

Office of  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**



P.O. Box 180  
Grafton, Vermont 05146

**TOWN OF GRAFTON**

May 31, 2016

Robin Sterns  
Potter Stewart Law Office  
205 Main Street  
Brattleboro, VT 05301

Dear Robin,

You already know that Gus Plummer has resigned as Chair of the Grafton Select Board and I have moved up to Chair from the Vice Chair Position.

You have been involved with the Town of Grafton enough in the last 3 to 4 years to know the Town is involved with a proposed wind project on the Styles Brook Property owned by Meadowsend Timber. You have attended one or two Select board Meetings and have some knowledge that the towns peoples have some different ideas about it, some very vocal but not necessarily the majority. At the 2016 March Town meeting the Town had the opportunity to continue on the path the Select Board had been taking during the last two years. Just as you said would happen, "the voters will speak if they need to." Both anti wind candidates were defeated and in my case, 2/3 of the Grafton voters (in a record turnout) voted pro process over anti wind. Not that they have decided to be in favor of the project, but they would like quality information to make an informed decision when the times comes. In my mind and in others, part of the process is to create a proposal or terms that Grafton and Iberdrola can agree on before the vote so folks understand expectations and commitments.

The vote should not be just about money but addressing issues and concerns making the concerns part of the Certificate of Public Good, so not only Iberdrola but any operator will have to operate under the conditions spelled out in the agreement.

Some would like to delay the process, so no proposal has been written, which would make the vote an unknown. The problem is getting a proposal written, more specifically, the cost of the attorney to assist in the process. Iberdrola has offered to put money in an escrow account to be used as the Town of Grafton sees fit, to hire an attorney or attorneys of choice. The anti's claim that would be a bribe! Knowing full well when they created the budget last year they cut the Town legal fee budget.

So it appears like the Town is between a rock and a hard spot.

I request that you write a letter to the Town Administrator and Town Clerk, copying me, explaining the use of escrow accounts and the legal nature of them.

Sincerely,

Al Sands, Chairman, Grafton Select Board

Eh  
Sent via email and Post  
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