

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

Select Board: Gary Lamberton, Peter Lyon

Building Committee Chair & Lister: Kitty Diggins, Town Clerk: Linda Nunn

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

General discussion took place related to Town meeting. Two action items were identified; the first was the need for improvements to make it easier for people to hear the discussion - Kitty will take this item back to the Building Committee to identify potential solutions. The second was the lack of adequate information for people to review relating to the many requests for funding from nonprofits - Peter will create a proposed information sheet for review by the Board with the goal to use at next year's meeting.

Peter has the request for proposal (RFP) for external auditors ready to go and will be contacting the State Auditor's office to obtain a list of qualified firms and will send out when the Board is ready. The goal is to complete the final review at the next Board meeting.

Kitty reported that Powers Plumbing will be completing the work on the sink drain in the Community Building for \$2,200. The drain currently runs into the catch basin on 302 which is a violation of State standards. The solution is to install a pump which will reroute the drain into the septic tank. Kitty also reported that the Building Committee is ready to go out to bid for the installation of a filtration system on the well to remove the sulfur smell.

Kitty recommended that Cyr Bailey be invited in to a future Board meeting to discuss the options and background requirements for completing an update to the grand list to stay within State Standards. The Board accepted Kitty's recommendation and will schedule within the next couple of meetings. Kitty presented to the Board the "No Appeals or Suit Pending" form that is required to be sent to the State noting that this is a good sign in that there are no issues in the Town at this point in time.

Linda reported that there is a dog running loose in the Town that they are having problems trying to catch.

Peter moved to approve implementation of the pay increases effective January 5, 2014 as previously reviewed & discussed with one additional change which was to change Amy Alexander's rate for Town lister from \$9.00 to \$10.20 to equal Dorothy's rate. Gary seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. It was agreed to postpone establishing a rate for the Collector of Taxes to discuss roles & responsibilities at a later meeting when Nathan was available.

Peter reported that he had contacted GE Capital on their interest rates and that they were sending an information package that should be in hand in 7 to 10 days.

Peter moved, Gary seconded and the motion passed unanimously to approve the February 20, 2014 minutes.

Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve Harry Chandler, as the Town's Tree Warden, creating a proposal to do sustainable logging on the Town lot at Lake Groton and on Harold Puffer Road. The object is to use sound forest management practices and apply the income to the new Emergency Reserve Fund.

Peter reported that the town had received notification that a grant for \$15,000 had been awarded from the Watershed Grants Program for "Upper Wells River Dam Removal".

Gary reported that he had a grant application from Len Doscinski for \$15,547.96 to help purchase new Turnout gear for the Fire Department. Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to sign the application.

Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting (at 7:56 PM)

Gary Lamberton, Chair

Prepared by Peter Lyon