

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
December 18, 2018

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

Audience Members Present

John called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

MINUTE APPROVAL

John motioned to approve the Work Session Meeting minutes of December 4, 2018 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Non-public Work Session Meeting minutes of December 4, 2018 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of December 4, 2018 as written, Kyle 2nd, so voted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Twin Rivers Office Machines, Inc. Contract

The Select Board received the contract from Twin Rivers Office Machines, Inc covering 1/1/19-12/31/19. This contract covers the same details as last year and has a \$50.00 increase. **John motioned to sign the Twin Rivers Office Machines, Inc contract, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Dead River- Certificate for exemption of Federal Diesel Tax

Each year Dead River sends the renewal form for the Town to fill out to continue their tax-exempt status. The current certificate for exemption of federal diesel tax expires on December 31, 2018. The Select Board signed a form at the last meeting for this but Dead River had sent the wrong form originally so this is the correct form. **John motioned to sign the 2019 certificate for exemption of federal diesel tax, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Abatement Application

Map 6 Lot 61 was a tax deed. The tax warrant was run before the tax deed was received from Grafton County Registry of Deeds. The Town now owns this property so this property would be tax exempt. Therefore, we need to abate the \$323.00. **John motioned to approve the abatement application for Map 6 Lot 61, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Intent to cut- Map 10 Lot 42

Robert Berti submitted an Intent to Cut for Green Acre Woodland's property on Map 10 Lot 42, on Halls Brook Road for a 40-acre cut. No timber tax bond is required and all information is correct. **John motioned to sign the Intent of Cut for Map 2 Lot 41, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Warren-Wentworth Ambulance Service

Warren-Wentworth Ambulance Service submitted a letter to present a proposed contract with the Town of Groton. We have never received this before as we contract with Hebron and Rumney. This would cost \$22,420.00 a year for services. **John motioned to table the Warren-Wentworth Ambulance Service, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Memo- Due from Capital Reserves

Sara created a Memo to the Trustees of the Trust Fund requesting they transfer \$15,090.00 from the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge Capital Reserve Fund to Meredith Village Savings bank to cover the invoices we have received. **John motioned to sign the Memo requesting the transfer of funds from the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge Capital Reserve Fund to Meredith Village Savings bank, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Support Letter- North Country Council

North Country Council (NCC) is applying for a Solid Waste Technical Assistance Grant through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The funding for this grant is Oct 1, 2019 through September 30th, 2020. NCC is seeking the Town of Groton's help in obtaining a positive result with their Solid Waste Technical Assistance Grant application. They are asking our communities to write a letter of support, which they provided a sample, and mail, scan, or fax it back to North Country Council at 603-444-7588 no later than December 19, 2018. This letter must be on town letterhead and signed by a town authority. NCC has used this grant in the past to provide assistance in the coordinating of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection events, assist in the implementation of universal waste and pay-as-you-throw programs, and performed transfer station evaluations.

The three core components to this grant are to:

- Help communities improve management of solid waste facilities by becoming more efficient at managing costs and increasing the diversion of waste.
- Reduce pollution of water resources by removing a more diverse array of hazardous materials from the waste stream.
- Educate regional operators, officials, and residents, about HHW, food waste, and the importance of waste diversion techniques and methods.

To address these components, North Country Council will conduct site visits and report on best practices, coordinate trainings and workshops of transfer station staff, promote and coordinate a series of HHW and electronic waste collections, draft a variety of informational materials, and conduct outreach to educate the region on the many waste diversion strategies.

Sara drafted a letter using the sample that NCC provided. The Select Board reviewed the email and letter. **John motioned to sign the support letter for NCC, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

2019 Holiday schedule

Sara submitted a Memo to the Select Board as she does every year which breaks down when each Holiday actually is and when it is observed and the offices are closed. This year all holidays fall on the same day that they are observed. There are two holidays which fall on a day the Transfer Station is open. These are Christmas Day which is Wednesday, December 25th and New Year's Day which is Wednesday, January 1st. Sara will talk to Norm and ask if the Transfer Station will be open, closed or closing early. **John motioned to approve the holiday schedule for 2019, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

MS-60A

Each year the Town submits an MS-60A after the MS-60W has been submitted. These are forms pertaining to the local town audit completed by the locally elected auditor. **John motioned to sign the MS-60A, Kyle 2nd, so voted.**

Meeting with Hebron

The Select Board met with the Hebron Select Board and Fire Chief regarding the Fire Contract and budget for 2019. The cost will increase almost \$23,000.00 a year. This is due to Groton calls being more than half of their calls. John stated that if we are paying for half, we should be able to voice our opinion and they agreed.

John wanted to point out that they also don't have any young people interested in joining Fire/EMT. It is a time commitment for training. The majority of the department now are over 60.

Groton Police Department

The Select Board announced that at the Select Board meeting on January 15th, there will be a discussion regarding the future of the Police Department. We have the Sheriff's department covering 4 hours a week right now. John mentioned there are several things to consider such as do we want to keep a Police Department, do we want part time or full time (which has been difficult to fill), do we want to do away with it all together and only use State Police for calls. The purpose of this meeting is to get feedback from the Town as to what they want so we can plan accordingly for the March Town Meeting.

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

Bubba went over the following items regarding the Highway Department:

- The Dodge is back and has been fixed
- Guardrails are going on bridge tomorrow. All that will be left is landscaping and the black top in the spring.
- It was a quieter week weather wise.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Road Committee

The next Road Committee meeting will be Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 6:00pm.

Building Committee

The next Building Committee meeting will be Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 6:00pm.

Having no other business to conduct, Kyle motioned to adjourn at 7:24pm, John 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant