

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF GORHAM  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2013, 6:00 PM  
GORHAM TOWN HALL**

Gorham Selectmen present: Chairman David Graham, Bill Jackson, Paul Robitaille excused  
Also present: Robin L. Frost, Town Manager; PJ Cyr, Chief of Police; Jennifer Lemoine, Lt. Gorham PD; Mark Santos, Gorham PD; Eric Benjamin, Gorham PD; Jamal Hicks, Gorham PD; Judge James Michalik, Max Makaitis, Jeff Schall, Don Provencher, Robert Balon, Gail Scott, Berlin Daily Sun

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

**2. Appointments:**

**a) Judge James Michalik – Family Resource Center:** Judge Michalik presented a power point presentation to the Board which included building report, building to do list and new afterschool opportunity for Gorham. Judge Michalik reviewed the repair/work that had been completed to the building over the past year; as well as what repair/work is slated to be completed this coming year. After further discussion between the Board and Judge Michalik about the condition of the building, Judge Michalik went on to discuss the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant (21CCLC). Judge Michalik outlined the program to be associated with the 21CCLC Grant and asked the Board to support the program, so that FRC can move forward with the grant process. The Board instructed TM Frost to prepare a resolution for the Board of Selectmen to sign and forward to FRC.

**b) Austin Holmes – Public Works Building Project:** TM Frost summarized the two proposals received for the design, bid for the new office building at the public works garage. Further discussion took place between the Board and TM Frost with regard to the qualifications of the two contractors as well as the bid pricing. Due to the time constraints involved, it was agreed that for this year the cost estimating would take place this year with the intention of getting all costs put together and brought before the Town in next year's budgeting process. When Highway Director Holmes was consulted about the project, he stated that he would rather do the process correctly than to rush things along and possibly end up with other concerns. The Board and TM Frost both agreed that both engineering firms seem to be adequate and would therefore plan to use the company with the lesser bid, however, it was agreed to table this item until the next meeting so all Board members could be involved.

**c) Chief PJ Cyr – New Officer Introduction:** Chief Cyr introduced the Gorham PD's newest officer, Jonathan Imperial, stating that Officer Imperial came in Certified from the State, and that he has a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice. Chief Cyr went on to inform the Board that there is still a vacant position in the department and that he has been working on getting the last position filled. At this time, they are working with an individual and are currently reviewing what the Town has to offer for benefits. Chief Cyr said that he will keep the Board and TM Frost informed on the updates.

**3. New Business:**

**a) Petition Warrant Articles:** The Board and TM Frost discussed the Warrant Articles, noting that the Article (#7) regarding the Public Works Garage would be taken out at this time. Further discussion took place regarding which items needed to be reviewed and voted on by the Board. It was agreed that only the items that had

money amounts tied to them needed to reviewed/recommended. It was further discussed that if all items were voted in there would be a tax increase of \$0.37. The Board proceeded to review the articles:

**ARTICLE #9** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee recommended sum of **\$3,853,454.00** for the general municipal operations. This article does not include special or individual articles addressed.

	Budget Committee	Tax Rate Impact
General Government	\$1,292,211.00	\$ 4.72 / \$1,000
Public Safety	\$1,112,653.00	\$ 4.06
Highways, Streets & Bridges	\$ 746,483.00	\$ 2.73
Municipal Solid Waste/Recycling	\$ 325,276.00	\$ 1.19
Health Purposes	\$ 1,700.00	< .01
Welfare	\$ 30,000.00	\$ .11
Recreation, Parks	\$ 165,624.00	\$ .60
Information Booth	\$ 26,291.00	\$ .10
Patriotic Purposes	\$ 250.00	< .01
Debt Purposes	<u>\$ 152,966.00</u>	\$ .56
 Total	 <b>\$3,853,454.00</b>	

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #12** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$122,322.00** for the operation of the Gorham Public Library. Tax Rate Impact: \$0.45

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #14** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$75,000.00** for the purpose of highway and sidewalk asphalt repaving and curbing projects. Tax Rate Impact: \$0.27

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #15** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$17,500.00** for the purpose of funding Androscoggin Valley Home Care Services. (By petition Lorraine Reynolds and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.06

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #16** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$500.00** for the purpose of funding the D.A.R.E. Program. Tax Rate Impact: < \$0.01

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #17** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,900.00** for the support of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee, to include fireworks and police coverage for the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. Tax Rate Impact: \$0.04

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, moved to discussion.** Chairman Graham expressed his previous concerns regarding the Town paying for the Police, Fire and EMS coverage. **The Board then moved to vote, Chairman Graham voted Nay, Selectman Jackson voted Aye.**

**ARTICLE #18** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$16,560.00** for the purpose of purchasing a Gas Card System for the Public Works Garage. Tax Rate Impact: \$0.06

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #19** To see if the Town will vote to establish an Ambulance Equipment Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of purchasing/maintaining emergency medical services equipment. And further, to raise and appropriate **\$5,000.00** to be placed in such fund and designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend as may be necessary for this purpose. Tax Rate Impact: \$0.02

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, moved to discussion.** Selectman Jackson is concerned with the account and the idea of how it is being used, stating that he is concerned with it insulating voters from control. **The Board then voted Chairman Graham voted Aye and Selectman Jackson voted Nay.**

**ARTICLE #20** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$40,000.00** to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$62,077.69.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.15

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #21** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,000.00** to be added to the Town Building Purchase and Repairs Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$75,578.43.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.11

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #22** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000.00** to be added to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$43,977.30.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.07

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #23** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000.00** to be added to the Recreation Van Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$25,846.38.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.035

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #24** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$40,000.00** to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$142,785.47.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.15

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #25** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$23,000.00** to be added to the Sanitation/Recycling Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$53,779.73.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.08

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #26** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$12,000.00** to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$.68.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.04

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #27** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000.00** to be added to the Emergency Disaster Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$770.95.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.035

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #28** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,328.00** to be added to the Medallion Opera House Capital Reserve Fund as previously established with said funds to come from surplus. This amount represents the rental fees received for 2012. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$204.00.* Tax Rate Impact: <\$0.01

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #29** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$8,000.00** to be added to the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$10,782.76.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.03

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, Chairman Graham voted Aye, and Selectman Jackson voted Nay.**

**ARTICLE #30** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$110,000.00** to be added to the Assessment Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$6.08.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.40

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #31** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$12,500.00** to be added to the Fieldstone Road Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$13,176.87.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.045

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #32** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000.00** to be added to the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$11,106.64.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.02

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, Chairman Graham voted Aye, and Selectman Jackson voted Nay.**

**ARTICLE #33** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000.00** to be added to the Road Resurfacing and Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$1,807.48.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.02

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #34** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000.00** to be added to the River Maintenance Trust Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$66,535.87.* Tax Rate Impact: \$0.02

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #35** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,000.00** to be added to the Special Insurance Trust Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$4,727.62.* Tax Rate Impact: <\$0.01

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #36** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,000.00** to be added to the Longevity Trust Fund as previously established. *Balance as of December 31, 2012: \$16,348.40.* Tax Rate Impact: <\$0.01

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #37** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,895.00** for the purpose of supporting outpatient mental health services to under-insured and uninsured individuals provided by Northern Human Services – The Mental Health Center. (By petition Andrea Gagne and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.01

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #38** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,000.00** for the support of the Child Advocacy Center of Coos County. (By petition Andrea Gagne and others.) Tax Rate Impact: <\$0.01

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #39** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$8,700.00** for the purpose of supporting the Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. This request will support North Country Transit/Senior Wheels \$3,000.00; North Country Senior Meals \$2,700.00; and the Community Contact Office \$3,000.00 – all sponsored by TCCAP. (By petition Stephen P. Michaud and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.03

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #40** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000.00** for the purpose of supporting Economic Development. (By petition Don Provencher and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.02

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, moved to discussion. Selectman Jackson expressed concern as to who gets the money. The Board then voted Chairman Graham voted Aye and Selectman Jackson voted Nay.**

**ARTICLE #41** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000.00** for the support of the Gorham Community Learning Center. (By petition Keith Parent and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.015

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, voted in favor 2-0.**

**ARTICLE #42** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000.00** for the purpose of supporting of the Gorham Historical Society's public service, non-profit work to preserve and display the Town's history for future generations. (By petition Reuben Rajala and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.015

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, moved to discussion.** The Board discussed how this amount of money is increased from what was requested last year, stating that this year is not the year for the increase. **The Board then voted Chairman Graham voted Nay and Selectman Jackson voted Nay.**

