

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
April 9, 2019

In Attendance: John Rescigno, Ron Madan, Tony Albert 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 March 19, 2019 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Non-Public Work Session Meeting minutes of March 19, 2019 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of March 19, 2019 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

PUBLIC HEARING RSA 74:10- REGARDING ONE'S LIABILITY TO BE TAXED:

John motioned to open the public hearing at 7:02pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

John explained that RSA 74:10 indicates, that Towns who use the inventory form, must hold a public hearing to discuss one's liability to be taxed, but there are no guidelines on discussion other than this. John asked if anyone had any questions or concerns regarding this. John reminded everyone that the inventories are due April 15th.

Hearing no comments or questions, John motioned to close the public hearing at 7:03pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Kuplin Permit Update

The Select Board received the Planning Boards feedback and forwarded it to the attorney for review. The attorney stated the Select Board should vote to grant the building permit for a single-family home, on the following conditions:

1. Only a single-family home may be constructed. Any other buildings/use may require additional town approvals.
2. Mr. Kuplin shall execute and record the Notice, Agreement and Release of Municipal Liability and Responsibility per New Hampshire RSA 674:41 form which he has already filled out.
3. Mr. Kuplin must obtain any and all other required local, state and federal permits, including (if necessary) a driveway permit. He already has the driveway permit.

John motioned to approve the building permit for Map 5 Lot 46 with the conditions set forth, Ron 2nd, so voted. John also motioned to sign the release of municipal liability form, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Casey wants to put peoples mind at rest that this will not be a gravel permit. He is building a home and they are putting in fruit trees. This will be his residence and that is what he wishes to do with it.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Nature Conservancy/NH Fish and Game

Jim O'Brien from The Nature Conservancy and Jim Oehler from NH Fish and Game wanted to meet with the Town of Groton and let them know what has progressed with the Kimball Hill property. Fish and Game recently closed on 2700 acres between Province Road State Forest and Cardigan Mountain State Forest. This was owned by Landvest/Timbervest and The Nature Conservancy picked it up at a closed bid auction and needed to find a final conservation buyer and owner of the property and Fish and Game thought it would be a good parcel for them to hold and manage for wildlife and wildlife management and recreation. Fish and Game knows that The Nature Conservancy worked closely with the Town and with Newfound Lakes Region Association to help raise funding for the project. The Fish and Game portion came from Support Fish and Wildlife Reservation Program from US Fish and Wildlife Service. The mandatory excise tax on firearms and ammunition goes to the State Wildlife Agencies for Wildlife conservation. They are planning on managing it as a wildlife-based conservation. It will be a working forest but there has been heavy cutting in the past so probably not in the recent future. They are going to be maintaining the relationship with snowmobile clubs so the trails will remain open. Right now, the main focus is maintaining those roads. There are over 40 culverts that need to be maintained. If the culverts fail there will be severe erosion and there is a huge gully on Kimball Hill Road that needs to be fixed. They are waiting to hear from FEMA regarding FEMA funds to fix that road.

Jim from The Nature Conservancy thanked the Town for the financial support and the support that was provided in other ways. The Town's interest and knowledge was very helpful in the process and gave them confidence that this could be done. Slim said that he wanted to add that The Nature Conservancy holds the easement on this property.

Fish and Game mentioned that they also bought 100 acres that abuts the property. Slim asked if there would be an easement on this lot as well. They explained there would not as they own this outright.

Emergency Management appointments

Tony mentioned that Bill Oakley has agreed to be the Emergency Management Director and Patti Oakley has agreed to be the Deputy. Both Bill and Patti were in attendance and are willing to provide their certifications. **Tony motioned to appoint Bill Oakley as Emergency Management Director and Patti Oakley as Deputy, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

John thanked Bill and Patti for stepping up and helping out. Tony asked if they are available Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 4:00pm to meet for the All Hazard Mitigation Meeting. They will try to attend but may be late. We will look at dates after that to set up the first Emergency Management Meeting. Bill mentioned that it is hard for him to get there before 5:00pm. It was explained that we can make them 6:00pm meetings if that works better.

Junkyard properties

The Select Board reviewed the Junkyard List to decide which properties should be visited again this year.

