo requesting the transfer of funds, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### *Request to use Table and Chairs*

A resident requested to use 3 tables and 14 chairs for the weekend of September 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. There are no other events going on that weekend so the Select Board approved this request.

#### *Deed with no covenants*

There was a property that was a tax deed and the owner is purchasing the property back for the amount of taxes owed at the time of the deed and any taxes that would have accrued since the Town took it over. We received the check from the previous owner and the attorney drafted a deed with no covenants. **John motioned to sign the deed to transfer the property back to the previous owner, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted.**

#### *Special Town Meeting*

John mentioned that we have been working with Turnstone to come up with a design for the Town Garage. It is going to have to be a bond due to the amount of the building so we wanted to do a special Town Meeting to meet with the Town before March regarding this.

Slim asked what the amount is. John mentioned we received an estimate of a \$1.4 million. John also explained there are a lot of codes and requirements that are needed to follow which is why we can't just throw up a cheap building.

Slim asked how long the bond will be for. John said that is up for discussion and could be anywhere from 10 to 30 years.

Another resident asked how many vehicles the Highway Department has and it was explained that there are four which includes three trucks and a backhoe.

**John motioned to petition the court to hold a special town meeting on October 23, 2018 to raise and appropriate \$1.4 million to construct a new Department of Public Works building, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1.4 million in bonds or note, Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted.**

## **DEPARTMENT ITEMS:**

### *Highway Department*

- Bubba mentioned they started reclaiming North Groton Road and the paving will start next week. He is hoping this will all be completed by the next meeting.
- They have also been getting ready for winter
- There is a Plow and York Rake that the Town is accepting bids on. It will be in this week's paper and Sara put it on the website if anyone would like more information.

## **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:**

### *Animal Control*

Ann asked if there is anyone for Animal Control. It was explained that this was the Police Department so we do not. State Police will respond to emergency or serious inquiries but not to nuisance calls.

### *Deeded properties*

Ann asked if a property in Town is deeded that has a lot of debris at it, if the Town would clean it up. Kyle mentioned that we would but we would keep track of what is spent and include that in the sale of the property.

### *Building Permit required sign*

Slim said that he went to the cemetery on River Road and noticed that the "building permit required" sign is missing on River Road. Bubba may have another one at the Town Garage so he will look and will take care of this.

### *Cemetery Fence*

Slim asked what happened to the other half of the fence for the cemetery at the Town House. It was explained that it is at the Town House and Elizabeth is looking for someone to weld it for them.

**Having no other business to conduct, Kyle motioned to adjourn at 7:35pm, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith  
Administrative Assistant