

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
November 16, 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 Non-Public Work Session Meeting minutes of November 2, 2021 as written, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Work Session Meeting minutes of November 2, 2021 as written, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of November 2, 2021 as written, Tony 2nd, so voted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Building Permit Map 6 Lot 2

The owner submitted a building permit that the Select Board reviewed at the last meeting for their property located on 39 Orchard Hill Lane for a 480 square foot shed. This is on a private road so this permit did go before the Planning Board. The Planning Board reviewed the permit, the deed and any plans we had on file. They are okay with the Select Board approving the permit. He did submit the release of municipal liability form as well. At the last meeting John mentioned that the owner must submit something showing the outhouse/privy on the property meets DES standards. The owner has since submitted this statement and the Select Board agreed this is acceptable. **John motioned to approve the building permit for Map 6 Lot 2, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Abatement Application- negative tax bills

Due to the tax rate being so low there was quite a few negative tax bills, which are people we owe money too. Ruth thought that we would be able to just apply the overpayment to the next years taxes if they wanted to but we cannot because the RSA says that "we shall" refund. We have to do an abatement application and then cut them a check. There are some that owe taxes that we won't cut a check and will apply it to the owed taxes. Ruth has included this list as well. If the Select Board sign the abatement application this week, Sara will cut the checks next week. The negative tax bills totaled \$12,935.00 but the list that Ruth provided that we will do abatements for but not cut checks for totals \$504.00. **John motioned to sign the abatement application for the negative tax bills, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Broadband option for ARPA Funds

NHMA put out information for Towns if they are interested in joining the Statewide Broadband Investment Planning Network. If so, the Towns can use their ARPA funds towards this. The Broadband planning network cost is based on population and for a Town our size it would cost \$5,000.00. **John motioned to use the ARPA funds to join the Statewide Broadband Investment, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Also, regarding broadband, Nik Coates from Bristol has been working with the Grafton County Broadband Committee regarding broadband in Grafton County. They were successful with its grant application for \$25,000.00 to pair with ARPA Funds. Bubba said they turned on the broadband so schools are running off of it.

Grafton RDC'S Annual Meeting RSVP Reminder

The Select Board received a reminder call and emailed about Grafton RDC'S Annual Meeting RSVP. We need to RSVP to let them know if someone from Groton is attending and if not, we need to fill out the Proxy form. Sara can submit this form online. **John motioned for Sara to submit the form online, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Senior Thanksgiving Dinner- cancelled due to COVID

Alison Bagley usually puts on the Senior Thanksgiving Dinner. However, due to COVID and her working at a school with new cases every day, she does not feel comfortable doing it this year so it is cancelled.

The Select Board did state that we will be doing a few gift baskets and gift cards for those that need it. At this time no one has reached out to the Town but we have lists from previous years that we use. If anyone is in need, they can contact the Town offices.

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

Bubba went over the following:

- They sanded Sunday. Winter will be here before we know it!

Police

Chief Bagan went over the following:

- He had the snow tires put on today.
- His firearms qualifications are up to date.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Lamos property

A resident asked if a building permit was ever submitted for 17 Edgar Albert Road. The Select Board sent him a letter regarding this permit but couldn't remember off the top of their heads if one was submitted but they will look into it.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 7:10pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant