

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF GORHAM  
MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2013, 6:00 PM  
GORHAM TOWN HALL**

Gorham Selectmen present: Chairman David Graham, Paul Robitaille, Bill Jackson  
Also present: Robin L. Frost, Town Manager; Deb Thornblad, Berlin Daily Sun

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

**2. Appointments:** None to be handled.

**3. New Business:**

**a) Floodplain Map Adoption** – TM Frost informed the Board that Mike Waddell is working on a report and that he has asked the Board not to act on this matter until he finishes his report. Further discussion regarding the FEMA and the Floodplain Maps took place and it was determined that there was time before the deadline and that the Resolution to Adopt would be handled at the next scheduled meeting.

**b) Peabody River Assessment** – TM Frost presented the Board with a copy of the assessment. It was further discussed that while the report did not offer any solutions to the problems that arise during high water, it provided an interesting snap shot of how things look now versus before. The Board and TM Frost further discussed that a meeting with Tom Wagner should be scheduled to review options on what can be done to solve these problems. It was agreed overall that it was a good report.

**4. Old Business:**

**a) Public Works Office Building Update** – TM Frost informed the Board that she is still working with an architect in St. Johnsbury, to get information that is comparable to the other report that she has received. As soon as this information is received, TM Frost will submit an application to do a loan request with USDA. TM Frost also informed the Board that she will keep them up to date on the status.

**b) Building Permit Fees** – TM Frost presented a draft of Building Permit Fees for discussion informing the Board that the fees are in the middle of what other Towns have in place. Selectman Jackson asked about the \$150 after the fact penalty, and wondered if there was anything in the ordinances that covered this. The Board also thought that the base fees could be increased, and wanted to make sure that there was something to deal with “spec homes” versus “residential”, indicating that spec homes should be handled as commercial property. The Board also agreed that 3+ unit homes should be more than residential homes. After further discussion, it was agreed that TM Frost will look into the stop work/after the fact fees as well as work on the fee structure more and will bring it back for the next meeting agenda.

**5. Public Comment:** While no Town citizens were present, Deb Thornblad asked for clarification on a few items regarding the Peabody River Report. The Board and TM Frost assisted Ms. Thornblad with the clarifications that were requested.

**6. Other Business:**

**a) Town Manager's Update** – TM Frost informed the Board that the Technical Review Committee (TRC) had been picking up pace and felt that business/economy looked to be on the up-swing. Further discussion took place with regard to the projects that TRC has been reviewing. TM Frost said that it has been good to have these meetings. TM Frost discussed the Engine Brake Sign that had been moved from the top of Gorham Hill to the bottom, noting that the State removed the sign, stating that the move had not been approved by the State. After further discussion it was agreed that placing the sign back at the top of Gorham Hill did not seem to make sense, and that TM Frost would go back to the State requesting a sign be placed back at the bottom with different language that the State would approve. TM Frost went over a list of upcoming meetings noting that the next July 4<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting was scheduled for January 23, and the Budget Committee meetings have been scheduled for January 15, 17, 22 and 24. TM Frost informed the Board that the Gorham Community Learning Center is in the process of hiring a new Executive Director and plans on finishing the CDBG Grant once the new director is hired. TM Frost also went on to tell the Board that NCC is currently working on their search for Executive Director as well. TM Frost also informed the Board that the Human Rights Committee Complaint has not yet been assigned to an investigator. The case has been entered into the queue and expects that an investigator will be assigned by the end of February.

**b) Selectmen's Updates** – Selectman Jackson asked to have TM Frost set up a meeting with George Sansoucy in a non-public meeting to discuss our current litigation cases. Chairman Graham agreed as that topic had been brought up at the last Budget Committee meeting.

**c) Approval of Minutes (January 7, 2013)** – Chairman Graham asked that the minutes show that he was not in favor of the part time cemetery worker, but that it did not go to vote because his colleagues were in favor. **After further discussion Selectman Robitaille made a motion to accept the minutes with the noted changes, seconded by Selectman Jackson, approved unanimously.**

**d) Sign Manifest** – All signed.

**e) Sign Abatements (if necessary)** – None were presented for signature.

**7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-a:3,II a-e (if needed): Selectman Jackson moved to not go into Non-Public session, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, approved unanimously.**

**8. Adjournment: At 7:48 pm Selectman Jackson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, approved unanimously.**

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED:**

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**David Graham**

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**Paul Robitaille**

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**William H. Jackson**