

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
June 2, 2020

In Attendance: John Rescigno, Tony Albert, Ron Madan 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 May 19, 2020 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted. John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of May 19, 2020 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Kirk Fenoff Agreement- Sculptured Rocks Road Culvert Project

At the last Select Board Meeting the Sculptured Rocks Culvert Project was awarded to Kirk Fenoff and Son Excavating, LLC. They have since sent in the agreement between the owner and the contractor for the Select Board to review and sign. **John motioned to sign the agreement with Kirk Fenoff and Son Excavating, LLC, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Michie Corp would have been too long to wait for the culverts but Scituate Concrete can supply the 1st box approximately the 3rd week in July, the 2nd box about the 2nd week in August, and the 3rd box around the 3rd week of August. They should be able to get the boxes done by the completion date of September 30th.

NEW BUSINESS:

Demolition of Old Library/Town House Bids

The Town of Groton advertised in the newspaper and online to solicit bids for the demolition of the old library/Town House that was voted on at Town Meeting. The bid submissions were due by Monday, June 1st at 4:00pm.

The Town of Groton received two bids, one bid from Gordon Coursey & Son for \$14,400.00 and one bid from NH Demolition for \$18,000.00. The difference from the quote that was submitted for Town Meeting and these quotes is that at Town Meeting it didn't include the capping of the foundation. **John motioned to award the demolition of the old library/town house to Gordon Coursey & Son, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Transfer Station Slab bids

The Town of Groton advertised in the newspaper and online to solicit bids for the Transfer Station slabs that was voted on at Town Meeting. The bid submissions were due by Monday, June 1st at 4:00pm.

The Town of Groton received one bid from Haney Concrete for \$13,785.00. **John motioned to award the Transfer Station Slab project to Haney Concrete, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Advancement Request- Sculptured Rocks Culvert Project

The Sculptured Rocks Road Culvert Project will be starting hopefully in July. The Town has our portion that we voted on at the 2019 Town Meeting but the project costs more than this. Sara and Bubba talked to HSEM about an advancement and they were told to submit an advancement request form and a justification letter.

Sara filled out the request for advancement form for \$250,000.00 and created the justification letter. **John motioned to sign the request for advancement and the justification letter, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Avitar inspections week of June 15-19

Avitar will be out the week of June 15th through the 19th doing inspections. Their car will be marked with Avitar on the side. This information has been posted on the website.

Absent Authorized Signer Forms

The bank gave Pam Hamel the Absent Authorized Signer forms to fill out. They want these before they do new signature cards. John, Tony and Ron had filled out their information. **John motioned to sign the Absent Authorized Signer Forms, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Certificate of Authority- DMV/Police Chief

In order for the Police Chief to request and/or accept accident reports for the Town of Groton, the Select Board must submit a certificate of authority. Sara drafted this letter. **John motioned to sign the certificate of authority, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Disposal agreement- 38 Sculptured Rocks Road

Samuel Stevens submitted a disposal agreement for his property at 38 Sculptured Rocks Road. We had disposed of material at his property in the July 2019 storm so FEMA requested this form be filled out with a note on it that he has always had an agreement with the Town. **John motioned to approve the disposal agreement for 38 Sculptured Rocks Road, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit Map 1 Lot 51

The owner submitted a building permit for a 28x20 attached garage at their property on Bailey Hill Road. This will not be heated or cooled. **John motioned to sign the building permit for Map 1 Lot 51, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit Map 6 Lot 97

The owner submitted a building permit for a 10x20 deck and a 10x30 enclosed porch at their property on Adams Lane. This will not be heated or cooled. They submitted the private road release form. **John motioned to sign the building permit and release form for Map 6 Lot 97, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Request for Meeting- Dave Leone

Dave Leone is requested a meeting with the Select Board and the Chief of Police at his campground. He thought the Select Board and Police Chief would like to go to the campground since they have never been. He also thought that Bill Oakley as the Emergency Management Director may want to go in case we need to utilize the campground or the water in case of an emergency. Sara will reach out to Bill Oakley to see if he would like to attend. The Select Board agreed to meet on June 16, 2020 at 5:00pm at his property. Sara will post the time change.

