

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
December 3, 2019

In Attendance: John Rescigno, Tony Albert and Sara Smith (Administrative Assistant)

Absent: Ron Madan

Audience Members Present

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

MINUTE APPROVAL

John motioned to approve the Work Session Meeting minutes of November 19, 2019 as written, Tony 2nd, so voted.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Orange Road

The State sent in a letter stating that as abutters they are going to be doing some work on Orange Road, which is a class VI road, such as adding surface gravel and some minor ditching. The Select Board okay with the work they stated. Sara will send them a letter explaining the Select Board has reviewed and accepted their plans and will let them know they need to contact the Town when they are doing the work so the Road Agent or Select Board can monitor the work being done.

Abatement Application- Map 3 Lot 6-3

Due to the changes to the timber tax bill that was signed off on at last week's meeting, the bill that was already sent needs to be abated since it was entered into the system. The other one was never entered so it does not need to be abated. **John motioned to sign the abatement application for Map 3 Lot 6-3, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Land Use Change Tax Abatement letter, Map 5 Lot 140-3

The Select Board received recommendations from Avitar on a land use change tax abatement application that was submitted for Map 5 Lot 140-3. Avitar recommended this abatement request be denied. **John motioned to deny the abatement request and sign the letter for Map 5 Lot 140-3, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Avitar 2020 Terra Mapping Agreement

Avitar sent in the Terra Mapping Services Agreement. This is sent in yearly and it did increase this year by \$80.00 but covers everything it did in the past. **John motioned to sign the 2020 Avitar Terra Mapping Services Agreement, Tony 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, 2019. **John motioned to sign the 2020 certificate for exemption of federal diesel tax, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

2020 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 most of the holidays fall on the same

day that they are observed but some do not. There are two holidays which fall on a day the Transfer Station is open. These are Independence Day which is Saturday, July 4th and Veteran's Day which is Wednesday, November 11th. Sara will talk to Norm and ask if the Transfer Station will be open, closed or closing early these days. **John motioned to approve the holiday schedule for 2020, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Letters from North Country Council

North Country Council sent two letters to the Town of Groton which stated that North Country Council has recently accepted a grant for Solid Waste Management from the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service.

The first letter was addressed to the Transfer Station that stated this grant money will allow them to visit ten Transfer Stations and provide feedback on their operational plans through technical assistance and recommendations of best management practices. They invited the Town of Groton to participate in this project and are offering this on a first come first serve basis. Sites will be visited from 1/1/20 through 2/29/20. If the Town of Groton is interested in this review process, there is a form to be filled out and sent back no later than Friday, December 20th.

The second letter was addressed to the Select Board and explained the letter was to offer the community to participate one or more of the following Solid Waste Collections for summer/fall of 2020:

- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collections
- Tire disposal collections
- Electronic Waste collections

They recommend that the Town of Groton participate in a joint collection with neighboring communities who also want to participate. They attached intents to participate for each collection.

John thinks we should have Norm review these. John feels we are not set up for the Hazardous Materials and we are fine with posting when Plymouth does it so I residents can take part in that and we already do the tire and electronics so we shouldn't worry about those as there are costs attached to these. Sara will ask Norm to review both letters this and submit his recommendations.

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Food and Clothing Drive

In the past we have had a volunteer that put together a food and clothing drive which accepted donations of nonperishable food items and winter clothing. We will be doing this again and will donate the items collected if no one comes in to get them.

In the past we have also done a Children's Gift Tree which had gift tags on a Christmas Tree to provide a Groton child with a Christmas gift (or two). This has been on a volunteer basis the last few years but this volunteer has moved. The Town of Groton will not be doing this tree this year but the residents that are in need could be on a tree somewhere and will still get gifts if their names were submitted. Sara will call around to see where the names have been received from in the past and to see where there are trees that have Groton residents on them.

Ron Madan

Ron will be home tomorrow, Wednesday December 4, 2019. He has been in the hospital for awhile and is doing much better.

Thank you

John thanked the Highway Department for all their hard work during the storms to keep the roads clean and safe!!

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

Bubba went over the following items regarding the Highway Department:

- They have been doing some plowing and keeping roads clear.
- Bubba asked that the residents keep their cars at least 4 feet off the road side to allow for plowing.
- Bubba also asked that residents following the limits for the sand they take. They should only be taking three 5 gallons buckets. If they do not have buckets and are putting it in the back of their truck then it should not be more than 15 shovel fulls.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Cemetery Committee

Slim mentioned Harley Putnam will be fixing the gate for the cemetery. He also asked Bubba that when they are plowing to try they keep it away from the fence and gates and keep the gate clear.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Transfer Station Gates

Slim asked why the gates at the Transfer Station are open. It was explained that when it is during a storm, they are left open for the plows and other times if they are opened for the residents all day they sometimes freeze and are stuck open.

Land across from the Transfer Station

Slim asked what the stakes at the land across from Transfer Station were for. Bubba explained that they are grade stakes to see where the grade would be and where the building could possibly go. Nothing is being built yet but this is just to give an idea as to where the Town could build, where there is ledge, etc. The next building committee meeting will be in January.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 7:18pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant