

Town of Groton
Select Board Work Session Minutes
December 21, 2021

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

John called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Transfer Station Attendant Position

There were three candidates that were interviewed for the position.

John motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (b) at 5:30pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to return to public session at 6:30pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

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

Budget Items

Since the last meeting Sara has received the following:

- The request from Tri County Cap which is under Welfare: They are asking for \$1200 which is \$25.00 more than last year so this line was changed.
- Pemi Baker Solid Waste Dues went up to \$585.80; this line is for \$600.00 so this doesn't need to be changed.

Town report- choose company

Sara reached out to many companies for quotes. The company we used the last few years, Bridge & Byron printers, was great and is quoting the same amount. They even came to us to drop off the reports. The Select Board agreed to stay with Bridge & Byron. Sara will email them to let them know.

Email on mobile vaccine unit

The Town received another email to see if we are interested in the mobile vaccine unit coming to town. Sara asked how she should respond. The Select Board agreed there is no need for them to come out to our Town. There are many places our residents can go to get the vaccine and can get rides if needed. Sara will email them back with this information.

Juneteenth

When the Select Board reviewed the holiday list at the last meeting, an employee pointed out that Juneteenth was made a federal holiday last year but it wasn't on the list. Sara explained that for the most part the Town follows the State Holidays and Juneteenth wasn't listed. Sara called local towns to see what they are doing and most have not decided yet. The only ones that have decided was Hebron decided it would be a holiday and Bristol decided it would not. The rest have not discussed this yet but they didn't think they would be recognizing it or she was not able to talk to anyone regarding this for other Towns. Sara did show the Select Board the State Holiday list and this isn't on there. It does mention that it is a Federal Holiday but that it is not a paid Holiday for the State. The Select Board agreed to follow the State and not consider a paid Holiday right now.

Email from Jennifer Gilbert regarding Beaver Pond Road

John went out to look at the site and emailed pictures. There are some dirt piles that could impede the flow of water in the event of a flood. Sara sent this information to Jennifer Gilbert who is passing the information on to FEMA and will get back to us.

Property In Violation

The property that is in violation and sent the letter stating that the clean-up would be done in 30 days needs to be inspected again since the 30 days has passed. The Select Board asked Sara to set up the inspection for Tuesday January 4, 2022 at 4:30pm.

River concerns

The Town received an email from HSEM stating that they checked with Fish and Game and that there's no appropriations for this proposed work. The next step on HSEM's end would be to review the proposed plan/work to be completed to ensure it aligns with FEMA Hazard Mitigation funding. They said the Town could provide any additional documentation we may have at our convenience, or we can first schedule a call with any other potential stakeholders if we'd prefer. The Select Board agreed that we should email back to let them know that NLRA has a grant for the planning of this work and stated that once the planning is complete, they will be trying for a grant for the actual work. Sara will see if this would affect this or if HSEM could work with NLRA on this. Sara will email them with this information.

Meeting with Bubba

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

- Backhoe update: Bubba wanted to make sure that everyone was aware that there was an accident with the backhoe. Norm rolled it but he is okay and that is what is important. Primex has been contacted regarding this. In the meantime, they filled it back up with fluids but didn't want to start it in case there were any issues. A JCB mechanic was on the road anyway so he came by and they fired it up. It did end up starting but he thinks it needs to go to JCB to be fixed. We can see if insurance will cover a loaner while it gets fixed. Bubba said the problem is that most places do not have machines available right now as they are all out and rented but he will call a few more places. They need a backhoe to load trucks and to pack the dump. They will be able to use it tomorrow while we still have it since we are expecting snow.
- Trailers are hard to price right now as they could go up by 25% within the next year. He has got quotes but will include the increase when submitting a warrant article. This would be used to move pipe, other equipment, etc.
- We need a steam cleaner/culvert thawer. Everyone around here uses the same kind which is a power eagle and it is serviced around here. This will be a warrant article as well. The Select Board told Bubba to look at ordering it this year if he has money in his budget. Sara and Bubba will look into this tomorrow. **John motioned to order the steam cleaner/culvert thawer if there is room in the Highway budget, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 6:59pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant