

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday July 15, 2019

Present: Mayor Neville, Trustees, Holl, Conger and Walpole, Nancy Niswender - Clerk/Treas, Chad Shurtleff - DPW Supv, Mike Andersen - Code Enf, Lt. Troy Boice, Police OIC, Admin Charles Rankin, Florence Allen, Christine Personius, Lee Shurtleff, Rick Uhl (Trustee Morey absent)

Trustee Conger opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20th and June 17th 2019 board meetings, seconded by Trustee Holl.

Trustee Holl made a motion to approve the claims presented for review.

Seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried. The above adjustments and claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

Abstract # 2

GENERAL	\$112,285.81	ELECTRIC	\$ 83,894.34
WATER	\$ 15,674.48	JOINT REC	\$ 5,049.10
SEWER	\$ 17,112.75		

Monthly department reports.

DPW:

Supv Shurtleff reported:

A new building at the park was set up for the Groton Food Harvest and food give away.

The new slide is in – it is broken and the Company said it is their problem and they are sending in replacement parts. The kids love the new slide.

The pool was inspected with the Health Department and all was good.

We had to purchase a new motor for the pool pump around \$2,000.

Some vandalism, but getting better now.

A few storms with some trees down. Those have been cleaned up.

Elm Street pot hole has been fixed.

Sidewalks on Park Street being replaced, taking advantage of our cost sharing program.

A lot of misc. work, signs, general maintenance, drainage clean up on Barrows.

The department is getting ready for paving.

Trustee Holl inquired about the South Main broken sidewalk. Supv Shurtleff said the repair is being looked at and he is waiting for the form to do the pour. The Creek area is an Army Core of Engineers issue.

Trustee Walpole inquired about the bridge on Walpole Rd. Supv. Shurtleff commented it is a Town bridge. They are working with DEC.

Electric

Supervisor Teeter reported:

Tom Billups and Mike Perkins attended a basic meter school in June. They are looking at holding advanced schools.

They have been doing a lot of tree trimming. Some of the trees in back of the trailer park were difficult to get to. They are looking at putting in a little roadway to access this area.

August – Line school and annual pole rescue.

Planned outage is for July 28th and a rain date of August 4th. Greene and Marathon will be here to help. They will be checking and testing & cleaning the substation.

Code Enforcement

Code Officer Anderson reported:

20 roofing and window permits – total cost of \$104,000, \$48,000 on Building permits – mostly decks.

Auctions: Plastisol, 201 Elm St, 133 Cayuga. Mike will be out for surgery for a couple of weeks and Rick Fritz will be handling the code inspections.

Groton Fire Department:

Lee Shurtleff reported for Chief Ben Nelson:

Jr Fire Fighter Camp began tonight.

Fireworks came off without a hitch.

Police Report

Lt. Boice reported: Call volume has gone up 87% higher than last year. Some of this due to new reporting, but still many more calls. Mainly due to new people in town.

Fireworks went off great. We may need to set up something for the Main St. open lot if it is used next year.

Action Items:

Record - Timothy Potter's application to join the GFD The Citizens Hook and Ladder Company.

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve change in 2019 Final Village Tax Roll to correct omission of Agricultural ceiling exemption for George & Brenda Talbot properties. Total exemption of \$61,916 for a tax reduction of \$564.58 seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve the American Legion temporary waiver of the Village Noise Ordinance for August 23rd & 24th, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Trustee Holl made a motion to approve the Groton Olde Hone Days Festival Permit for August 22-24, 2019, seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried.

Trustee Holl made a motion to approve the Groton Olde Home Days Fireworks by Young Explosives. Saturday night, seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried.

Trustee Walpole made a motion to accept the resignation of Floyd Ferris as Electric Inspector due to retirement on July 27, 2019, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Trustee Holl made a motion to have the Mayor reappoint Floyd Ferris as Electric Inspector as of July 29, 2019, seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried.

