

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DECEMBER 16, 2002  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
“APPROVED”**

Mr. Chamberlin noted that the Board of Selectmen (BOS) were in receipt of a letter from Mr. Stephen Miller of the First Parish Church regarding the water problems on Route 40 with an update on the corrective measures which, as of this meeting, perhaps have been completed.

Mr. Chamberlin also informed that the BOS was in receipt of a letter from Jane Wallis Gumble, Director of Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) stating that the Town of Groton is Housing Certified under Executive Order 418 for the period ending June 30, 2003. Groton will receive a priority for the discretionary grant funds covered by the Executive Order since it is taking steps to increase the supply of housing for individuals and families across a broad range of incomes.

**PUBLIC HEARING – Junk Car Application, 328 Townsend Road**

The BOS held a public hearing and the Hearing Checklist is attached. In attendance for this hearing were the applicant – Brooks Lyman and residents Ted and Helen Swieca, 331 Townsend Road and Paul Iannacci, 347 Townsend Road. Mr. Lyman stated that the jeep in question is only used to plow his driveway. All other cars are registered. Mr. Lyman stated that he only uses this jeep for a total amount of approximately 4 hours per year and never has more than one gallon of gasoline in the vehicle. He has a total of 3 registered vehicles in the back yard, behind the house.

Mr. Swieca objected to the vehicle that is in sight of his window.

Mr. Gordon Newell of West Groton Water stated that using a temporary gas tank poses a great threat to the water supply.

Mr. Chamberlin stated that he would be willing to consider the permit but given the objections would not be inclined to renew it a year from now. Mr. Cunningham told Mr. Lyman it would be prudent to drain any and all the fuels when not in use.

Mr. Lyman then presented a check as a donation to cover the cost of mailing all of the legal notices certified mail. Mr. Hartnett stated that he was uncomfortable with the donation, especially based upon residential objections of approving this permit. Mr. Hartnett also stated that certified mailings are a statutory requirement and that other public hearings have the same requirement. On behalf of the Town, Mr. Chamberlin accepted the donation.

**Police Officer Appointment**

Chief Mulhern was in attendance for this appointment. He stated that Mr. Sheridan has 20 years experience. He was the #1 candidate chosen and received outstanding marks from the interview panel. Mr. Sheridan attended Western New England College and has both a Bachelors and Master Degree. The BOS has a high regard for the Chief's recommendation and feels that this is one more piece of the puzzle to fill the positions of officers who chose to retire. They are happy about the mixture of youth and experience that the Chief has brought to Groton. *Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Edward Sheridan as patrol officer for the term effective January 2, 2003, to expire June 30, 2003, with a one-year probationary period contingent upon passing a pre-employment physical and psychological test. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

**Library Open On Sundays**

Mr. Mike Manugian, trustee of the library was in attendance, as well as members of the Personnel Board – Joan Hutchinson, Pam Keith and Alberta Erickson. Mr. Manugian wanted to clarify his request, as reports from the press weren't clear. The anonymous benefactor will need the proposal and will review prior to agreement.

The Library Trustees feels it's appropriate to pay time and a half on Sundays to the employees who work. They will be securing two people who are current staff and then hire others to integrate with the current staff. They will hire those with library experience.

Ms. Kitchen asked what rate do you plan to pay these employees? She noted that currently the library has five positions on the wage and class schedule.

Mr. Manugian stated that one is salary, two would be circulation rate and one is reference librarian. The salaried employee would not receive time and a half. The employees would essentially work 4.5 hours in total per Sunday. Mr. Manugian stated that the donor will only cover the 13-week pilot and then in 2005, after a budget hiatus, the budget would be increased in staff and hours, if the pilot were successful.

The Personnel Board met with Mr. Manugian and did their own survey of other towns that have libraries open Sundays. They pay time and half, with the exception of Westford who does not pay the Director or Assistant time and a half. The Personnel Board stated that the library employees would be the only other bodies receiving time-and-a-half that is not covered by a union. Westford only has a 17-week program per year that runs from January to April. The Personnel Board felt that regarding unemployment, the risk was relatively low.

Mr. Chamberlin cautioned that although this pilot could work, it not be considered precedent setting.

Mr. Cunningham asked Mr. Manugian if he would draft a form proposal for benefactor, the benefactor would need to sign off on, and then back to BOS for approval. Mr. Manugian concurred that the benefactor wanted to see the proposal first and informed the BOS that he would draft the proposal. Mr. Cunningham stated to Mr. Manugian that this proposal needs to be in writing. The BOS agrees in principle with this Pilot but wanted to assure that there are no guarantees after the Pilot Program.

### **BONFIRE PERMIT – 1<sup>ST</sup> NIGHT OVERVIEW, Groton Center for the Arts**

Ms. Nancy Prevost was in attendance and gave an overview of the events for non-alcoholic 1<sup>st</sup> Night, Schedule attached. They are requesting a Bonfire Permit for behind Kilbridge property that has 5 acres at 134 Main Street. Ms. Prevost has met with and will work with both Chiefs Bosselait and Mulhern. There will be a fire truck on the premises. The Auxiliary Police Officers will be assisting with traffic details. Mr. Cunningham stated that he appreciates all of Nancy's assistance with the program and hopes each year is better attended. *Mr. Cunningham moved to authorize the Fire Department to issue a permit to Nancy Prevost, First Night Groton Volunteer Director, for First Night Groton @ Kilbridges, 134 Main Street from approximately 7:00 P.M. until completion subject to the restrictions/regulations of the Fire Chief. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

### **Class II License – Import Domestic Auto Centers, Inc.**

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the renewal of a Class II license for Integrity Automotive Repair, Inc., d/b/a Import Domestic Auto Centers, Inc. to expire January 1, 2004. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

### **Common Victualler License Renewals**

*Mr. Cunningham moved approval of Common Victualler License renewals for the following businesses, all licenses to expire December 31, 2003: R.C. Kimball, Inc. d/b/a Oliver's Grille & Pub, Donelan's Supermarkets, Inc., F.J. Catalano Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Dunkin Donuts, Groton Jade Restaurant, Groton Country Club & Recreation Authority, Groton General Store, Groton House of Pizza, Ralph D. Kelly, Inc. d/b/a Groton Lounge, Groton Stage Coach Inn & Tavern, Inc., The Herb Lyceum, Santi's Restaurant, d/b/a Johnson's Restaurant & Dairy Bar, a/k/a Johnson's Drive-In, The Main Street Café, The Natural Market, Inc., Peltonen's Dining Services, Inc. (@ NEBS), Peter's Pizza, Trustees of Lawrence Academy, Rainbow Café, Filho's Cucina. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

### **Donation 24.62 acres in Batten Woods Village Subdivision**

Mr. Chamberlin read from a memo from the Conservation Commission that "the Conservation Commission voted unanimously to accept the Confirmatory deed submitted by Verdant Arch, Inc. for the donation of 24.62 acres of open space in the Batten Woods Village Subdivision. This parcel off Forge Village Road provides an important link to the parcels in Groton Woods Subdivision and Carmichael Estates. The Commission requests that the BOS accept this generous donation." *Mr. Cunningham moved to accept a land donation consisting of 24.62 acres shown northeasterly side but not adjacent to Forge Village Road, Groton, Middlesex County, Massachusetts and shown as "Open Space," on a plan entitled "Definitive Subdivision Plan, Batten Woods Village Groton, Massachusetts June 8, 2001 and revised July 19, 2001" prepared for Orion Homes by Diversified Civil Engineering of 359 Littleton Road, Westford, MA, which plan is recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan Number 1040 of 2001 in Book 22842, Page 74. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.*

### **Norris & Bissell Conservation Restriction**

The Board signed the Norris & Bissell Conservation Restriction that is a part of Gibbet and Angus Hill. Mr. Chamberlin inquired of Ms. Kitchen if this restriction would still allow the Boy Scouts to use the property and she informed them that

indeed the restriction does. She is still awaiting the executed License to Enter and Use Real Property.

**Conservation Commission Appointment**

Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Evan Owen to the Conservation Commission, term to expire June 30, 2003. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.

**Administrative Officer Report**

Ms. Kitchen reminded the BOS/public that Town Hall will be closed at 12:30 for the Town Hall Employee Christmas Party. She also informed the BOS that a survey has been mailed to all Lost Lake residents requesting pertinent information needed if a drawdown is going to be initiated. She also informed the BOS that the Local Access Channel's Message Board is currently "down." There are currently some technical difficulties and they are being worked on.

The BOS wished the residents a happy, healthy, safe Christmas.

Mr. Cunningham moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hartnett. Unanimous vote.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas D. Hartnett

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Respectfully submitted,*  
Maria Casey,  
Administrative Secretary

Date Approved: January 6, 2003

- Attachment - Junk Car Hearing Checklist
- First Night Schedule of Events