

Town of Groton, Vermont - Select board Minutes May 18, 2017 (approved)

Select board Members in Attendance: Mary Grant, Wade Johnson, Sr. and Deborah Jurist

Attendance for the meeting included: Debra Johnson, Carrie Peters, Brent Smith, Diane Kreis, Page Perkins and Andy Chase

Mary called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Review/Approve Minutes

Deborah Jurist made a motion to approve the minutes of May 4, 2017, Wade Johnson seconded and motion passed.

Financials/Budget Update - Carrie Peters

Personnel Policy - There was some discussion on the placement of the changes which had been agreed upon at a previous meeting. A motion was made by Deborah Jurist that on page 23 in the Personnel Policies under Medical & Hospitalization Insurance a change was made, Wade Johnson seconded and motion passed.

Dental Insurance - There was a short discussion about the dental insurance which is going up 2%. This will cost 98 cents more a month. Deborah Jurist made a motion for Lisa to sign for the new dental insurance cost, Wade seconded and motion passed.

New Accounts with Community Bank NA - Carrie said that everything has been going smoothly with the transition of the new bank. Mary Grant asked Carrie to check on the fees with Community Bank to see if there have been any changes.

Recycle (where to locate containers) - Myers Container came and a walk was done around the property to decide where to put garbage and recycling containers for the town office, community building and fire department use only. It was suggested that the containers be put on the back side of the Fire Dept. Deborah Jurist made a motion for the Town of Groton to use Myers Container to get a 2 yard dumpster on wheels and a recycling container, also on wheels for convenient movement throughout the year. Both will have universal locks on them. Pick up being done every other week. Wade Johnson seconded and the motion passed. This led into a discussion on the recycling center in Ryegate. Some people are upset with traveling so far and having certain hours that the recycling center is open. The Town of Groton at one time had a day when town's people could bring recycling to be put in a roll off container. Mary suggested that it would be nice if the town had a day to have the roll off containers again for people to put their recycling in.

Vermont Housing - Mary Grant said that Trish from Rural Edge will be meeting with their partners and then with the library trustees soon. They will suggest options in regards to the library building. The Library Trustees will then bring the matter to the Select board. Since the future of the Library Building is a commitment and responsibility of the Town, a final decision will be taken to the voters of Groton.

Mary is going to be talking with Trish and bring back an update to the next Select board meeting. The Library will be invited to the meeting for this update.

Carrie brought up that the Charter internet promotion is over so the monthly fee is going up by \$10.

Linda sent a list of the people who have keys for the town office. Andrew Dorsett and Dan Robinson will be sent an email asking them to return their keys since they no longer hold offices in the town.

Diane Kreis - Library

Diane's questions were answered during the discussion about Vermont Housing concerning the ownership of the Groton Library Building.

Highway - Sidewalk

The annual meeting paperwork with VTRANS was signed by the Select board. Brent said that the grant for the sidewalk says there has to be access control to the Community Building. Mary asked Brent to bring recommendations, and cost analysis on the sidewalks. There is a possibility that the town can repave the sidewalks without involving the state for less cost than would be possible with the matching grant. There was discussion on the water running across the road on Railroad Street. Brent will be in charge of the 10 students coming from BMU tomorrow from 12 - 2 PM to do their community service so he asked what needs to be done. They will be cleaning up , and planting flowers out in front of the office. Brent will keep Pete's Rubbish for the garbage at the highway garage and bring the recycle to the office container. The Select board formally thanked Mark Shallberg for doing a great job on the tractor shed and all the other work he has been doing.

Library - Personnel Policy

This change was included in the Personnel Policy as planned.

Fire Warden - Update on Forest Fire Pay

Wade talked to the Fire Department about the Forest Fire wages and the department left it up to Wade to make the decision. Wade said the pay was an incentive for the firefighters for coming to the forest fires. The fire department would like to leave the pay the same as it has been. The Select board asked Wade to bring the cost for last year's forest fires to the next Select board meeting. The pay for forest fires is an issue now due to the State of Vermont not paying half of the cost of fighting forest fires, that are not on state owned land any more.

AED Update

There was some discussion on the purchase of the AED that is going to be purchased using surplus Food Shelf money. This purchase of the AED needs to be put on the agenda for the next Select board meeting.

Trash in yards

The issue of trash in yards will be put on the agenda for the next Select board meeting.

Open to Public & Other Business

No business was done.

Sign Orders & Open Mail

The Select board signed the orders.

Set Agenda for Next Meeting on June 1, 2017

Meeting called to order

Review/Approve Minutes of May 12, 2017 and May 18, 2017

Financials/Budget Update

Department Updates - Library update; Zoning - bylaws & permitting; Highway - roads & driveways; Mark Shallberg - update on wall; Solid Waste (NEKWD) - Tim Dailey; Forest Fire - cost of last year forest fires; AED Update

Open to Public & Other Business

Sign Orders & Open Mail

Set Agenda for Next Meeting

Adjourn

Deborah Jurist made a motion to adopt the 2017 Groton Town Plan, Wade Johnson seconded and motion passed.

Deborah Jurist made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM, Wade Johnson seconded and motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Johnson

Mary Grant, Chair

Wade Johnson

Deborah Jurist