

Town of Groton
Select Board Work Session Minutes
September 1, 2020

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

John called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Elections

Tony Tavares met with the Select Board on the elections. He needs help setting up. It was agreed to set up on Saturday, September 5th at 10:00am. John or Tony will let him in and will be available to help with set up. Tony would like Sara's assistance as a greeter that day. The Select Board is okay with this and can cover for Sara if she needs to work on something in the office at all. Tony asked if he could hang signs on the wall. It was preferred to use a bulletin board if possible since the wall was just painted. Chief Bagan had a board that could be used.

Updated Parking Ordinance

The Select Board has been working with the Police Chief to update the parking ordinance. Parking Tickets, besides handicap violations, will now be \$50.00. Sara updated the Parking Ordinance to reflect the change in costs. **John motioned to sign the updated parking ordinance, Tony 2nd so voted.**

Chief Bagan submitted the samples he received of updated parking tickets. They were all very similar so the Select Board told him to use whichever one he thinks would be best.

MOU- Sculptured Rocks Road Project

Mike Vignale stated that we are all set with the permit, they just need to write it now. One of the comments was related to work outside of the ROW at Sta. 18+30 (one of the culverts). He didn't notice it before and the existing pipe extended outside the ROW so he couldn't revise the plan to avoid the easement so we'll need another easement from The State of NH-DNCR. It's a really minor one and Mike created the MOU for the Select Board to sign. **John motioned to sign the MOU for the easement for the State of NH-DNCR, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Update on USDA Building Grant

The architects sent the final application materials and Sara sent these to USDA. Sara printed a copy for the Select Board to review. USDA knows that we cannot do anything else until the Town votes at the Town Meeting in March. Sara had asked why the increase on the final numbers and the architect responded with the following: *"The budget we sent you earlier was for the building and site only; the bubble sheds, legal and administrative fees, and the architect and engineering fees were not included. There was also a \$26K undercount from a broken link for Concrete Accessories that I caught as we were putting the final budget together."*

The Select Board agreed that we should have a public meeting on September 15, 2020 at the beginning of the Select Board meeting at 7:00pm to go over the building plans and the grant with the Town. Sara will create flyers to hand out at elections and at the Transfer Station. This will also be put online. Sara will make copies of the feasibility report and plans to put on the table at the elections for people to review. Sara will reach out to the NH Municipal Bond Bank to get estimate of bond payments and will ask for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years.

Follow up on North Groton Road Concerns

Sara had reached out to NHMA as the Select Board asked her to regarding the concerns that were brought up at the last meeting regarding parking, wood piles, etc. on North Groton Road along with concerns of many people residing at one residence.

NHMA responded with *“The select board has the authority to regulate everything in the right of way pursuant to RSA 41:11 (which incorporates provisions of RSA 47:17). That would include the log pile and any vehicles. Any parking restrictions would be lawful, and the select board could order anyone blocking the right of way to move any vehicles or wood. It may be necessary for the board to contact town counsel for language to implement these restrictions (and receive assistance with getting those vehicles/objects removed from the ROW). If the town has zoning restrictions that would prohibit the camper’s installation on the property, those would apply, and could be enforced through a superior court action. Again, that would likely require town counsel’s assistance. Unfortunately, there isn’t a whole lot that you can do about the number of people at a residence. Generally, a municipality cannot restrict the number of people in a private dwelling.”*

Sara found the deed which states that from Groton to Cheever Road has a 33 foot right of way which is owned by the Town. Sara reached out to our attorney as NHMA recommended for language to use on the letters to send these residents. Sara received this language and put together three letters due to this. **John motioned to sign the North Groton Road parking concern letters, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

The Select Board agreed that if people call and the 33 feet puts them too far back or isn’t feasible than they would like all items to be at least six feet off the tar.

The Select Board asked Sara to include a copy of the letter the Select Board signed with John Faucher in 1995 about his encroachment with the letter we are sending now.

October Meetings

Sara let the Select Board know that in October we will be starting budget meetings. It was agreed to go back to 5:00pm work sessions starting in October.

Province Road Site Visit

HSEM had some questions about repairs from the October 2017 storm that were done out on Province Road. To better answer the questions there will be a site visit on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 9:00am. Sara will need to attend with Bubba. The Select Board is okay with this. Sara will post that she is working off site so the office is closed at that time.

Meeting with Bubba

Bubba met with the Select Board to discuss the following items:

- The Sculptured Rocks Road Culverts project is moving along. There was a delay with one culvert from Mitchie Corp. Kirk Fenoff and Sons finished up the other two culverts today and will be back once the third one comes in which should be the week of Labor Day. Tony said the opening on the first one they did is really steep. Bubba said that he will mention this to them but they may have had to do it this way due to the permits.
- The Sculptured Rocks Road project was started with grinding of the road last week. They will be back on Thursday to do some work while Kirk Fenoff and Sons isn’t there working on the culverts.
- They had to put off the paving that needs to be complete for the damage from the October 2017 storm to the end of September due to the other projects. They will only need two days to get this

done. Once this is done, we will be complete with the October 2017 storm work but still have July 2019 work to do.

- The new truck may be ready next week.

Having no other business to conduct, Tony motioned to adjourn at 6:58pm, Ron 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant