

February 19, 2015 Select Board Minutes, Groton Community Building (Approved)

Select Board: Peter Lyon, Gary Lamberton

Library Trustee: Kirsten Murch, Solid Waste: Tim Dailey, Kitty Diggins, Visitor: Lisa Hart, Brenda Powers
Building Committee: Dave Sanville, Mark Shallberg, Terry Dana, Fire Department: Dorothy & Henry
Knott, Clerk: Linda Nunn, Highway: Brent Smith, Phillip Palmer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Kirsten Murch presented a request from the Library Trustees to reduce the authorized number of trustees from nine to seven. Kirsten explained that a larger number of Trustees was required originally when they were in the early stages of constructing the new library and that they now have a smooth running operation and are able to work with a smaller number. Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve adjusting the number of Library Trustees to seven.

Peter reported that there was more positive news in that the Groton Community Club has purchased new curtains and a valance for the Community building stage. Dave Sanville has volunteered to install the curtains and valance at no cost and the goal to have both in place by Town meeting day. Peter noted that with the stage lights and the new electrical service in the storage areas already complete that the only item left to create the ability to use the stage for programs will be the installation of a basketball backboard that can be moved up out of the way and that, over the last several years, is being worked on as well. Peter explained that he is currently working with Nicole Crum to obtain an estimate of the cost to design the structural support for the backboards. Peter noted that close to \$50,000 has been donated, gifted, or volunteered over the last few years to the Community Building which is continuing a tradition that started with the original construction of the building. The building committee wanted to be in the loop with the backboard discussion and Peter agreed to do so. Peter noted that Nicole has also volunteered to work with him on the initial design of the kitchen to be constructed off the back of the building. All agreed that the building committee's current primary priorities are to paint the roof, install gutters, and complete the design to improve the structure of the roof (so insulation can be installed). General discussion took place on the scope of the building committee with Kitty suggesting that a description of the committee's role be created. Peter volunteered to create a proposed building committee scope that will include the community building and the highway buildings and exclude the emergency services building.

Kitty Diggins provided an update on a solid waste class that she and Peter had attended which focused on the implementation of the new solid waste state statues. Of particular importance is the requirement to have recycle containers next to every waste container in public facilities effective July 1, 2015. Tim, as the overall lead for the Town, will find out what the hauler is going to do to be prepared for these changes. Tim also pointed out that all food wastes will be required to be processed separately in the next few years.

The Board reviewed insurance accident claims where Brent had hit the Austin truck and also Shirley Beamis's car with a proposed \$1,000 deductible on each. The Board asked Linda to contact VLCT on the deductible as Roberta had reported at an earlier meeting that there was no deductible for the Austin accident. If the \$2,000 claim need to be paid, it was agreed to charge against the highway insurance line item. Since there is no funding in the budget to cover this expense, Brent agreed to cover the \$2,000

cost through a reduction in another line item with the final decision on which line item to take place in the fourth quarter.

Peter reported that he discussed with the Library Trustees the option of their lending their funds toward the purchase of the new fire truck with a payback to them of 10 years and a rate of 3.29%. They decided that they would prefer not to participate. MLC is reviewing the two questions (since there are no audited statements for 2013 & 2014, will the town reports be accepted and if we do not have minutes available by the Boards March 5th meeting, what could be used to demonstrate that funding has been approved) and does not have a response yet. MLC did have one question that was raised by the Financial Institution which was how would the town cover the \$70,000 highway loan that is outstanding on the Weldon Bridge project if the grant was not received. Peter asked Dorothy to work with Brent to determine if Brent could help with an answer. Peter also provided MLC with Shauna as the VTRANS contact to possibly help.

Brent Smith reported that he had a request from two property owners to push back snow at their driveway entrance on Rt 302. The Board asked Linda to check with the VLCT to see if there were any insurance issues if the town was to support the request.

General discussion took place on a \$1000 check that has been received as a donation from Vermont Creamery to help with heating the Methodist church for firefighter training. Gary reported that the church did not currently need the funds. Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to deposit \$500 of the donation into the fire station emergency reserve fund.

Brenda Powers announced that she is not running again for the school Board. Brenda expressed her appreciation for the support she has received from the town over the 13 years she has served on the board.

Peter reviewed the need to adopt the proposed purchasing policy (obtained from the VLCT) in response to the State Audit. Roberta has requested that a decision be postponed as she has some suggested changes. It was agreed, that when Roberta has her comments available, that they would be given to the VLCT for review and in the meantime there is a need to complete the response to the audit as it was due on Jan. 16th. Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to adopt Purchasing Policy 02.15.01 effective immediately. Linda was asked to send the policy to Dave for inclusion on the Town's web site. Linda will assist Gary to coordinate the collection of the responses to the six items identified in the audit and send the package to the Vermont Department of Safety for their review and approval. Gary noted that the Board as a next step now needs to create a purchase order procedure.

Peter reported that Nancy Vaughan has volunteered to serve on the planning commission. Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to appoint Nancy Vaughan to the Groton Planning Commission.

Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the Feb. 5, 2015 minutes.

Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve a liquor license for the Forrest Country Store.

Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to adjourn (at 9:12 PM)

Gary Lamberton, Chair

Prepared by Peter Lyon