

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
September 1, 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 August 18, 2020 as amended, Ron 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of August 18, 2020 as amended, Ron 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ten-year Transportation Improvement Plan update

Sara and Bubba talked to North Country Council about the idea to add River Road to the Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan as discussed at the last meeting. River Road doesn't qualify. It was explained that this is for State Roads only. North County Council will reach out to DOT to see if they want to add any of the State Roads in Groton to the plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tyner Lawrence- Internet on Sculptured Rocks Road

Tyner had reached out to the Select Board in July regarding internet on Sculptured Rocks Road and asking for the Towns involvement. He called today and will have to reschedule until the next meeting on the 15th. Sara mentioned that she had looked into the GOEFERR options from COVID19. The deadline for this was July 2, 2020 which was before Tyner had reached out so they couldn't apply for that. She did reach out to a few other people that may have options but wanted to make sure the Select Board is okay with her discussing the options with them. The Select Board is okay with this. Sara will set up a conference call for this.

Building Permit Map 1 Lot 82

The owner submitted building permit for their property on 18 Warrant Lane for a 28x36 garage. They also submitted the private road release form. **John motioned to sign the building permit for and release form for Map 1 Lot 82, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit Map 5 Lot 145

The owner submitted building permit for their property on 7 Patterson Lane for a reconstruction of a 20x34 two-bedroom home. They submitted the PUC approval and the DES approval. They also submitted the private road release form. **John motioned to sign the building permit and release form for Map 5 Lot 145, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit Map 1 Lot 22-1

The owner submitted building permit for their property on Will Colburn Road for a 1600 square foot 1 story home. They submitted the PUC approval and the DES approval. They also submitted the private road release form. **John motioned to sign the building permit for Map 1 Lot 22-1, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Local septic approval- Map 1 Lot 53

The owners dropped off a Septic Plan and local approval for Map 1 Lot 53. All the information is correct. **John motioned to sign the local approval for Map 1 Lot 53, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Request for letter of support for NLRA watershed grant

Rebecca Hanson from NLRA emailed the Select Board requesting a letter of support for the NLRA watershed grant. The Town has submitted support letters in the past. Sara included the last letter for review. Sara drafted a support letter in case the Select Board would like to submit one again. The Select Board agreed to submit this letter. **John motioned to sign the letter of support for NLRA watershed grant, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Follow up Junkyard Inspections

On August 13, 2020 Ken Knowlton went out to some of the properties on the list that were in violation at the last visit or who have been in and out of compliance. Below are his findings:

- Case #1: This property is still in violation. It was recommended in the past that a fence be put up but Ken is wondering if a junkyard license would be the answer to his projects. Sara drafted a violation letter. **John motioned to sign the violation letter, Tony 2nd, so voted.**
- Case #2: Extensive clean-up has taken place and the property is now in compliance. Sara drafted a compliance letter. **John motioned to sign the compliance letter, Tony 2nd, so voted.**
- Case #8: This property is still in violation. Ken recommends that the Town contact DES to schedule an inspection by them in the near future. He will be available to go too if possible. Sara drafted a violation letter. **John motioned to sign the violation letter, Tony 2nd, so voted. Sara will reach out to DES to see if we can do an inspection with them**
- Case #13: This was on the inactive list but Ken drove by and noticed that the truck population has grown since 2017 and he thinks that maybe Ken should do an actual inspection of this property. If he is not compliant, he thinks that the Town and Ken should encourage him to apply for a license with all of the items he has there. Sara hasn't drafted a letter yet as she didn't know what the Select Board would want to do. Sara will contact Ken and set up a date for inspection.
- Case #24: This property was in compliance at the last inspection and still is. Ken is recommending moving to the inactive list. No letter was needed as they were already sent a compliance letter after the last inspection and nothing has changed. It was agreed to keep this on the yearly check list since they have been in and out of compliance.
- Case #25: This property was in compliance at the last inspection and still is. Ken is recommending moving to the inactive list. No letter was needed as they were already sent a compliance letter after the last inspection and nothing has changed. It was agreed to move this to the inactive list.

42 Nedeau Lane

It has been brought to the Town's attention that the owners of 42 Nedeau Lane are building a deck with a roof that is over 100 square feet at their residence. There is no building permit on file. Sara drafted a building permit violation letter requesting they fill out a building permit and included the building permit and guidelines. **John motioned to sign the building permit violation letter to 42 Nedeau Lane, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Temporary Storage Container

The owners of 133 Brock Lane reached out to the Town about a storage unit they have on their property. It will only be there temporarily while a family member is in need and looking for somewhere else to live. Sara reached out to Avitar who explained *"In order to qualify to remain in current use, property that is enrolled in one of the forest land current use categories has to remain in its natural state. Structures such as storage containers are not allowed. That being said, I suggest that the BoS send the property owners a letter giving them a reasonable amount of time to remove the container without imposing the LUCT and taking land out of current use. If they opt to leave it there beyond the Board's deadline, then I would recommend the LUCT."*

The Select Board agreed that 60 days would be a reasonable amount of time and if not removed by then that they would have to do the LUCT. Sara will contact the resident to let them know.

Request to borrow chairs/tables

Erik Ljunggren requested to borrow 8 tables and 35 chairs for the celebration of life for his Dad on September 12, 2020. The Select Board approved this request.

September 8, 2020 Primary Election

The Primary elections are September 8, 2020 and the polls will be open from 8:00am to 7:00pm. The absentee ballots will be processed beginning at 9:00am, one hour after the polls open.

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Building Permit- Map 2 Lot 6

The owner submitted building permit for their property on 1344 North Groton Road for a 30x40 garage. They are waiting for the PUC approval and DES septic approval but wanted to submit for the foundation only so they can get that done before the first frost. **John motioned to sign the building permit for foundation only for Map 2 Lot 6, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Building Permit- Map 6 Lot 48

The owner submitted building permit for their property on Giovanna Road for a 12x24 shed. They have a release form on file. **John motioned to sign the building permit for foundation only for Map 6 Lot 48, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Public Works Building/Highway Department Garage update and grant

The Select Board will be holding 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 USDA 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.

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

Bubba went over the following highway 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 culvers 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.
- The new truck may be ready next week.
- The culvert on Edgar Albert Road is in. They are just waiting on one more permit.
- 1214 NGR was cleaned up- nothing of value- Sara will let attorney know and see what we need

Police Department

- Chief Bagan mentioned that the Select Board approved the updated parking ordinance with increase of the parking ticket to \$50.00 so he will order the new tickets.

Town Clerk/Tax Collectors office

Ruth provided the Select Board with information regarding getting set up to take credit cards. The Select Board did review this. She would like to move forward with it and if so, she has to right a letter to DOS. The Select Board is okay with moving forward.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Conservation Commission items

- The Groton Conservation Commission will be holding a road clean up on Saturday, September 19, 2020 from 10:00am-12:00pm. Anyone who would like to participate are asked to meet in the parking lot at the Town House at 10:00am where trash bags and safety vests will be provided. Slim said that in the past they have gathered together for food after but they are not doing that this year but will supply water.
- The Conservation Commission decided that they will not be giving money towards fixing the bridge that leads to the pond. The Select Board will discuss submitting a warrant article for this.

Cemetery Committee

Slim said that the boulder that couldn't be engraved last fall for the River Road Cemetery has been engraved.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

There were no questions and comments.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 7:31pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant