

TOWN OF GROTON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
March 5, 2024

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 February 20, 2024 as written, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Non-Public Work Session Meeting minutes of February 20, 2024 as written, Tony 2nd, so voted.

John motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of February 20, 2024 as written, Tony 2nd, so voted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Candidates Night

The open positions are:

- SELECT PERSON 1 position for 3 years- John Rescigno
- TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR 1 position for 3 years- Ruth Millett
- MODERATOR 1 position for 2 years- open
- TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUND 1 position for 3 years- open
- PLANNING BOARD 2 positions for 3 years- Forrest Blake, David Labar, Michael Sheehan
- CEMETERY TRUSTEE 1 positions for 1 year- open
- SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST 1 position for 6 years- Pamela Hamel
- TOWN AUDITOR for 1 year- Ann Joyce

Ann Joyce introduced herself and said she is running for local auditor. No one else is running for the position so she decided to run again. Sara mentioned that Ann has been the local auditor and does a great job!

John Rescigno said he is running for Selectmen. He has been here for a while and he definitely has the best interests of the Town in mind. He thinks the team that he has built is an outstanding team. We all work well together and have done a lot of great things for the Town. They have worked hard on maintaining the Town, the roads and they are currently working on the new town garage keeping in mind what the Town wanted to spend. Tony pointed out that John has spend a lot of time on the school steering committee. John said that he has put a lot of time and effort on this school committee for HB349. Hopefully that will save the Town money and will protect us from any chance of another warrant article that can change the formula.

Ann and John were the only candidates in attendance.

PA-29 Tax Credit/ Exemption for All Veterans & Service-Connected Total Disability

The Town received an application for the Tax Credit for the All-Veterans Tax Credit and for the Service-Connected Total Disability. The Town received the DD214 and the letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs showing

100% Service-Connected Total Disability. There were no questions. **John motioned to approve the All-Veterans Tax Credit and the Service-Connected Total Disability, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Avitar Software agreement for internet Kiosk

Avitar is offering the option to put our tax cards online through the internet kiosk. The internet kiosk allows the more options for mapping and for assessment cards online. The cost for the expanded configuration kiosk is \$891 per year. The Mapping bundle is an additional \$450 per year and the assessment card option is \$750 per year. This total would be \$2,091 per year. Sara said that she only did between 10-15 in 2023. We charge \$1.00 per card. It doesn't seem like we have enough requests at this time to justify the amount that it will cost. Also, we did not budget for this for the 2024 budget. The Select Board agreed to wait until 2025 and look at adding it then and Sara will keep track of how many she sends in 2024.

Request for use of tables & Chairs and parking at the Town House

The Town received a request to use tables and chairs for a wedding on August 10, 2024. They also requested to use the Town House for parking for about 40 vehicles from about 12pm to 11pm. Sara will have them complete the sign out sheet for the exact number of tables and chairs they take. Sara already told them that Old Home Day is the weekend after so we would need the tables and chairs back Monday or Tuesday following their wedding. **John motioned to approve the use of table and chairs and the parking at the Town House, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

Bid deadline

John mentioned that they decided to extend the bid deadline for the Public Works Building to April 2, 2024.

Information Session on exiting Sau4

John mentioned that on Thursday March 14, 2024 at 7pm there will be an informational session here at the Town House on exiting SAU4. This will be the last meeting before we vote on it at Town Meeting.

DEPARTMENT ITEMS:

Highway Department

Bubba said that Edgar Albert Road seems to be the worst road right now. Until the frost breaks there will not be relief. He will keep an eye on it. He will also keep an eye on the parking lot due to voting on Tuesday. They are saying snow in the forecast. Bubba told Tony to be careful if get called out for emergencies on his road and other roads in Town. Tony said they will send a pick up out first.

Police Department

Chief said that he has limited his patrols to stay on paved roads right now due to the mud.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 7:14pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Smith
Administrative Assistant