

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 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; PJ Cyr, Police Chief; Officer Mark Santos, Officer Phil Pelletier, Officer Eric Benjamin, Officer Jon Imperial, Officer Brian Lamarre, Officer Rich McClure, Mike Turgeon, Keith Roberge, Steve Emerson, Mike Waddell, Henry Sanschagrin, Ted Wier, Michele Cormier, John Turner, and others

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

2. Appointments:

a) Chief PJ Cyr – Officer Introduction/Oath: Chief Cyr introduced Michael Turgeon to the Board as the newest member of the Department. Mr. Turgeon is a life-long resident of Gorham. Selectman LaPierre swore in Mr. Turgeon.

b) Keith Roberge – OHRV Trail Access from Jimtown Road: Mr. Roberge stated that he has a guide business that he had been operating out of Errol and is looking to run the business out of his home on Jimtown Road. He stated that the business received calls from all over the State. As Mr. Roberge uses OHRV's for this guide business, he is asking that the Board request another public hearing to open OHRV traffic in the Jimtown Road/Crestwood Drive area as well as access to the current trail system. Mr. Roberge suggested requesting the State to open that small portion of the Rail Trail or Route 2. Steve Emerson informed the Board that he is in possession of a petition that has been signed by 101 people requesting that this area be opened for ATVs. Chairman Schall stated that there is a public hearing currently scheduled for the Cascade Hill/Cascade Flats area and that the Board will include this neighborhood as well. TM Frost stated that Jeff Rose of the State of NH sent a letter to the Town stating that they will not allow access/use of the Rail Trail from Jimtown Road to the Route 2 parking area. TM Frost will forward a copy of the letter to Mr. Roberge.

3. New Business

a) 2015 Utility Assessment Update Contract: TM Frost presented the Board with the proposed Utility Assessment Contract. Mr. Sansoucy's fees for this contract is a flat fee of \$36,000 for this year's utility assessment as well as an additional \$10,000 to defend the 2015 values. These fees do not include BTLA time. The Board signed the Agreement.

b) Sign MS 232 Statement of Appropriations: TM Frost presented the Board with the 2015 MS232. The MS232 is a reporting of the appropriations that were voted in at the Town Meeting. The Board signed the MS232.

c) 2015 Budget Q1 Review: TM Frost presented the Board with the first quarter Budget. She said that most items are on track, noting that health insurance is down a little instead of going up. The revenues are also up a little, and as previously discussed the Highway Department had a pretty tough winter. TM Frost said that nothing else stands out and that she was sharing the budget information so that the Board may review it.

d) Committee Appointments: TM Frost presented the Board with five Appointment Certificates. Two for the Town Forest Committee – positions to be filled by Glen Eastman and Steve Malespini, two for the Conservation Committee – positions to be filled by Mike Waddell and Mike Pelchat and a Zoning Board alternate position to be filled by Keith Roberge. The Board signed all five certificates.

4. Old Business

a) Ambulance Contracts: The Randolph Board of Selectmen were present for this meeting. Ted Wier informed the Board that while there is a provision in the contract regarding police contract, there is an agreement in place between the two Police Chiefs. Randolph does not mind Gorham’s protocol for Police protection, however, they would like to use their department. The Randolph Board suggested that if the EMS department did not feel safe with the situation at hand, that they should not enter the property/home. Randolph went on to say that they do not have a problem with the EMS service price for the contract. In 1995 an agreement had been signed between Randolph and Gorham’s Police Chiefs. With the exception of the police portion of the proposed contract, Randolph is okay with the terms and pricing as presented. Randolph stated that they have already sent in a payment for the first quarter of this year and feel as though they are working in good faith toward making the agreement work for all those involved. Chairman Schall thanked them for coming in and trying to move forward amicably. The Board agreed to a special meeting on Friday, April 10 at 3:00 so they could review the newly obtained information and Chairman Schall will attend Randolph’s Selectmen Meeting on Monday, April 13.

b) KGI Abatement Update: TM Frost updated the Board on this matter noting that a Motion to Compel had been given to KGI so the Town could receive information that had been requested along with the remaining balance of unanswered interrogatories. The Motion asks BTLA to give KGI a drop dead date to complete the task.

5. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

6. Other Business

a) Town Manager’s Update: TM Frost stated that she expected to receive the Engineering Proposals for Tinker Brook on Friday of this week. She said that the Town has already met with two firms to go over the site and expectations.

b) Selectmen’s Update: There were none.

c) Approval of Minutes (March 23, 2015): Selectman LaPierre stated that she would like to make an exception to the Minutes of the March 23 meeting and the comments as they relate to her needing permission prior to speaking with people. Selectman LaPierre said that she did not feel like the minutes or the newspaper article reflected what she stated with regard to further negotiations. Minute taker Elaine Riendeau stated that as the person charged with relaying what transpires at the meetings, the minutes reflect how she interpreted what was being said, as did BDS Reporter Lukasak. Selectman LaPierre stated that she felt like she was being scolded by TM Frost and needed permission to speak with someone. She questioned whether TM Frost worked for the Board or whether the Board worked for her. Chairman Schall stated that we “the Board” need to be careful as to what is being said to our neighbors. It was discussed that there were too many “back door” conversations going on outside of the meetings with too many different people talking about the same topic and that it is

detraining a productive outcome. A discussion between TM Frost and Selectman LaPierre took place with regard to her speaking directly to Ms. Carpenter and the fact that Selectman Oliver and LaPierre have been speaking about the matter outside of properly noticed meetings, which is an illegal action for the Board. TM Frost told Selectman LaPierre that she was not trying to say that she could not speak to anyone, what she was trying to say is that during the negotiation process of these contracts conversations in an official capacity should go through the Board's designee. For instance TM Frost stated that at a recent Budget Committee meeting Mike Waddell stated that Shelburne did not have a problem with the protocol for police coverage, however, in a letter received from Shelburne that is not correct. Mike Waddell stated that at this time neither Chairman Schall nor TM Frost has the best working relationship with Shelburne's Board. Mr. Waddell went on to say that, at the present time Stanley Judge is not available for health reasons, which leaves Ms. Evans and Ms. Behling. He said that he felt if Mr. Judge was available to continue with the contract negotiations that it would be along further and/or completed by now, noting that both women were relatively new to the Board and were more emotional than Mr. Judge. The Board discussed how to move forward with this matter. It was agreed to meet with each Town separately.

Selectman LaPierre made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 23 as presented, seconded by Selectman Oliver, voted unanimously.

Prior to moving on Jay Holmes asked to direct the Board. Mr. Holmes stated that at this time he felt that the Board needs a workshop to discuss how to act unilaterally. He expressed concern regarding the "illegal" meetings that have been taking place. He stated the Board should regroup and recompose themselves, noting that he feels they are being very unprofessional.

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 a: On a motion by Chairman Schall, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to move into non-public session at 7:02 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 7:50 pm. Schall – Aye, LaPierre – Aye, Oliver - Aye.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Jeff Schall

Grace LaPierre

Terry Oliver