

June 5, 2014 Select Board Minutes, Groton Community Building (Approved)

Select Board: Peter Lyon, Gary Lamberton, Nathan Puffer

Treasurer: Roberta Dana, Building Committee: Kitty Diggins, Mark Shallberg, Town Clerk: Linda Nunn, Lake Groton Association: Dave Spencer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Dave reported that the Lake Groton Association wants to hire professionals rather than use volunteers & college kids. The Association has received a \$2,500 Milfoil grant and issued a bid with the lowest bidder being selected. The Association would like the Town to sign the contract and as per the earlier discussion will reimburse the Town for any expenses. The Board signed the contract and thanked Dave for his efforts.

Kitty reported that the building committee had sent out five RFP's to solve the sulfur smell for the Community Building water supply and received one bid which was from Clearwater Filtration for \$2,422. Kitty explained that the primary commitment by the Company is to clean all water lines & storage tanks in the building. The Board wanted assurances that this will solve the problem, Kitty suggested asking representatives from Clearwater to come to a board meeting to discuss in detail. The Board agreed with Kitty's suggestion.

Peter asked Kitty to have the Building Committee review at the Highway garage the salt shed and the storage building behind the garage as they both need improvements. It was agreed to discuss how to best approach at a future meeting with both the Building Committee and the Highway crew.

Kitty, as Town Lister, reported that June 17th is the last day to submit a grievance and June 18th and June 21st submitted grievances will be heard and acted upon. Also that on the week of June 23rd the grand list will be lodged and turned over to the Town Clerk.

Roberta asked if the door knobs to the Town office were handicap accessible. Kitty will coordinate checking with the building committee and get fixed if needed. Kitty reported that the Committee has as their top priorities for the Community Building: (1) Drainage, (2) Gutters & painting the roof, (3) Insulation. Nathan suggested adding to the list the interior ceiling as well as a vapor barrier.

General discussion took place on the proposed burn ordinance. Peter moved, Nathan seconded and it unanimously passed, to adopt the ordinance and authorize Gary to coordinate the next steps to properly place into practice.

Paul Berlejung submitted his resignation from the NVDA Board. Nathan moved and Gary seconded a motion to accept the resignation. Nathan & Gary voted in favor, Peter voted against and the motion passed.

General discussion took place on the Connecticut River Watershed Council's proposal to continue stream geomorphic assessments in the Wells River watershed. Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to send a letter in support of the project.

Gary reported that the computers have arrived and that he is setting the first one up tonight.

Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the May 5, 2014 minutes. Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the May 15, 2014 minutes. Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the May 19, 2014 minutes.

Peter reported that he will be restarting the process of adopting the Financial Policies as proposed by the VLCT.

Nathan reported that he has been in contact with Red (Engineering Firm) on the Welton Bridge project and that Red is proposing a refund of \$7,500. The Contractor is proposing that they refund 1/3 of the \$17,100. Nathan will be working with Shauna (VAOT) to see what other options exist.

Peter suggested that the Board conduct a review of the major highway projects. As an example why would we give priority to Powder Spring Road when Minard hill appears to need work. It was agreed to include this discussion in the next Board meeting.

Gary provided input on a discussion he had been having with Roberta on tax rate calculations and the use of delinquent taxes. Roberta is working with Bill Hall of VLCT to help identify the proper approach to use. The Board requested a summary of the 2013 actual expenses and revenue for the next meeting. Roberta reported that the General fund spending for 2013 was under the budget by \$8,000 and the Highway spending for 2013 was under the budget by \$24,000.

Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to enter executive session for personnel at 8:47 PM. The Board exited executive session at 9:12 PM taking no action.

Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to close the meeting (at 9:20 PM)

Gary Lamberton, Chair

Prepared by Peter Lyon