

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
June 1, 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 May 18, 2021 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted. John motioned to approve the Non-Public Work Session Meeting minutes of May 18, 2021 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of May 18, 2021 as written, Ron 2nd, so voted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Building Permits from last meeting

- Building Permit for Map 5 Lot 54: The owner previously dropped off a building permit for his property located on 73 Beaver Pond Road for a 16x16 addition which was tabled at the last meeting so it could be reviewed by the Planning Board. They went before the Planning Board for review and the Planning Board approved him to move forward but he needed an updated release form for the private road which he has since submitted with the payment. John was at that meeting and agreed that it is all set to move forward. **John motioned to approve the building permit for Map 5 Lot 45 and sign the release form, Tony 2nd, so voted**
- Building Permit Map 5 Lot 134: The owner previously dropped off a building permit for a 10x15 mudroom for his property located on 18 Hammerhead Road. He has previously supplied the PUC and DES approvals. They went before the Planning Board for review and the Planning Board approved him to move forward but he needed an updated release form for the private road which he has since submitted with the payment. John was at that meeting and agreed that it is all set to move forward. **John motioned to approve the building permit for Map 5 Lot 134 and sign the release form, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Intent to Cut Map 10 Lot 42

The logger submitted an intent for Map 10 Lot 42 for property located on Halls Brook Road. This is about a 30-acre cut. No bond is needed. **John motioned to sign intent to cut for Map 10 Lot 42, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Local Septic Approval- Map 6 Lot 79

Matt Barnard dropped off a local septic approval for Map 6 Lot 79, for a resident on Dodge Road. All information is correct. **John motioned to sign the local septic approval for Map 6 Lot 79, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Charitable recommendations memo

This is a Memo from Sara explaining the religious, educational and charitable exemptions have been reviewed by the Assessor and should be approved by the Board. These are usually reviewed by Avitar every year but Kerry from Avitar said that since these all are a recurring annual application, there is no need for him to review

them every year unless something changes on the property. **John motioned to sign the charitable exemption approval Memo, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Request to borrow table and chairs

A resident sent in a request to borrow tables and chairs from the town hall. They would like to borrow 5 tables and 40 chairs for use on June 5th for a wedding at their home and would also like to borrow 4 tables and 30 chairs for a graduation party also at their home on June 12th. These are weekends back-to-back so we could allow the tables and chairs to stay there the entire time or have them bring them back and forth. We do not have any other requests for them at this time.

Planning Board Meeting Minute Process

John explained that he is the liaison for the Planning Board and they are trying to work out the process for the minutes so that they are done in a timely manner. Deb wanted the Select Board to discuss how the Planning Board will take minutes. The Select Board discussed this during the work session and it was agreed that the process will be that the Planning Board should take their own minutes and they should record them and see how that works. If that doesn't work then they can look into hiring a minute taker out of their budget. If they want to order a recorder, we can do that for them. John will let them know at the next meeting

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Library Trustees Letter

Ruth Gaffey, who was a Library Trustee but no longer is, sent an email to Gina and the Select Board explaining that a letter should be sent to Bill Powers, the Chair of the Library Trustees. She said we need to officially tell the Town of Hebron that our town has declined to continue the Memorandum of Understanding. If we don't do that according to the memorandum, we could be charged she believes. The Select Board has not been the ones to sign the memorandum so it should come from the library trustees, Sara believes and wanted to see what the Select Board thought. The Select Board agreed that it should come from the Trustees.

Abatement Recommendation, Map 1 Lot 37

Avitar sent the recommendation for the abatement for Map 1 Lot 37. Sara did the calculations, created a refund check and a notification letter for the Bernard Berry Abatement based on Avitar's recommendation. It was approved to reduce the assessment from \$83,100 to \$66,600. **John motioned to sign the Abatement for Map 1 Lot 37, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Interoffice Memo- Exemptions/Credits Updated letters per re-valuation

Every five years the Town does a re-valuation where DRA and Avitar work with the Town to make sure we are doing everything that we need to be doing and collecting the necessary documentation for current use, credits, exemptions, etc. They also do this to make sure the properties are being assessed appropriately. Due to this, every five years the Town sends out an updated residency letter for credits and exemptions and goes over any supporting documentation needed to make sure there are no changes. Sara has sent these letters out and has received some more back. **John motioned to sign the interoffice memos for each of the exemptions/credits that Sara has received back, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Class VI Road Letters- Old Rumney Road

A Resident sent a letter to the Select Board with their plans for road maintenance for Old Rumney Road and will continue to maintain the road along with repairing any damage that may occur, blockage, or routine maintenance such as trimming any grass, brush, or trees that may grow into the path of travel. **John motioned to approve both the Class VI Road improvement request and sign the approval letter for Old Rumney Road, Ron 2nd, so voted.**

Local Septic Approval- Map 5 Lot 72

Daniel Ward dropped off a local septic approval for Map 5 Lot 72, for a resident on North Groton Road. He had previously dropped one off but the State made him change the tank size so he submitted an updated plan to reflect this. All information on the updated plan is correct. **John motioned to sign the local septic approval for Map 5 Lot 72, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

Bubba explained that they will be paving Sculptured Rocks Road next week to finish up the Sculptured Rocks Road project and close out the NBRC grant.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Conservation Commission

- Slim reminded everyone that the fishing derby is this Saturday, June 5th. Sara explained the porta potty will be delivered this week. Slim picked up the trophies today. The fish will be delivered Thursday. He got the permit to hold the derby from the State so everything should be all set for this weekend.
- There is a sign that is in bad shape and Virginia said that her neighbor does wood work. He looked at the sign and said he can fix it. Jim Gaffey and Slim took the sign down and delivered it and it will be fixed by Saturday for the derby.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 7:20pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant