

Town of Groton
Select Board Work Session Minutes
February 4, 2025

In attendance: John Rescigno, Tony Albert, Ron Madan and Sara Smith (Town Administrator)

John called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Public Hearing Prep

The Public Hearing on the budget is tonight so the Select Board went over a few things.

- Sara explained that the changes that were made to the budget and warrant from the last meeting are reflected on the updated copies.
- This also changed Warrant Article 2, which is the operating budget total.
- Sara has heard back from DRA on all warrant articles except one. They asked about the school warrant article and what this money is for. She explained as of right now we are not sure but had to have this done before they have their budget meeting and wanted to make sure we have some funds to assist in opening the new school district. Since Sara has not heard back from DRA with a response to that, this article may change depending on what they say.
- Sara went over the warrant articles and wanted to confirm if all of the Select Board recommend each article. They all recommend each article. Before Town Meeting we will go through each article to discuss who is speaking on them, etc.
- The major increases were from Rumney and Hebron Fire. Rumney will go back down next year but Hebron will remain the same.

SAU 108 position

It is being considered to add a position to the schoolboard that will be voted on by all Selectmen from the three towns. Each town Select Board will pick a person, then all Select Board members from the three towns will vote for one person to be on the board. The reason for this is to have a better balance of board members on the schoolboard. Meaning a person on the board that is concerned with the way items will impact taxes. John explained the way this will work.

- Step 1- Town will vote that they will allow each Select Board in each town to pick a person that will be voted on by all Select Boards. This will be on the ballot.
- Step 2- Each Town Select Board will pick a person which can be a Selectman, a town resident, etc.
- Step 3- These people will be voted on by the three towns Select Boards

Updated Vacation Policy

Sara made the changes that the Select Board agreed upon and printed the updated vacation policy. **John motioned to sign the updated vacation policy, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Reviews received back

The Department Heads had turned in some more reviews that they signed and the employee signed. The Select Board needs to sign these. **John motioned to sign the reviews, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

908 North Groton Road

The Town had previously sent 908 North Groton Road two letters regarding the structure that was being built on the property. It appears to be over 100 square feet but a building permit was never submitted.

The structure appears to now be complete and it now has sides on it and we still have not received a building permit so we are sending another letter. It was agreed this will be the third and final letter before we have to take the next steps. It was also agreed to send this letter certified. **John motioned to sign the letter to 908 North Groton Road, Tony 2nd, so voted.**

Building Update

The doors will be installed tomorrow. After that, the floors need to thaw before they can do anything else.

SAU 108 Public Hearing on the budget

Sara mentioned that the budget hearing for SAU108 is next Thursday, February 13, 2025 at Bridgewater Town Hall at 6:00pm. Sara asked if the Select Board think we should attend. Tony said we should and that he will try to go and Sara will plan on attending. That way we can hear how this could affect us. Tony asked Sara to remind him. She said she will add it to next weeks work session as a reminder and will send a text out the day of.

Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 5:50pm, Tony 2nd, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith
Town Administrator