

TOWN OF GROTON  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
January 5, 2021

**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 December 1, 2020 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

**John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of December 1, 2020 as written, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Reports of cut/yield certificates*

- FORECO sent in a report of cut is for Map 9 Lot 2 and Map 7 Lot 46 for a total cut of about 115 acres. The amount of the tax is \$3,289.22. **John motioned to sign the yield certificate for Map 9 Lot 2 and Map 7 Lot 46, Tony 2nd, so voted.**
- FORECO sent in a report of cut is for Map 9 Lot 1 for a total cut of about 36 acres. The amount of the tax is \$883.08. **John motioned to sign the yield certificate for Map 9 Lot 1, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

*Intent to cut- Map 10 Lot 42*

Robert Berti submitted an Intent to Cut for Green Acre Woodland's property on Map 10 Lot 42, on Halls Brook Road for a 40-acre cut. No timber tax bond is required and all information is correct. **John motioned to sign the Intent of Cut for Map 10 Lot 42, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

*Building Permit- Map 5 Lot 8*

The owners submitted a building permit for a 14x18 shed on their property on Map 5 Lot 8, on Jewell Hill. They already have the release form on file. **John motioned to sign building permit for Map 5 Lot 8, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

*Building Permit- Map 2 Lot 20-1*

The owners submitted a building permit for an 8x16 deck on their property on Map 2 Lot 20-1. They are the ones that were sent the letter to explain they needed a permit since it was over 100 square feet. They tore down the existing one and replaced it with this. Since they were replacing it, they didn't realize they needed a permit. This is a little larger than what was there. **John motioned to sign building permit for Map 2 Lot 20-1, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

*Twin Rivers Office Machines 2021 agreement*

The Select Board received the contract from Twin Rivers Office Machines, Inc covering 1/1/21-12/31/21. This contract covers the same details as last year and is for the same amount. **John motioned to sign the Twin Rivers Office Machines, Inc contract, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

#### *Plymouth Prosecutor Contract*

The Police Chief submitted the contract from Plymouth Prosecutor Office which states it will be \$5,280.00 for the year and will be 12 monthly installments of \$440.00 covering 1/1/21-12/31/21. This is much less than the other Prosecutors we were using, almost half the cost. **John motioned to sign the Plymouth Prosecutor Contract, Inc contract, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

#### *Dead River- Certificate for exemption of Federal Diesel Tax*

Each year Dead River sends the renewal form for the Town to fill out to continue their tax-exempt status. The current certificate for exemption of federal diesel tax expires on December 31, 2020. The Select Board signed a form at the last meeting for this but Dead River had sent the wrong form originally so this is the correct form. **John motioned to sign the 2021 certificate for exemption of federal diesel tax, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

#### *Land Use Change Tax, Map 3 Lot 6-3*

The Select Board received recommendations from Avitar on a land use change tax that was submitted for Map 3 Lot 6-3. This 30-acre parcel was assessed with 29.5 acres in current use but the owners informed the Town about a storage container that has been placed on the property that they are planning on leaving there. As a result, the area where the storage container is, which is about .1 acre needs to be removed from current use. The estimated market value is \$100.00 which results in a land use change tax of \$10.00. **John motioned to sign the land use change tax for Map 3 Lot 6-3, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

#### *MS-60A*

Each year the Town submits an MS-60A after the MS-60W has been submitted. These are forms pertaining to the local town audit completed by the locally elected auditor. **John motioned to sign the MS-60A, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

#### *158 River Road Concern*

A resident reached out to the Police Department regarding the residents of 158 River Road have apparently reached capacity for how much junk they can fit in their yard, and it is now overflowing into the road. Specifically, they have had two cars parked in the road, one of them is sitting on jacks, for 3 days now. During the snow storm, the snow plow had to plow around them making it unsafe for cars and/or any emergency vehicles to squeeze by. Even without the weather being an issue, it is blocking half of the road which is not very wide to begin with.

Chief Bagan is dealing with the parking issue but he wanted the Select Board to know about the junkyard concerns. John explained that we are in the process of getting a new junkyard inspector and we usually do not go out until late spring to do the junkyard inspections due to the weather conditions.

#### *Inventory Abatement request- Map 1 Lot 100*

At the last Select Board meeting the Select Board approved Mrs. Jones request to have the inventory penalty removed from her account. The Select Board approved this for one property, Map 1 Lot 97, for \$36.00 but they have another property, Map 1 Lot 100, for \$10.00. **John motioned to approve the inventory abatement and to sign the abatement form, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

#### *Assessment Concern- Map 1 Lot 37*

The owner of Map 1 Lot 37 sent a letter in with their tax bill stating that they feel they are not being assessed correctly for the building on their property. Sara sent the letter to Avitar first to make sure they agree they will need to submit an abatement application and they agreed. Sara drafted a letter and included a copy of the abatement application which needs to be returned by March 1, 2021. **John motioned to sign the letter to Map 1 Lot 37, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

### *Newfound Area School District Petitioned Warrant Article*

The Newfound Area School District has received a Petitioned Warrant Article. Per RSA 32:5-c, this request requires a public hearing to occur in each town in the District. The permissible hearing dates fall on/between Feb 8 - 11 or on/between Feb 16 - 18 following state guidelines. Please forward to this email the date and time that works best for your town by January 15, 2020. The District will then create and post the notices required.

### *Preparation of Budgets*

#### *Section 32:5-c*

*III. A public hearing shall be held by the local governing body on the question at least 15 days, but not more than 30 days, before the question is to be voted on. In multi-town districts, a public hearing shall be held in each town embraced by the district, none of which shall be held on the same day. Notice of the hearing shall be posted in at least 2 public places in the town and at least 2 public places in each town of multi-town districts, and published in a newspaper of general circulation at least 7 days prior to the date of the hearing.*

Sue Cross provided the dates that were already taken. The Select Board agreed to have the public hearing on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:00pm. Sara will let Sue know.

### **SELECT BOARD ITEMS:**

#### *Building Permit- Map 5 Lot 48-2*

The owners submitted a building permit for a 24X32 Log home with Garage on their property on Map 5 Lot 48-2, on Beaver Pond Road. They submitted the PUC approval and the DES septic approval along with the release form since it is a private road. **John motioned to sign building permit and release form for Map 5 Lot 48-2, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

### **DEPARTMENT ITEMS:**

#### *Police Department*

- Chief Bagan wanted to let the townspeople know of an issue with cars being broken into in Groton and Hebron. There was an incident on Sculptured Rocks Road and also in Hebron on North Shore Road. They are trying to get more information or to capture pictures of the person doing it. Chief Bagan recommended everyone make sure they lock their vehicles.

#### *Highway Department*

Bubba went over the following

- They have been busy plowing and sanding.
- There was a close call on Christmas Day where there was almost flooding. All of the road work and the new culverts that are on Sculptured Rocks Road handled the weather well. John said if those old culverts were still there then there definitely would have been issues. Tony said the catch basins and road work that was done also helped.
- The new truck is working out well. Bubba thanked the townspeople for voting in favor of this.

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

#### *Conservation Commission*

Slim mentioned the following Conservation items:

- Due to slowness of the year, the Conservation Commission will not be having monthly meetings until further notice. They will meet as needed when a conservation need arises. Ruth will put this in her article and Sara will update the website and the posting on the bulletin board.

- Due to other projects that she has taken on, Ruth Gaffey will be resigning as Secretary of the Conservation Commission.

**QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:**

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

**Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 7:30pm, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith  
Administrative Assistant