

**MINUTES OF SELECTMAN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF GORHAM  
MONDAY JANUARY 28, 2019, 6:00 PM  
TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

**GORHAM SELECTMEN PRESENT:** Mike Waddell, Adam White, Judy Leblanc

**ALSO PRESENT:** Town Manager Mark Shea, Denise Vallee, Carol Porter, Michelle Lutz, Diane Bouthot

**1. Call to Order 6:00 PM**

Chairman Waddell called the meeting to order at 6:00.

**2. New Business:**

**a) Abatement Request (1); Corrections & Waivers-**

Michelle Lutz presented the board with an abatement request for Mike and Nancy Murphy. This is the last of the veteran's credits that didn't go out last year for an amount of \$200. The interest amount is \$1.59; interest is not usually charged under \$3.00.

**Selectman Leblanc made a motion to approve the abatement request for Mike and Nancy Murphy in the amount of \$200. The motion was seconded by Selectman White. All voted in favor.**

Lutz presented the board with a recommendation from KRT for the Judith Croft Trust. An abatement was filed in 2017 to bring the valuation from \$191,300 to 189,300. KRT reviewed the property and based on issues that were found, decreased the value to \$149,300 resulting in a 2017 abatement of \$1,447.32 which includes \$89.32 in interest, and an abatement for 2018 of \$1,546.08 which includes \$85.68 in interest.

**Selectman White made a motion to accept the abatement request for the Judith A. Croft Trust in the total amount of \$2,993.40. The motion was seconded by Selectman Leblanc. All voted in favor.**

Carol Porter listed the empty posts that are available. She also advised the board that when abatements were issued, she entered the abatement into the tax system but did not enter the

refund into refunds. The negative carried over to the second-half issued billing, showing a negative instead of zeroing it out. There are about a dozen properties that got incorrect tax bills because of this. Carol has since sent out corrected tax bills to these properties with a note explaining what happened. Carol is asking for forgiveness for the interest for 30 days for those people because they did not get a tax bill.

**Selectman White made a motion to not charge interest to those property-owners for 30 days. The motion was seconded by Selectman Leblanc. All voted in favor.**

**b) 2019 Annual Town meeting Warrant Article Finalization & Approval**

Chairman Waddell advised that the only one that has changed is Article 8, which was given to a lawyer for review. The board reviewed Article 8 and the rest of the warrant articles.

**Selectman White made a motion to accept the 2019 Town Meeting Warrant Article as written. Selectman Leblanc seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

**c) Discussion on setting Board of Selectmen Vision, Mission, & Goals**

Town Manager Shea discussed getting a facilitator to get together with the department heads to provide more information to the board. Chairman Waddell suggested the he contact Primex who offers a free facilitator. It was suggested the board meet with the facilitator on an off Monday as a work session.

**d) Contract for Sale of Real Estate – Conservation Fund**

Town Manager Shea has not heard back from town counsel in reference to this contract. The board hopes to settle it at the next meeting.

**3. Old Business/ Updates**

**a) Grants:**

- \*USFS Community Forest Program Grant
- \*NH LCHP
- \*NH Drinking Water & Ground Water Trust Fund
- \*Moose Plate
- \*Open Space Institute
- \*Randolph Foundation
- \*Tillotson Fund (pending)

Town Manager Shea advised the board the town has the opportunity to capture 1.4 million dollars through all these grants. Chairman Waddell advised that the FEMA money received should be considered a grant as well. These grants apply to Tinker Brook and the grants were also discussed in relation to the conservation fund. Town Manager Shea has checked the town's rankings for grants and Gorham always ranks second or third. Chairman Waddell requested that Town Manager Shea finish up the Powerpoint presentation on the town forest purchase.

#### **4. Public Comment:**

Diane Bouthot advised this year's budget process has gone very smoothly and thanked Town Manager Shea, the board, and the department heads for their assistance.

#### **5. Other Business:**

##### **a) Selectmen's Updates-**

Selectman White asked what the status was of the street light request for Wilfred Street. Chairman Waddell advised it was supposed to go before the technical review committee. Selectman White provided Town Manager Shea with a copy of the request and it will be added to the next agenda.

##### **b) Town Manager's Report-**

The Stony Brook Road and Libby Pool projects have been approved and will be worked on this year as soon as weather permits.

The notice of intent for the Bangor Street Project has been filed and submitted to FEMA and has been accepted. Town Manager Shea provided the board with information with the dollar value of the grant which is \$82,500. He is currently looking for written documentation to support the application.

Final payment has been received from NRCS on the Romano project.

Town Manager Shea gave the board information on the Easter Seals Snow Machine Ride In. Selectman Leblanc advised that they are shortening the route this year.

Town Manager Shea asked the board if there was anything they would like to discuss at the next meeting. Chairman Waddell advised the next meeting should focus on the presentation for the public hearing.

Town Manager Shea is also looking at getting job descriptions updated.

**c) Approval of Minutes (January 14, 2019 Regular Meeting, January 14, 2019 Non-Public Session)**

Selectman White made a motion to accept the public and non-public meeting minutes for January 14, 2019 as written. The motion was seconded by Selectman Leblanc. All voted in favor.


**6. Non-Public Session:** RSA 91-a:3, II, b, d, e (if needed)

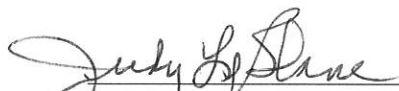
At 7:30 pm, Selectman Leblanc made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-a:3, II, b, d, e if needed. The motion was seconded by Selectman White. Selectman White-aye, Selectman Leblanc-aye, Chairman Waddell-aye.

At 8:58 pm, Selectman White made a motion to adjourn the Non-Public Session and no action was taken.

**7. Adjournment**

Board of Selectmen.  
Review and Approved:

  
Mike Waddell, Chair

  
Judy LeBlanc

  
Adam White

Date approved: FEB 11, 2019