Dave also asked Bubba if he has the plans that the State created in 1954 when doing the North Groton Road project. These are actual plans showing the road as it was at the time and then what they were going to do in the reconstruction project. Then they gave up and gave the road back to the town. Dave believes it is the only road the town has a deeded right of way. He said the most important thing is that the entire road was surveyed and monuments that were put in are shown on this plan. Dave also mentioned that as far as the right of way, he sees people working in the right of way and wonders if the town has liability. People are parking in the right of way, have wood in the right of way, building in the right of way, etc. He was at Grafton County Registry of Deeds and saw a deed that states that one building is in the right of way by 4 feet and if anything happens to that building, the owner cannot build in the right of way. It is a building on John Faucher's property. He is grandfathered in for the building as it is right now but he cannot add to it and cannot rebuild it

where it is if anything happens. The town will make copies of the plan and then give the originals back to Dave. Tony said that District 2 has those plans on file as well.

Dave stated that he had met the Police Chief a few Sundays ago. He has had problems in the past with the Groton Police Department. He has papers that show the facts of things that have happened in the past. He was arrested for reading a letter and was sued for defamation of character. The court accepted the letter he was reading. This was all in the past and he wanted the Select Board and the Chief to be aware of it but wants to move forward without any issues. Sara will make copies of the papers as requested by Dave and give the Select Board and the Police Chief a copy for their review. Dave said that the Chief drove up the road and didn't stop until Dave asked him if he was going to. Dave wanted him to be aware of what happened in the past and he wanted to make sure this isn't why he didn't stop because he felt it was a little awkward. Chief Bagan said that he wasn't aware of the past so it wasn't meant to be awkward, and he wouldn't hold the past against him. The Chief said he waved and then he thought the conversation they had was a good one and he apologized that it seemed awkward.

Carpeting June 12th- office hours, CC meeting, etc.

Sara reminded the Select Board that the company will be coming to do the carpet on Friday June 12th so Sara will be working that day. The Highway Department will be working that week on moving items off of the carpet and will need to do most of it on Thursday. Dave Switaj will also be coming on Thursday to assist with moving of the computers, etc. Bubba and Sara had asked if the offices should be closed to the public on Thursday to allow for this to be done without interruption and if this is being done, we won't be able to do much work.

John motioned to close the office on Thursday, June 11th to allow for the moving of furniture and computers for the carpeting that will be done on Friday, June 12th, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Also, it was discussed that the book shelves be removed in the library and the library painted before the carpets are put in. Bubba said the shelves will be removed this week and they will start painting after.

Conservation Commission is scheduled to meet Thursday, June 11th but everything will be moved into the big meeting room. They can meet in the normal room or in the big meeting room but will just have to put out chairs.

Old Home Day

The question had come up if the Town will still be having Old Home Day this year. Most of the fairs have cancelled, Hebron has cancelled its Hebron Fair and others are cancelling items. The Select Board said they don't want to be the Town that has it and has a case of Corona Virus. It was agreed to cancel it this year to follow other towns and the state fairs so that the Town is not liable if someone gets sick. **John motioned to cancel Old Home Day for 2020, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

There were no Select Board items.

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

Bubba discussed the following Highway Department items:

- North Groton Road Project: The shoulder gravel was done today and they will be back in the morning to finish it up
- North Groton Road: During the heavy rains, part of the road washed out from Old Rumney Road down to Halls Brook.

- The Truck should be ready by the end of July.
- The sanders were winterized.

Police Department

There has been some petty theft in Dorchester, Wentworth and Groton. The Chief has seen pictures of the vehicles so he has increased patrol. The State Police is investigating.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Conservation Commission Funds

The Conservation Commission wanted to bring up the bridge that is behind the Highway Garage that leads to the Conservation Pond. They are not sure since the Town owns the land, but it was entrusted to the Conservation Commission, if they can even spend their money on this. Sara explained that she reached out to NHMA with this exact question and will let them know when she hears back.

The bridge doesn't need to totally be replaced but does need to be redocked with pressure treated wood. The steel frame is fine. The Town did get a quote which was for \$4,975.00.

Right now, there is no money in the budget to do this so if it is decided to move forward, we would need to do warrant article for 2021. Pam Hamel said that since it is a bottom-line budget the Town could see if there is any extra money. The Select Board explained that there are other things we know that have come up that cost more than we thought so we don't think we will have extra and even still we wouldn't know until the end of the year which would be too late to do the project.

Dave Leone said he would suggest pressure treated as well.

Slim said a foot bridge would be decent but the problem with that is that it would need to be larger to get the mower and equipment over it for clean up and maintenance.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Water Testing

Dave Leone said that he brings his water for testing and wanted to know if the Town would like their water tested. The Select Board agreed that it would be good to do as we have talked about it in the past. Dave asked Sara for the office hours and stated that he usually goes on Friday mornings. The offices are closed on Fridays so Dave will come on a Thursday afternoon.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 7:50pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant