

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF GORHAM  
MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2014, 6:00 PM  
GORHAM TOWN HALL**

Gorham Selectmen present: Jeff Schall, Bill Jackson, Grace LaPierre

Also present: Robin Frost, Town Manager; Kirsten Lukasak, Berlin Daily Sun; Michelle Lutz, Assessing Clerk; Dennis Arguin, Randy Labnon & Scott Labnon, Town & Country Motor Inn; Paul Robitaille & Mike Guay, Planning Board

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

**2. Appointments:**

**a) Planning Board Representatives – Irving 24 Hour Truck Stop:** Mike Guay of the Planning Board asked the Board exactly what they were asking of the Planning Board with regard to the hours of operation of Irving. Chairman Jackson stated that the Zoning Board could not look at this matter, and stated that the Board wanted to understand what the Planning Board did or did not approve when the original site plan was brought before the Board. Mr. Guay stated that this matter came to the attention of the Planning Board about a year ago, and while he spent several hours recently looking through the property file, he had spent countless hours at that time reviewing the file. Mr. Guay stated that the plan that is in the file represents what was presented to the Board at that time. Mr. Robitaille stated that the Planning Board was relatively new when this site plan was presented. At that time, there were two types of property zones, general use and residential. This property was in what was considered "general use". He went on to say that at that time, there was no site plan review; however, it met the zoning ordinance. The property had been presented as a 24-hour truck stop and was approved as such. Chairman Jackson asked Messrs. Guay and Robitaille what they thought would be the reaction if the Town requested Irving not to use Lary Street that is the extension to the cemetery. Mr. Guay stated that Irving was given a right of way for that entrance in their deed.

**b) Town & Country – Police Response:** Randy Labnon stated that in May they had a situation at the Town & Country Motor Inn where a person had pulled a loaded gun on other guests at the Inn because of noise. Mr. Labnon stated that an employee had called the Gorham Police Department and was informed that he needed to call State Police. While the bulk of the property is located in Shelburne, there is a portion that is considered Gorham and they pay taxes on that property. Mr. Labnon is concerned with how to handle critical situations like this one. Chairman Jackson stated that the call for service had come in at 9:34, at 9:37/9:38 two Gorham Officers had arrived at the scene and by 9:39 the person had been reported in custody. The Gorham Officers showed up just after the State Police. Chairman Jackson stated that he felt that the Town's response time was favorable. TM Frost stated that there is a life safety RSA that allows officers into another municipality. While the State Police has to request assistance from Gorham, the RSA covers situations like these. TM Frost stated that Gorham is also working on a contract for public safety services with the Town of Shelburne.

**3. New Business**

TM Frost stated that PW Director Holmes asked her to bring in pictures of light poles that are on Exchange Street that have damage on their bases. The cost for replacement of the street light poles is approximately \$1,000 per pole. PWD Holmes is looking for direction from the Board as to how repairs and/or replacement should be handled. At this time, there is a safety concern. The Board instructed TM Frost to have PWD Holmes to check with one of the local machine shops to see if they could be repaired and to check on alternative options for replacement.

#### **4. Old Business**

**a) Property Abatement – Schall Property, Map 30 Lot 19:** Selectman Schall stated that while the Board was handling his property abatement request, he had excused himself from the Board to deal with the matter as a resident. While he had nothing to add to the matter, he just wanted to say that he felt he should have been afforded the opportunity to present the matter in a fair and equitable way. He thanked his Board members for putting this matter back on the agenda to acknowledge this situation.

**b) Report on Public Safety Contract Development Committee:** TM Frost stated that the Committee met with the Towns of Shelburne and Randolph together as they had requested. She said that both Towns representatives were taken back and insulted that they had to meet with the Committee and did not meet with the Board of Selectmen. TM Frost and the Board discussed that the Committee was in place to pull together necessary information regarding what the needs of the two Towns were so the Board can work on the accurate costs. TM Frost stated that the committee will be meeting again soon and hoped to be able to pull together the necessary information.

**c) 2 Glen Road Update:** TM Frost stated that she still had not heard from the property owner nor had she received the “green card” from the certified mailing. She hoped to hear and/or receive something by the end of the week.

**d) Ambulance Status:** TM Frost presented the Board with a picture of the back of the ambulance that is out for service. It is still in the repair process and the department still has a loaner. At this time, it is unclear when the vehicle will be completely repaired.

**e) Additional Signage on Welcome Signs:** TM Frost presented the Board with the new signs, as they had been received. She stated that another brace would be added to the existing signs so the new signs can be added to the “Welcome” signs. The Board and TM Frost were pleased with how they came out.

**f) Tax Deeds:** TM Frost stated that as was outlined in the previous minutes, the deeds have been recorded. PWD Holmes and some of his crew have been up to the Currier property to check things out and to secure the building. Forest Freight has been notified and has been removing their equipment/supplies from the building/property. TM Frost stated that while the Town PWD people were there they saw that Dennis Currier was in the building and working on his truck. After further discussion regarding Mr. Currier, it was agreed that Mr. Currier needs to vacate the building and the building needs to be secured. The Board asked TM Frost to send a letter to Dennis Currier outlining that the property now belongs to the Town of Gorham.

Chairman Jackson stated that the property on Glen Road that owed the Town money for the match of work completed after Hurricane Irene and is referred to on the Town’s audit. He asked TM Frost

if these monies would continue to show up on the audit. TM Frost stated that while a lien was put on the property by the Town for the outstanding money, the property sold at "short sale" recently and there was not enough money to pay off the lien. The money should not be included in next year's audit.

Chairman Jackson asked where we stood with regard to locating the eldest resident for the Boston Post Cane. At this time, it is believed that Dot Nedeau is the oldest resident and will be verified.

Chairman Jackson asked if the street light survey had been given to the Police Department. TM Frost stated that it had been passed along for their review.

Chairman Jackson asked what the status was for the Town Hall windows. TM Frost stated that Denise Vallee is looking into alternatives.

TM Frost stated that the Town had received the Grant for the Town Garage Roof, however, the came in just under \$18,000 versus the requested \$20,000. FD Vallee is checking to see if there is a deadline to complete the work.

Chairman Jackson stated that he found a source who is getting him information stating that the US Army Corps of Engineers completed the work on the Moose River riverbank. TM Frost stated that she did email Mike Waddell to ask if he had information on this work, and he did not have any information.

## **5. Public Comment**

## **6. Other Business**

**a) Town Manager's Update:** TM Frost had no updates.

**b) Selectmen's Update:** Selectman Schall stated that the paving job on Railroad Street was good. Chairman Jackson asked about whether anything can be done temporarily to the Stony Brook area roads as had been previously discussed. TM Frost stated that PWD Holmes spoke with Engineer Jay Poulin about this matter, and Mr. Poulin stated that nothing could be done as the base was done incorrectly. If anything is done, it would be temporary. Further discussion took place regarding placing more sand in the road to fill the low areas as had been done last fall.

**c) Approval of Minutes (June 16, 2014, June 23, 2014):** Chairman Jackson stated that he would like note in the June 16, 2014 minutes that on the 13-17 Candy Lane abatement, that the property card in question was noted that it was the original card, which was completed by KRT Appraisal.

**Selectman Schall made a motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 2014, with the change, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, voted unanimously.** Selectman Schall noted a spelling error on the minutes of June 23, 2014, in the TM Update section and asked for a correction. **Selectman LaPierre made a motion to approve the minutes of June 23, 2014, with the spelling correction, seconded by Selectman Schall, voted unanimously.**

**d) Sign Manifest:** All manifests were signed.

**e) Sign Abatements and Exemptions (if necessary):** AC Lutz presented the Board with the abatement denial documentation for Walmart and Gorham Paper and Tissue for their signatures. AC Lutz also presented the Board with the corrected card and information for 2 Bangor Street, as corrected by KRT Appraisal. She stated that the correction reduces the assessment amount \$2,400 per year. **Selectman Schall made a motion to approve the abatement as recommended by KRT Appraisal, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, voted unanimously.**

AC Lutz stated that she received a bill of sale from Gary Jacobs for purchasing Wayne Buber's portion of the hangar. At this time, there is nothing in the file that shows the original purchase/agreement for Messrs. Jacobs and Buber and it is looking for direction from the Board as to how to handle this matter. Chairman Jackson stated that just prior to his retirement as Town Manager, Attorney Ed Boutin had researched the hangars, ownership and suggested that AC Lutz research those findings.

**7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-a:3, II a-e:** Non-public session was not necessary.

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED:**

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**William H. Jackson**

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**Jeff Schall**

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**Grace LaPierre**