

February 6, 2014 Select Board Minutes, Groton Community Building (Approved)

Select Board: Gary Lamberton, Peter Lyon

Fire Department: Wayne, Dorothy, & Henry Knott, Phillip Palmer, Brent & Aaron Smith, Treasurer: Roberta Dana

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Peter moved, Gary seconded and the motion passed unanimously to approve the January 23, 2014 Select Board minutes.

Henry reported that he, Wayne, Dorothy, and Phillip travelled to Hebron, Conn to complete a hands on review of the Fire Truck that Hebron might be willing to donate to the Town of Groton. They met with Kevin McDonnell who works full time as a member of the Hebron Fire Department and also was the key person maintaining the truck over the last several years. They noted that Kevin also has a camp on Lake Groton and was very helpful in coordinating and supporting their visit. The truck is a 1992 custom built Detroit Engine "KME Fire Apparatus" constructed to Hebron's specifications. It carries 6 fire personnel and has a 400 HP engine with 1000 gal. Capacity. It is 33' long, 9.6' high and narrower than the town's current engine. The cab, when lifted up, is 13.5' high which would require some modification to the ceiling in the Station to fit adequately. They confirmed that the 1250 pump has some issues with the pump test as it got only to 900. Henry showed the board a significant number of pictures of the truck from all angles, outside & inside. He also gave a very in-depth review of the features and function including what items would come with the truck and what modifications would be required. Henry reported that the team presented the results of their visit to the members of the Fire Department and the Department has decided to wait for Town meeting to see the results of their petition to purchase a new truck. The fire department members agreed to package up information on the Hebron truck to have available at Town meeting for the folks to view if they like.

Henry also reviewed with the Board the Fire Departments first pass on a Capital plan for both the large equipment and key gear required. Discussion took place on what additional details should be included and the Department committed to have a more complete pass completed for the next Board meeting.

Discussion then took place on the process followed when adding members to the Fire Department. The first step is the submittal of an application by a candidate which must include three letters of recommendation, the application is then voted on and must be supported by a majority of the Department members, and then there is a one year probation. Wayne also pointed out that Vermont State Statutes empower him as Chief to obtain personnel to help fight fires whenever he feels it is required. It was agreed that Wayne, as Chief, has the final say on who should be placed on Insurance and that all parties would respect and support his decision.

Peter asked Brent for the Highway Department's capital plan for review. Brent committed to have available in the next few days.

Gary questioned a PO that Kitty had submitted for engineering on the wall behind the Community Building as he thought it should be paid for by donations. Peter explained the rationale that Kitty had used in deciding to process the PO and Gary signed it.

Roberta reported that she had a pay request from Dan Robinson as auditor and wanted to know the hourly rate to use. Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to pay Dan a rate of \$10.82 per hour, the same rate as Martha and Debbie.

Peter asked Roberta for the status of obtaining the interest rate offered by various banks for the reserve funds. Roberta said she would have ready for the next Board meeting. Peter asked for the status of the revenue report, actuals for 2013 and projection for 2014. Roberta provided a detailed report that also will be included in the Town report.

Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to close the meeting (at 9:10 PM)

Gary Lamberton, Chair

Prepared by Peter Lyon