Trustee Walpole made a motion to accept a resolution to deem the old chipper as surplus equipment that is shared with the Town – the parts to fix it are more than it is worth. The Town has approved to deem it surplus, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Admin Rankin reviewed the Safety Committee Guidelines, who the members are, and the possibility of a rotating member – non supervisory level to participate.

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve the Safety Committee Guidelines, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Admin Rankin handed out the Groton section of the IEEP annual report. The full report is available upon request.

Old Business

Clerk Niswender provided an update on Blanchard Heights/Spring Street Easement. She spoke with the attorneys of Franziska Racker's Center. They requested a survey map with Franziska Racker's Center listed as owner. She spoke with Brian Klumpp, who updated the map with their name listed on it and sent to their attorneys.

Presentation from Rick Uhl on update of his proposed road.

He presented some quotes for 2 phases. The first phase is about \$75,000. He would get a letter of credit for this amount. He would like to know if the board is agreeable to this. The board has previously agreed to this being done in phases and will agree to this amount.

Supervisor Shurtleff mentioned once we have a letter of credit, then we would send it to CT Male for review.

Phase one 540 feet. A driveway or cul-de-sac suitable for fire trucks to turn around will be required.

Discussion continued on details of materials, labor and emergency turnarounds.

Rick Uhl should have a letter of credit within the next week and will bring it in to the office.

New Business

Presentation from Christopher Dempsey on property proposal:

Christopher Dempsey handed out a proposal for the new building and other properties.

His proposal included the Fire Department purchasing and moving to the old Plastisol Building, The Police Station moving to the building behind the current fire station. The Main Street location property would be sold back to the bank or exchanged to his business. His business would build an office building/community room that could be leased to the Village. Then his business would arrange to demolish the current fire department building. The current Village office at 143 Cortland Street would be sold or exchanged to his business, which he would resell as a business. From these proceeds he could look at updating the basketball court at Sykes Park, purchasing property on North Parkway for residential construction and purchasing a field on Walpole Road for an additional ballfield.

Items were discussed and will be presented at a Special Village Board Building Committee meeting on a later date.

Admin Rankin presented options to update the code - Skate Parks Chapter 112 – look at removing or rewriting to fit sidewalks. Parks and playgrounds Chapter 145 – We should add something in for Trails. The Village Board members agree that this would be good.

CWSRF Engineering Planning Grant - CT Male is to provide us with a quote and is waiting to get a quote from the camera business.

Public Comments:

Flo Allen and Christine Personius presented a rough draft of what is happening for Groton Olde Home days.

There should be 100 cars for the car show – need to block off portions of the Village Main Street Lot for the whole Day on Saturday for the car show, circus and fireworks. The south side will be available for parking.

Trustee Holl made a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss property sale at 8:14 pm

Trustee Walpole made a motion to return from executive session 8:45pm 2nd Conger

During the Executive session the following items were discussed:

A request was made from Eric Ramey of 111 Pasadena Ave to purchase a piece of land to add an extension to his property.

Trustee Holl made a motion to send a letter stating we would consider the sale of the property if he paid for the cost of the appraisal, attorney fees and all other expenses, seconded by Trustee Conger, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion waive the permit fee for the town barn roof as an exchange of services seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion made to adjourn 8:47pm

Nancy Niswender
Clerk Treasurer

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Special Meeting of the Village Board and Building Committee

July 29, 2019

Present: Mayor Neville, Trustees Holl, Conger, Morey and Walpole, Nancy Niswender - Clerk/Treas, Chad Shurtleff - DPW Supv, Ben Nelson - GFD Chief, Lee Shurtleff

Mayor Neville called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

Trustee Morey offered a resolution to allow Clerk/Treasurer Nancy Niswender, Admin Charles Rankin or Mayor Neville to open or change existing bank accounts with the First National Bank of Groton. Motion to accept – Trustee Conger, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

A discussion followed on the Building Project. Chief Ben Nelson will discuss the options with the Fire Department membership. Trustees Walpole and Holl will discuss options with Chris Dempsey. Both will bring back their information to the August 19th Board Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Nancy Niswender
Clerk Treasurer