

Town of Groton
Select Board Work Session Minutes
February 18, 2020

In attendance: John Rescigno, Tony Albert and Sara Smith (Administrative Assistant - AA)

Absent: Ron Madan

John called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

John motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 5:00pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to return to public session at 6:10pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to seal the non-public minutes, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Letter from Ruth

The Select Board reviewed the letter from Ruth requesting to keep the Deputy wages at \$11,000. At the Public Hearing it was requested to lower this to \$6,000 from a resident and the Select Board met with Ruth at the end of the Public Hearing and agreed on \$9,000. The budget has already been submitted to DRA and the MS-636 was already completed with the \$9,000 that was agreed on at the end of the Public Hearing. The Select Board think it should be left at \$9,000 as they feel that is more than enough. Ruth can amend it at Town Meeting if she wants to but the residents may also amend it.

Items from Public Hearing

Sara looked into all of the questions that came up at Public Hearing and made a list. She put this on the Select Board Meeting Agenda under Old Business to update the residents with this information.

Town Report

Sara explained that she sent the Town report to the printers last week and they sent a draft which was received today. She reviewed it and found a few changes but asked that the Select Board look it over for changes as well before she gets back to them. The Select Board reviewed it and Sara will send the changes to the printers.

Radio Reprogramming

Tony thinks we should ask OME if they can reprogram all of the radios when they come to reprogram the base unit. Sara will send an email to see if this is possible.

Dump Stickers

Sara explained that she called about the dump stickers. It will be \$300.00 for 500 and the set-up fee. This will be cheaper for the next order since we will have already been set up. Sara asked them to send examples which they emailed and Sara shared with the Select Board. They can do any color, shape, size, etc. They can also not put a year on it and leave a spot for someone to write in the year or license plate or we can just do numbers. Sara also said that Ruth has what she thinks is about 700 of the old ones that expired in 2005. Sara asked if they thought we should use these up first and just cut it and use the top section, cross out the expiration date or write over it for now to save some money and use these up. It was agreed to cut the existing dump sticker and hand out the part that has Town of Groton and Transfer Station Permit on it to use what we have. Ruth will need to get their name and license plate number.

This will be required starting May 1, 2020. This will be put online and a sign at the Transfer Station. There will be \$1.00 charge for this. This will have to be on the car. Sara will let Ruth know and will draft up a new policy on this for the Select Board to review.

Meeting with Norm Willey

Norm met with the Select Board to go over the following:

- The Select Board let Norm know that we will be using the dump stickers moving forward as recommended. There were some left over that will be cut to use up what we have. These will be required started May 1, 2020. There will be a \$1.00 charge for these. Norm said that the concern is that people stay at other people's house. There was an idea that if they are staying for a week, they could get a letter from the homeowner and do a temporary/guest sticker.
- The Transfer Station Attendant back up position was posted online and will be in the paper 2/20/20. We have received one application so far. It was agreed to accept applications until 2/28/20 so that we can try to get them into the March 24th class. If there is more than one applicant, the Select Board and Norm will review the applications on March 3rd.
- Richard is back to work and wants to do all three days for now but we will see what else happens.
- Norm said that there is an individual that comes in with many truckloads of trash, which could be 8 loads a week. A few weeks ago, there was 7 loads in the three days the Transfer Station was open. He also gives an attitude when they tell him it is too much trash. He called DES and animal shavings and sawdust is acceptable to take. Before we bother the Chief with this, we will see what else happens. We may need to put in a policy that they are only allowed to drop off one truck load per week.
- The Landfill testing will be taking place this Thursday. Norm said they looked into this and we have to do the yearly monitoring of the landfill.

Meeting with Bubba

Bubba met with the Select Board to go over the following:

- The Dodge is still having some issues. Bubba thinks there is something wrong with the transmission and it gets stuck in 3rd gear. It seems fine when it is a dry day. It was agreed that we shouldn't put any more money into this truck.
- Bubba stated that they hired a new Road Agent in Dorchester and they started them at \$25.00/hr.
- Bubba mentioned that he is going to try to reach out to Donovan and Viking to look at their trucks and their work. Tony said he would go with him.
- Bubba explained that him and Sara have been working on the paperwork for the projects in case they are approved at the Town Meeting. John asked how long the wear coat lasts. Tony and Bubba mentioned there are many different coats and seals now that will help and keep them longer. Bubba mentioned there are cracks on the new stuff that need to be filled and that has to do with the weather with the cold weather and then the warm weather where it thaws. There are just so many factors which come into play such as weather, material, etc.
- They have been busy plowing.

Meeting with Chief Bagan

Chief Bagan met with the Select Board to go over the following:

- The cruiser is here and is running. There was an issue with the radio but is now working. He did some patrol today. We should be getting the invoice soon so Sara will have to request the

transfer from the Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. **John motioned to come in and sign the request when it is ready, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

- We need to get the Wex card set up. Sara will work with Mike on this.
- The letter is on the agenda from Plymouth Court Jurisdictional Association is on the Select Board meeting agenda for tonight. They will need to decide if we should send this to our attorney or if we should pay for this year. The Police Chief and the Select Board think it would be best to send the letter to the attorney to see if anything can be done and then if we can't, we will send the letter stating we are out in 2021. Depending on what the attorney says we may want to go through minutes from meetings where past Chiefs have discussed this with the Select Board. If we can get out of this, Chief has looked into other options. If we cannot get out of this, we would need to use PCJA since we are paying them.
- Chief mentioned that he is working out the tow contract with the attorney. He will reach out to some tow companies to see how they insure themselves for liability, etc. The Chief gave copies of the contract for the Select Board to review. They will review and provide feedback.
- It was agreed that the Select Board expect him to take the cruiser home with him.
- The Chief discussed his schedule with the Select Board and will adjust as needed.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 6:55pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant