Selectmen Present: Janice Mulherin, Mark Andrew, John Fucci
Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Minutes – The minutes of September 20, 2010 were accepted as written.

Ambulance Service – The Board reviewed the proposed Plymouth agreement again. After further discussion, Selectman Fucci made a motion to reject the Plymouth 2011 agreement; the motion was seconded by Selectman Mulherin. The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor of the motion. The Board based their decision on several factors: the lack of notice and input with the changes; the significant increases in numerous budget items such as Collection Fees (60%), Fuel & Oil (83%), Training (184%), and Housing (95%) over the FY 2010 actual expenditures (35% increase overall) and the method of using the department’s proposed 2011 budget for determining the rates for FY 2011. The Board felt this method was unfair to all taxpayers of the participating communities. In the past the actual expenditures of the most recent completed fiscal year was used to determine the rates. The Board’s responsibility to the taxpayers of Rumney is to provide for ambulance service. The Board will ask Brian Clark from the Warren-Wentworth Ambulance Service to come in next week to discuss the details of a contract with them.

Groton Wind Agreement – Mr. Andrew has talked with all public safety department heads and received their input on the training part of the agreement. All department heads said they were satisfied with the language but would like to spell out some classroom training. Following a phone conversation with Ed Cherian during the meeting, the following sentence will be added to the Emergency Response section: 6.2 – First sentence will read “Prior to the commencement of construction at the Wind Farm, the Owner Groton Wind, LLC, shall provide three (3) hours of classroom training at the Rumney Fire Department at no charge.” The SEC is holding the second set of technical sessions today and tomorrow in Concord.

A few minor changes were made to the agreement; Anne will forward the changes to Attorney Waugh and Ed Cherian tomorrow. The Board will plan to sign the agreement at their next meeting. Anne will notify planning board members, Groton Hollow Road residents and interested parties that this will occur.

Privilege of the Floor – Cheryl Lewis attended Day 1 of the Technical Session and voiced her concerns about Rumney’s ability to provide adequate fire coverage at the proposed wind farm site after hearing testimony today. She understood that it is a violation of the Lakes Region Mutual Aid Agreement if a town does not have the proper equipment; this could result in the town’s expulsion from Mutual Aid. Mr. Andrew said he talked with Chief Ward, and he said he did not need the equipment; the training is the most important issue. Mr. Andrew said brush and woodland fires are the responsibility of the State DRED. Also, there is a section in the proposed agreement between the Town of Groton and Groton Wind, LLC that states if additional equipment is needed, it would be purchased by the company and stored on the site in Groton.

Mrs. Lewis asked if the Board would be taking input next week regarding the agreement, and Mr. Andrew explained that they would not. They would, however, entertain a suggestion if there was something brought up that the Board, in their opinion, had neglected to address.

Administrative Budget Workshop – Anne followed up on the workshop she attended last week; State revenues will be down as expected.
Broadband Informational Forum – Deb Reynolds will be hosting a Broadband Informational Forum on October 14th at the Wentworth Elementary School at 6:30 to address the rural broadband concerns, fund availability and a timeframe for the rollout of middle and last-mile infrastructure.

New England Salem/Hartman School – Notice was given today that they are no longer able to continue with the PILOT agreement they entered into several years ago. Anne will contact the attorney for his recommendations.

Fuel Oil – The contract for fuel oil for this year’s heating season will be $2.57 per gallon.

Master Plan Info – Anne had several questions for the Board from Kathy Wallace regarding the Master Plan update.

Columbus Day – The Town Office will be closed on Monday, October 11th and there will be no Selectmen’s meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant