

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES MAY 9, 2011  
Un-APPROVED**

**Present:** Stuart M. Schulman, Chairman; Anna Eliot, Vice Chairman; George Dillon, Jr., Clerk; Peter Cunningham; Joshua A. Degen

**Also Present:** Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Patrice Garvin, Executive Assistant

*Mr. Schulman called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm and reviewed the agenda for the public.*

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. Mr. Haddad read into the record a thank you letter to police officers that assisted in capturing individuals responsible for a recent break-in. [Document #1-Ltr from D. Palma RE Break-in]
2. Mr. Haddad stated that Leah Donohoe has resigned as Housing Coordinator to pursue another opportunity. Since she was here for a very short period of time, he did not believe the Town needed to re-advertise the position. Mr. Haddad noted that he has offered the position to Frances Stanley of 19 Court Street and she has accepted. Mr. Haddad, pursuant to Section 4-2(c) of the Groton Charter asked the Boards to ratify his appointment.  
*Mr. Cunningham moved to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Frances Stanley of 19 Court Street as the Housing Coordinator. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.*
3. Mr. Haddad stated that it appears that the current septic system at the Tarbell School is in need of repair before any future use can be established at the building. Mr. Haddad sought permission from the Selectmen to contract with Ross Associates to perform testing on the site. Mr. Haddad would need to approach the Finance Committee for a Reserve Fund Transfer for the work. The cost is estimated at \$2,000 if the Town supplies a backhoe. The Board agreed to have testing done on the site.
4. Mr. Haddad requested permission from the Selectmen to take vacation from May 23, 2011 through Memorial Day. Mr. Haddad would be out of the office for a total of six days. Mr. Haddad appointed Michael Bouchard as Acting Town Manager during his absence. Mr. Haddad included a formal notification as required by the Charter. [Document #2-Ltr from M. Haddad RE Vacation]
5. Mr. Haddad stated that an Auctioneers permit was received from Jerrold Wood of Templeton, MA. Mr. Wood will be conducting an estate auction at 495 Chicopee Row on June 26, 2011. Mr. Wood's auctioneer's license number is 127.  
*Mr. Degen moved to approve the Auctioneers Permit to Jerrold Wood at 495 Chicopee Row on June 26, 2011, contingent on payment. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.*
6. Mr. Haddad reported that at the May 15, 2011 Selectmen's meeting a public hearing will occur for the three proposed sites for the new Center Fire Station at 7:30pm. All abutters to the three sites have been notified by mail, in addition to advertising the hearing for two consecutive weeks in the Groton Herald.

**TOWN CLERK MICHAEL BOUCHARD-RE- PRECINCTING**

Mr. Bouchard showed a map of what the state recommends for a re-precincting of the Town based on the 2010 census numbers. The redrawing of the precincts will coincide with the population requirements. The changes will affect 200 voters. Mr. Bouchard stated that all voters will be notified of the changes. Mr. Bouchard was seeking permission to pursue the option of redrawing the lines based on state suggestions. Mr. Dillon asked if there were any negatives to changing the lines. Mr. Bouchard stated that there were no negatives and recommended following the state's guidelines.

*Mr. Dillon moved to approve pursuing redrawing the precinct lines based on state recommendations. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.*

**GROTON DUNSTABLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION-UPDATE**

Kerry Figueroa and Sarah Eisenklam were present to update the Board. Ms. Figueroa read the mission of the foundation and explained to the Board how it seeks funding. Ms. Figueroa went on at length discussing the foundations accomplishments, events, partnerships and challenges. Ms. Figueroa listed the Foundations future endeavors and upcoming fundraisers. The board thanked Ms. Figueroa and Ms. Eisenklam for their work.

**CHARLES AND KELLY TROUPE-MILL STREET ISSUE**

Charles Troupe of 124 Mill Street presented the Board with his concerns with his neighbors. Mr. Troupe charges his neighbors with operating a business from an empty adjacent lot. Mr. Troupe was concerned with his property value and safety. Mr. Troupe wanted to make the Board aware of what is happening. Mr. Troupe gave a brief history of the issue and noted a ZBA decision back in 2007 denying the Troupes complaint. Mr. Troupe believes that the neighbor is living on the lot, which is illegal. Mr. Cunningham sought input from Town Department Heads who were present.

Mr. Dupell, Building Commissioner addressed the Board. Mr. Dupell stated that the complaint process has restarted and there has been no contact from the neighbor after a letter was sent. If Mr. Dupell does not hear back from the neighbor then an enforcement letter will be sent. Mr. Dupell stated that there was no way to tell if someone is living on the property. Ms. Collette stated that the Board of Selectmen had no authority in this matter and that the issue needs to be in place of the ZBA. Mr. Degen wanted to know why this has taken so long to resolve. Mr. Cadle was present to explain why the ZBA voted as they did in 2007. Mr. Cunningham suggested letting this be solved in the Land Use departments. Mr. Degen asked the Town Manager to report back on this issue.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

Mr. Degen stated that candidate’s night was coming up at the Senior Center. Mr. Degen also attended the Arbor Day celebrations. Mr. Dillon stated that he attended the recent Veterans’ Breakfast. Ms. Eliot stated the Groton Electric Light is interviewing final designers and a decision should be made soon.

Mr. Haddad briefly discussed the upcoming meeting schedule of the Board.

**MINUTES**

*Ms. Eliot moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 28, 2011. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried. [Document #3-Draft 3-28-11 Minutes]*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Dillon moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:31pm. Mr. Degen seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
George F. Dillon, Jr. Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ respectfully submitted,  
Patrice Garvin  
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

Date Approved: