

**MINUTES OF SELECTMAN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016 6:30 PM
TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

Gorham Selectman present: Grace LaPierre, Terry Oliver, Patrick Lefebvre

Also present: Robin Frost, Town Manager; PJ Cyr; Michael Waddell; Lee Carroll

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman LaPierre at 6:28 pm.

2. Appointments:

a) Chief PJ Cyr – School Resource Officer –Chief Cyr advised that he was first made aware of the interest in a School Resource Officer by Selectman Lefebvre back in March. At that time, Cyr checked with both Paul Bousquet, Superintendent, and Dave Backler, GHS Principal, who felt that it was not a priority at this time. Cyr also checked into available grants for the SRO position. He advised that the COPS grant is not currently accepting applications. Cyr shared that the SRO for the Berlin School System is funded through Project Aware and the Department of Education. Berlin was one of three communities awarded the grant based on need. Cyr shared statistics for calls from the school over the past year. He advised that out of 43 calls for service requested by the school, 14 of them were for assisting with the School-to-Career program, 8 were for issues of vehicles not stopping for the buses, 5 were equipment issues, 6 were for traffic problems, and 3 were for presentations. He said that of the 7 calls that fell under the SAFE School Zone act that required reporting, one was for the threat in Berlin last year, one was for suspicious material, two were concerns about emails received, one was for a welfare check on a student, one was for bullying, and one was for truancy. Cyr, along with the school, felt that 7 calls did not warrant the town spending money on a School Resource Officer. Even if there was a grant available, the town would be responsible for 25% of the first three years, and an additional year after the 3 year grant. Cyr wondered if this was the time to grow government, when the town has other financial responsibilities. Cyr assured the Board that the police were involved in the school, doing school crossings for both the high school and elementary school each day, and doing 68 foot patrols during the day in the schools last year. Chairman LaPierre asked if the department would have a DARE Officer again and Cyr advised that they did not have one available at this time. Cyr will check again with the Superintendent about the request, and will check to see if White Mountain Regional has a SRO.

3. New Business:

a) Camping During Fly-In at Airport – TM Frost advised that she received a call from Ray Godbout who was concerned that there is a “no camping” rule for the airport property. There is a scheduled Fly-In in October. Lee Carroll advised that the Water and Sewer Department approved the airport use for the Fly-In, but will not allow any camping on the airport property. Carroll requested of Chief Cyr that the police department do extra patrols from October 7-16 to be sure there is no camping there at night.

b) Presentation to 3rd and 4th Grade at Ed Fenn – Tm Frost advised that she received a request from April Marsh at the Ed Fenn School to have the Town Manager and a Selectman come to her class to talk about town government on September 22 at 1:00. Selectman Lefebvre advised that he would be available to attend with TM Frost.

4. Old Business/Updates:

a) Cascade Railroad Crossing – TM Frost advised there has been no date set for the hearing.

b) Fairpoint Poles in Cascade – TM Frost advised that she did attempt to call Fairpoint and is waiting for a call back. Fairpoint has started putting in some new poles.

c) Public Works Building – TM Frost advised the documents will be signed tomorrow, and she will have a start date once that has been done. Work should be completed at the end of October or beginning of November.

d) Herbicide/Pesticide Spraying Ordinance – TM Frost advised that she spoke with the head of the pesticide regulation unit of the Department of Agriculture. They advised that towns cannot have their own regulations about the spraying of herbicides or pesticides and any complaints should be forwarded to them. TM Frost will contact Christina Ross to see if she wants to contact them directly or would prefer the town do it.

e) Eversource Dam/Dike Update – TM Frost advised that all of the information has been sent to the attorney, Chris Boldt, and he is looking into it. The town will also be getting in touch with York Land Services to place the salt shed on the plan. Chairman LaPierre reminded the Board of the meeting in Berlin on Monday. TM Frost also advised that she spoke with Jim Gallagher of the Dam Bureau. He will also be looking into the information on the Dike and the FERC license. TM Frost expects to hear back from Gallagher by the end of the week.

5. Public Comment:

Chief Cyr spoke concerning the Polaris RZR event scheduled for this weekend in Berlin. TM Frost advised that the department heads met last Thursday to discuss possible issues such as traffic. It was suggested that barricades should be placed at the airport to keep OHRV's off the property, and signs should also be placed at the lower junction. Chairman LaPierre asked if any parking permits had been issued and TM Frost advised there were none. TM Frost advised that they will have a regular duty crew for EMS along with a second crew at the station, and a third crew available for call-in.

Chief Cyr shared a concern about safety issues with the old Recreation Department trailer on Railroad Street, as the bottom of the trailer is open and children could get under or in from there. TM Frost advised that the trailer is missing a needed piece to be able to transport it off of the property, and Chapman is having the piece manufactured so that it can be removed.

6. Other Business:

a) Town Manager's Update – TM Frost advised that the RFP has been send out for the engineering work for Stony Brook. Proposals are due by October 14.

TM Frost advised that she received a call from Jean Scolere in reference to the property at 2 Glen Road. Scolere advised that the lawn has been mowed, but there is still trash and boards on the property. TM Frost will have John Scarinza contact the owner again. TM Frost also advised that a copy of the Berlin Code was given to Scarinza to look over.

TM advised that Bob Chapman has asked to put a container at the Public Works Garage to advertise for a fundraiser for Buddy and Rhonda Holmes. The Board agreed that it was fine, as long as Chapman realizes the town is not responsible for the property.

b) Selectmen's Updates – Selectman Lefebvre asked if the mill has deeded the property to the town for the playground in Cascade Flats. TM Frost said that she did call, but has not heard back yet.

Selectman Lefebvre asked if anything has been done with the piece of property that Steve Grone is interested in on Railroad Street. TM Frost advised that she will have Burke York take a look at it and will also be looking at the road files.

Selectman Lefebvre also asked about the budget revenues at the EMS Department. TM Frost advised that the revenues are down, but they are not sure if it is a trend or just a blip.

Chairman LaPierre gave TM Frost the court documents that were served on her, as the Chair of the Board, regarding an appeal of valuation by Fairpoint Communications.

Chairman LaPierre advised that she spoke with Pat Boisclair last week at the polls about names for the Memorial. TM Frost advised that she has not received a list yet.

c) Approval of Minutes (September 6, 2016) - On a motion by Chairman LaPierre, seconded by Selectman Oliver, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of September 6, 2016 as prepared, with correction of the day to Tuesday on the date.

d) Sign Manifest; Abatements and Exemptions (if necessary) -

TM Frost advised there were no abatements or exemptions.

7. Non-public Session: RSA 91-A:3, IIa

On a motion by Selectman Lefebvre, seconded by Selectman Oliver, the Board unanimously voted by roll call to move to non-public session at 7:30 pm. Lefebvre – Aye, Oliver - Aye, LaPierre – Aye.

On a motion by Selectman Oliver, seconded by Selectman Lefebvre, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to come out of non-public session at 9:00 pm. Lefebvre – Aye, Oliver – Aye, LaPierre, Aye. It was announced that the minutes of the non-public session are sealed.

8. Adjournment: On a motion by Chairman LaPierre, seconded by Selectman Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Grace LaPierre

Terry Oliver

Patrick Lefebvre