

Town of Groton, Vermont Select Board Minutes, June 18, 2015 (Approved)

The duly warned meeting of the Groton Select Board of June 18, 2015 was held at the Groton Community Building 1476 Scott Highway at 7:00 PM

The following members were in attendance: Peter Lyon, Gary Lamberton, Andrew Dorsett

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Building Committee: Mary Grant, Terry Dana, Mary & Paul Berlejung, Lister: Kitty Diggins, Highway: Brent Smith, Phillip Palmer, Clerk: Linda Nunn, Treasurer: Lisa Hart, Visitor: Ron Blundford

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Background: Gary had received a complaint of erosion on town property located on Harold Puffer Road and needing repair as a result of a neighbors logging operation.

Andrew will talk to Nathan Puffer to request that Nathan conduct the appropriate repairs.

Background: The opening of bids for the Structural Reinforcing of the Community Building roof and for the Sheet rocking of the Gym and Stage ceiling is on the agenda.

The Building Committee reported that they had not received the bid package back from DeWolf Engineering and as a result the bids could not be reviewed. It was agreed to schedule a special meeting for this next Monday (June 22) to open the bids.

Background: The Board has reviewed and approved ten of the eleven financial policies provided by the VLCT. The remaining policy is Fraud Prevention.

Peter moved, Andrew seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the Fraud Prevention Policy (09.15.01). Peter agreed to contact the VLCT to request that all future updates to the policies that are made by the VLCT be provided to town for consideration.

Background: Gary is in the process of updating the procedures that align with the Financial Policies.

Peter moved, Andrew seconded and the motion passed unanimously to approve the Credit Card Procedure (2015/05).

Peter moved, Andrew seconded and the motion passed unanimously to approve the Purchasing Procedure (2015/06)

Background: Each year the abstract of the grand list requires launching for use for setting the tax rate and the tax map maintenance contract is processed.

Kitty reported that the cutoff for filing grievances was 5:00 PM today and none were filed. Kitty stated that all is pretty much in order.

Kitty reviewed and recommended signing the tax map maintenance contract at a cost of \$1,600 per year. Andrew moved, Peter seconded and the motion passed unanimously to approve the tax map maintenance contract as presented.

Linda reported that the railing at the entrance to the town offices was broken. The Board supported Linda's suggestion to use Matt Nun to complete the repairs.

Andrew reported that he has successfully completed the ICS 100 – Introduction to Incident Command System taught by Homeland security.

Peter reported that he has approved the next payment for the Fire Truck (\$52,926) and the expected delivery of the truck is the end of September. There will need to be a fire department final review & signoff process in place and provided to the Board for the final payment on the truck.

Lisa reported that she had attended VLCT training last week and received a heads up that Insurance premiums are subject to potential significant cost increases for the Town. Lisa reported that the Town had received a HRA refund of \$2,625 from 2014 which will be applied against the 2015 expenses. Lisa also reported that there is a lost prevention review by the VLCT scheduled for this next week.

Background: The Board needs to set priorities for sidewalk construction and provide to Doug Morton of the NVDA to apply for a grant of \$55,000.

The Board set the priority as starting at the West end of the sidewalk on RT 302 and going as far as possible. Also, include RT 302 crosswalks at the Community Building, at the Methodist Church, and at the Baptist Church/bottom of Minard Hill Road.

Background: The Board needs to discuss and establish highway project priorities.

Andrew reviewed a process to follow to create a 5 year plan for gravel roads, paved roads, including erosion control requirements using grading criteria's. It was agreed to place on the next meeting agenda to discuss in more detail.

Background: There have been several request over the years to adopt a junk ordinance. Complaints have been received on several properties throughout the town.

Linda provided the Outdoor Storage of Junk Vehicles that had been adopted by the Town of Chelsea for review. Andrew felt that when it starts to impact other people's property values that it was appropriate to address. Gary suggested a public meeting to discuss and understand what the town wants. Peter felt that this could be a divisive issue for the Community. It was agreed to invite Brad Houghton as Zoning Administrator for possible enforcement actions under the existing zoning regulations.

'Round the Table:

Brent provided dates that Shawna could meet with the Board to discuss Harr Orr and North Country Road. It was agreed to meet on June 24 at 7:00 AM at the Community Building.

Lisa and Brent attended FEMA Training

Phillip and Brent attended ANR classes

Andrew moved, Gary seconded and the motion passed unanimously to approve the June 4, 2014 minutes

Andrew moved, Gary seconded and the motion passed unanimously to approve the June 8, 2014 minutes.

Peter moved, Gary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the June 11, 2015 minutes.

Gary reported that due to changes in his personal life that he would need to resign as a Select Board member and that his last meetings will be in June. Gary would like to continue to volunteer to be the Town's network administrator and at this point in time needs to give priority to his family and his work. The Board expressed its deep thank you for Gary's service to the Community and wishes him the very best. General discussion took place on the process to follow to fill Gary's position on the Board.

Andrew moved, Peter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to adjourn (at 9:25 PM)

Gary Lamberton, Chair

Prepared by Peter Lyon