

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015, 6:00 PM
GORHAM TOWN HALL**

Gorham Selectmen present: Jeff Schall, Grace LaPierre, Terry Oliver

Also present: Robin Frost, Town Manager; Kirstan Lukasak, Berlin Daily Sun; Denise Vallee, Director of Finance; Glen Eastman, Andrea Gagne, Michael Conklin

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Schall.

2. Appointments:

a) Andrea Gagne – Tri County CAP: Ms. Gagne and Mr. Conklin came in to speak to the Board because of questions and comments that had been asked at the Budget Committee Public Hearing. Mr. Conklin stated that the reason the transportation amount is increased is for driver and dispatcher training. Mr. Conklin went on to say that CAP is doing much better and is currently financially sustainable. Mr. Eastman expressed his concern about where CAP's money is coming from and whether or not the business is really financially stable. The Board thanked Mr. Conklin and Ms. Gagne for coming in.

3. New Business

a) Alcohol Use in Public Buildings: TM Frost presented the Board with the portion of the Town Code that pertains to the use of alcohol on Town property. The policy of no alcohol use has been in place for several years. The Code states that there may be exceptions in the Town's park, but nothing was noted for the Town Buildings. Selectman LaPierre asked if the Code could be changed/amended. TM Frost stated that the Board can do so, but she cautioned the Board that if a change is made it may open doors that do not want to be opened. Selectman LaPierre stated that she would like to investigate this matter further and bring the information to the Medallion Opera House Committee. The Board put the matter on hold until the next MOH Committee meeting. FD Vallee asked the Board if it would help to have the Committee pull together specific times when the requests would be made. The Board stated that it would, and asked to have the list/request to be very specific. Prior to any decisions the Board will forward the information to the Town's attorney for review.

b) Sign KRT Appraisal 2014 Contract: TM Frost stated that the Contract had been previously approved and she thought it had been signed. However, the document cannot be located and DRA is looking to have an executed copy for their files, as well as the Town having a copy for its file. The Board signed the Contract.

c) Representation Letters – Attorney Chris Boldt: TM Frost presented the Board with Letters of Representation from Attorney Christopher Boldt for the Portland Pipeline and Great Lakes Hydro Abatement matters. The Board had previously approved Attorney Boldt representing the Town in these matters. Chairman Schall signed the documents on behalf of the Board.

d) 2014 Audit Update: TM Frost stated that the Town's Auditor, Paul Mercier, had completed his field work for the audit. Mr. Mercier's initial decisions include leaving \$1 million dollars in deferred revenue, now called deferred inflows. Over half of this amount is due to the outstanding taxes of Gorham Paper and Tissue. Mr. Mercier also left money there because of the abatement matter still outstanding with GLHA and PPL. TM Frost stated that it looks like the unreserved balance will be \$1,264,355.88, and that overall the Town was in good shape. The Town will receive a draft copy of the audit by the middle of April.

e) Moose Statue on the Common: TM Frost stated that the moose on the common is deteriorating and will need to be replaced soon. Rec Director Stewart forwarded a picture of a moose statue that is made out of recycled metal and asked if the Board would be interested in something like that versus the traditional wood statue. The Board stated that it does not really fit in with the character of the Town. TM Frost stated that RD Stewart said that Brian Lamarre is willing to sculpt one out of wood for the Town at no cost. The Board stated that they do not want to proceed with the recycled metal moose and to ask Mr. Lamarre to carve one.

f) 2015 General Aviation Proclamation: TM Frost presented the Board with a 2015 General Aviation Proclamation, noting that this is the same as last year. **Selectman Oliver made a motion to accept and execute the General Aviation Proclamation as presented, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, voted unanimously.**

4. Old Business

a) KGI Gorham, LLC Abatement Update: TM Frost stated she believes the Town is moving forward on this matter and that Steve Pool of KGI turned the matter over to their attorney Meg Nelson. Town Attorney Lynn Sabeau will work with Attorney Nelson.

b) Cascade RR Crossing: Bill Lambert of the State of NH, DOT, informed TM Frost to contact John Robinson of the NH Rail Transit Department. She had sent an email to Mr. Robinson and has not heard from him yet. The Board instructed TM Frost to contact Mr. Robinson's supervisor if she did not receive a response.

c) Information Booth Renovations, Sign Replacement: TM Frost presented the Board with a picture of the proposed new sign for the information booth. She also presented an updated estimate for the updates needed for the information booth. The updated estimate is for \$18,922.23, which includes the following work: new roof, siding, windows as well as rebuilding the bathrooms. TM Frost stated that RD Stewart would like to take the money from the Field Maintenance CRF, which can be used for any recreational purpose. The Board asked to see the other bids for the rehab that needs to be completed, expressing concern with regard to the amount of money. The Board and TM Frost discussed whether or not the Town should be running the information booth or if the local Chamber might be interested in taking it over. TM Frost will contact the Chamber to open dialog with them regarding this matter. The new sign will cost \$600 - \$700, will be paid for from the recreation revolving fund and will be made by Gemini Signs.

5. Public Comment:

Glen Eastman stated that the reason that he asked the questions that he asked of Mr. Conklin, CAP, is because he is very concerned about their financial stability and feels that the Town cannot keep feeding money into those agencies.

Kirstan Lukasak asked if the meeting with the State had taken place. She was told that it had not yet.

6. Other Business

a) Town Manager's Update: TM Frost stated that she had scheduled a meeting with Chris Gamache of the State of NH Trails Bureau on March 20th at 10:30 am in the Public Meeting Room. TM Frost stated that she had received a request from Animal Planet for filming the 7th season of Finding Sasquatch on/in the Town Forest. They would be camping on the property. The Water/Sewer Commissioners have reviewed the request and have decided that it would not be a good idea because of the Town's water shed. The Board agreed with the Water and Sewer Commissioners.

b) Selectmen's Update: There were no updates presented.

c) Approval of Minutes (February 9, 2015): Selectman LaPierre made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 9, 2015, meeting as presented, seconded by Selectman Oliver, voted unanimously.

d) Sign Manifest: All manifests were signed.

e) Sign Abatements and Exemptions (if necessary): None were presented.

7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-a:3, II d: On a motion by Chairman Schall, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to move into non-public session at 7:15 pm. Schall – Aye, LaPierre – Aye, Oliver - Aye.

On a motion by Chairman Schall, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, the Board came out of non-public session by unanimous roll call vote at 7:48 pm. Schall – Aye, LaPierre – Aye, Oliver - Aye.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Jeff Schall

Grace LaPierre

Terry Oliver