Below are the properties referred to by their case numbers:

#1: Keep as yearly check

#2: Keep as yearly check

#3: Keep on the inactive list

#4: Keep on the inactive list

#5 & #6: Keep on the inactive list

#7: Keep as yearly check

#8: Keep as yearly check and the owner should be applying for his junkyard license

#9: Keep on the inactive list

#10: Keep as yearly check and the owner should be applying for his junkyard license

#11: Keep as yearly check and the owner should be applying for his junkyard license

#12: Keep as yearly check and the owner should be applying for his junkyard license

#13-23: Keep on the inactive list

#24: There is a hearing on April 18th at 9:00am regarding this. Sara stated that our attorney and Ken Knowlton will be attending and asked if anyone from the Select Board is planning on going.

The Select Board would like Ken Knowlton to come out the first week in June.

Frank Grelle mentioned that there is a property which is the 1st property on Edgar Albert Road that should be looked at. It has a trailer that is falling down and is owned by Steven Lamos. The Select Board will drive by and let Sara know if this should be added to the list for Ken to look at.

All Veterans Credit

The Town received an application for the All Veterans Tax Credit for the owner of Map 5 Lot 105. There were no questions. **John motioned to approve the All Veterans Tax Credit for Map 5 Lot 105, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Class VI Road Letter

A resident sent a letter to the Select Board with their plans for road maintenance for Old Rumney Road and will continue to maintain the road along with filling holes, leveling, repairing areas that may wash out due to the rain, etc. **John motioned to approve the Class VI Road improvements request for Old Rumney Road, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Report of cut- Map 5 Lot 143 and 143-1

The deadline to receive report of cuts is May 15, 2019 so we should be starting to receive more. This report of cut is for Map 5 Lots 142 & 143-1 on Sculptured Rocks Road for a cut of about 5 acres. The amount of the tax is \$243.06. **John motioned to sign the yield certificate for Map 5 Lots 143 & 143-1, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Private Road Agreement- Map 5 Lot 79 (from last meeting)

The Select Board approved a building permit for this property located at Map 5 Lot 79 contingent on the DES permits and receiving the private road agreement. The owners have submitted the private road agreement. **John motioned to sign the private road agreement for Map 5 Lot 79, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

MS-535

The auditor sent the MS-535, which is the financial report of the budget, with our suggested changes on it over today. The Select Board reviewed the MS-535 and was okay with the amounts. **John motioned it sign the MS535, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Sara will put this on the website.

Building permit- Map 1 Lot 79-4

The owner submitted a building permit for a 576 square foot building with concrete slab on Mountains West Lane. This will not be heated or cooled. They submitted the private road agreement. **John motioned to sign the building permit and the private road agreement for Map 1 Lot 79-4, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Letter requesting State Police assistance

A Groton Resident has a motion to have his firearms that were seized returned to him. It needs to be a member of law enforcement to return them and we do not have law enforcement right now so we need to

send a letter to the State Police requesting their assistance. **John motioned to sign the letter requesting State Police assistance, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Hebron Fire and EMT Agreement

The Town of Hebron sent the agreement for Fire and EMT as they do every year. It reflected the \$73,000.00 as was discussed in the meeting the Select Board had with Hebron. **John motioned to sign the Fire and EMT services with Hebron, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Signature Cards

Darlene dropped off the signature cards for the Select Board to sign so Tony can sign check. **John motioned to sign the signature cards, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

Bubba went over the following items regarding the Highway Department:

- Bubba is on vacation and Jeremy Haney has been taking care of the Highway Department. Thank you to Jeremy for being available for the Town.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Conservation Commission

Slim mentioned that the Conservation Commission has a few upcoming events.

- They have their next meeting on April 11, 2019 at 7:00pm.
- There is a road clean up on May 4th from 10:00am-12:00pm. Slim managed to reserve sweatshirts for everyone with the Groton Logo that he will hand out to those that come help with the cleanup. They need more people to help out. There will also be lunch served at 12:00pm. Sara will put this on the website.
- The Annual Fishing Derby is set for Saturday June 1st, 2019. Sara will post this online as well.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Town Report

Slim mentioned that there was a question about revenue in the Town report. He said that there was no revenue shown for the excavation tax but he knows that Mike Ethier submitted some intents to excavate and reports of excavation. It was explained that this is true and he was billed for them but these have not yet been paid so we cannot show it as revenue until it is paid.

Cutting

Slim mentioned they have been doing a lot of cutting at the power lines and they are going a great job.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 7:45pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant