

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF GORHAM  
MONDAY, January 28, 2013, 6:00 PM  
GORHAM TOWN HALL**

Gorham Selectmen present: Chairman David Graham, Paul Robitaille, Bill Jackson  
Also present: Robin L. Frost, Town Manager; Henry Sanschagrín, Presidential OHRV Club; Jeff Schall; Gail Scott, Berlin Daily Sun

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

**2. Appointments:** At this time Chairman Graham moved to go ahead to "New Business" as there were no "Appointments" scheduled.

**3. New Business:**

**a) Floodplain Map Adoption:** TM Frost informed the Board that she had still not received a report from Mike Waddell. As time is of the essence, the Board and TM Frost discussed that the resolution could be made, but the motion for approval should include reservations. TM Frost and the Board further discussed the recommendations that were provided by the NH Office of Energy and Planning. **Therefore the following resolution was made pursuant to RSA 674:57, by resolution of the undersigned Board of Selectmen of the Town of Gorham, all lands designated as special flood hazard areas by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in its "Flood Insurance Study for the County of Coos, NH" dated February 20, 2013, together with the associated Flood Insurance Rate maps dated February 20, 2013, are declared to be part of the Gorham Zoning Ordinance and are hereby incorporated by reference. Resolution moved by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, with the caveat that the Town of Gorham is disputing the delineations in the maps under separate means. Said motion was voted unanimously in the affirmative.**

**b) Warrant Article Suggestion by Budget Committee:** Chairman Graham presented to the Board and TM Frost a request from the Budget Committee that would include individual warrant articles for each department's budget. Further discussion took place with both Selectman Robitaille and Selectman Jackson stated that he is not in favor of this idea as the taxpayers have the opportunity to ask questions and feels that it is redundant. Chairman Graham expressed that he does not see it as a big issue and that he voted in favor of doing this at the Budget Committee meeting. **Chairman Graham made a motion to adopt the Warrant Article suggestions of the Budget Committee, Selectman Jackson seconded, and the floor was open for discussion.** Selectman Robitaille stated that he felt it was a waste of time and that it was the job of the Selectman. **Voting took place as follows: Selectman Robitaille – Nay; Selectman Jackson – Nay; Chairman Graham – Aye.**

**4. Old Business:**

**a) Building Permit Fees:** TM Frost presented the Board with an updated fee schedule and indicated that nothing could be found in the Town Code with regard to the penalty fees for a stop work order. Further discussion took place regarding the length of permits and other fees. **Selectman Jackson then made a**

**motion to approve the proposed Building Permit Fees effective January 28, 2013, Selectman Robitaille seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.**

**b) ATV Update:** While there was not actual update, it was discussed between TM Frost, the Board and Henry Sanschagrín that it was still being worked on by the NH Department of Safety and Department of Transportation. It was agreed by both the Board and TM Frost to keep this item on the agenda from time to time.

## **5. Public Comment:**

Henry Sanschagrín expressed concern to the TM and Board that the Minutes and Agendas for the Board of Selectmen Meetings and the timeliness or lack thereof for these items being updated on the Town's website. After further discussion, it was agreed by the Board and TM Frost that they would do everything possible to keep the updates as current as possible, indicating that draft minutes are not posted.

Jeff Schall asked the TM and Board what the outcome of the suggestion of the Budget Committee's request for individual Town Warrants, as he was late for the meeting and missed the earlier vote. The Board informed Mr. Schall that the motion was not approved. Further discussion took place regarding a new state statute that states that warrants can include the tax impact on each warrant and whether or not this should be included on this year's warrants. **Selectman Jackson made a motion to include tax impacts of individual warrants on the Town Warrants, seconded by Chairman Graham, with voting as follows: Selectman Robitaille – Nay; Selectman Jackson – Aye; Chairman Graham – Aye.**

Mr. Schall then discussed three petitions for Warrant Articles that he was requesting/asking the Board to support. The first article is to request a vote at Town Meeting for forming a Budget Committee for the School. TM Frost and the Board informed Mr. Schall that School items needed to be on the School Warrant not the Town's Warrant. The second item is to vote and raise a \$4,999 fund for Time Warner Cable to expand into the Claybrook/Hemlock/Evergreen neighborhood, noting that there was no cable or broadband in that neighborhood. Mr. Schall also informed the Board that TWC is willing to cover the balance of the install, but that they are looking for a commitment from the Town to help out the residents. The last petition he discussed was to have the Town appropriate \$3,250 for a study by North Country Council to look at solid waste and recycling.

## **6. Other Business:**

**a) Town Manager's Update** – TM Frost spoke to the Board about the budget updates that she presented to the Board. She went on to explain some of the changes that were made after the last Budget Committee meeting and their most recent conversation. Further discussion took place regarding the budget updates and increases. Chairman Graham informed the Board and TM Frost that he felt it was the general consensus of the Budget Committee that they understood where the budget was and that they were in agreement with the Selectmen's recommendations.

TM Frost presented proposals to the Board for the Public Works Office. TM Frost informed the Board that the proposals only include engineering and architecture up to including the bid process, stating that no construction costs were included. TM Frost asked the Board to look over the proposals indicating that this item will be included on the next agenda for further discussion.

TM Frost invited/informed the Board of a post holiday get together on January 30<sup>th</sup> at the Town & Country Motor Inn for a dinner/buffet.

**b) Selectmen's Updates** - Selectman Robitaille inquired about the engine brake sign for Route 2. TM Frost informed the Board that she had not heard anything from the State regarding the sign. Further discussion took place as to whether or not the sign should be moved back up to the top of Gorham Hill. The Board also questioned the status of the Route 16 south passing zone and proposed speed limit change. TM Frost informed the Board that the State did not plan to remove the passing zone or speed limit stating that the State had forwarded a letter to Shelly Fortin addressing the concerns.

The Board and TM Frost went on to discuss the State's current funding issues, and discussed the bill in Senate for the proposed gas tax.

**c) Approval of Minutes (January 14, 2013):** Selectman Jackson made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, approved unanimously.

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

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

**7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-a:3, II e:** On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to move into Non-Public Session at 7:07 pm. Jackson –aye, Graham – aye, Robitaille – aye.

On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to return to Public Session at 7:48 pm. Jackson –aye, Graham – aye, Robitaille – aye.

There were no decisions made as a result of the non-public session.

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED:**

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David Graham

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Paul Robitaille

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William H. Jackson