**ARTICLE #43** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000.00** for the purpose of supporting the Family Resource Center at Gorham. (By petition Ron Fini and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.05

**Selectman Jackson moved to recommend the article as presented; Chairman Graham recused himself from voting.**

**ARTICLE #44** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,520.00** for the purpose of supporting North Country Council's proposal to assist the Town of Gorham with an analysis of their solid waste program costs and explore options for changes to their operations with an emphasis on cost reduction. (By petition Jeff Schall and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.01

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, Chairman Graham voted Aye, and Selectman Jackson voted Nay.**

**ARTICLE #45** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,999.00** for Time Warner Cable to extend their cable network to residences of Evergreen Drive, Hemlock Drive and a portion of Clay Brook Road. Time Warner Cable will cover the estimated balance of \$9,150.00 of the remaining construction costs. (By petition Carol Miller and others.) Tax Rate Impact: \$0.02

**Chairman Graham moved to recommend the article as presented, seconded by Selectman Jackson, moved to discussion.** The Board agreed that they feel that the Town should not be subsidizing Time Warner Cable and felt that it is not proper use of the Town's money. **The Board then voted Chairman Graham voted Nay and Selectman Jackson voted Nay.**

c) US Forest Service Law Enforcement Agreement Renewal: TM Frost informed the Board that the agreement is the same as previous years to provide patrols in the National Forest. The agreement is \$2,000 per year contract for the extra patrols. **Selectman Jackson made a motion to sign agreement, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted unanimously.** Because the agreement only needed one Board members signature, **Selectman Jackson made a motion for Chairman Graham to sign the Agreement, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted unanimously.**

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

**a) Recreation Department Update (Buildings, Fountain, Lighting):** TM Frost reviewed the packets of information that were presented to the Board. TM Frost told the Board that Rec Director Jeff Stewart is working on new lighting for the common walkway. She also reviewed the two types of fountains that RD Stewart has been looking at to rebuild the fountain on the common stating that one rendering is of a more modern fountain, while the second is one of a more antique nature. TM Frost then reviewed the proposed new bathhouse's/building at Libby's, which included a few different options. After further discussion, it was decided that it would be looked at again for plans to take place in the future.

**5. Public Comment:** Glen Eastman spoke to the Board about the 45-page transmittal of items to be included in the Town Warrant Articles. Mr. Eastman went on to express his concern as to whether or not the Board

members have taken the time to review each individual request, stating that he is concerned that the Town may be sustaining some of these companies and that the money will not be used properly. Selectman Jackson informed Mr. Eastman that they had in fact reviewed the transmittal, but without Mr. Eastman stating which one he is specifically talking, it is difficult to discuss. After further discussion, Mr. Eastman said he was speaking about Tri-County Cap. Further discussion took place regarding Mr. Eastman's concerns.

## **6. Other Business:**

**a) Town Manager's Update:** TM Frost updated the Board that new Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer would be Rick Eichler and Chad Miller, respectively. After further discussion of the two positions, **Selectman Jackson made a motion to approve Rick Eichler at Health Officer and Chad Miller as Deputy Health Officer, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted unanimously.**

TM Frost informed the Board that the Chamber of Commerce Dinner was scheduled March 1<sup>st</sup> and that Denise Vallee will be responding with the attendance for the dinner. TM Frost also informed the Board that the Gorham Community Learning Center has selected a new Director. GCLC will be holding a "welcoming" for Melinda Beaulieu on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 6:00 pm. TM Frost informed the Board that the Robert Balon vs. Gorham PD case's Motion for Reconsideration filed by Mr. Balon had been denied.

TM Frost presented the Board with the 2013 Dispatch Agreement and EMS Agreement between Gorham and Shelburne. **Selectman Jackson made a motion to approve both EMS and Dispatch Contracts with the Town of Shelburne for 2013, seconded by Chairman Graham, voted unanimously.**

**b) Selectmen's Updates:** Selectman Jackson inquired to make sure that the Department Heads were set for the February 12<sup>th</sup> public meeting. TM Frost said that they were. Chairman Graham said that Robin Zinchuk of the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce had forwarded information regarding the Coos Oxford Rail Corridor, and in turn, Chairman Graham had redirected the information to Mary Poesse at North Country Council.

**c) Approval of Minutes (January 28, 2013):** **Selectman Jackson made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Chairman Graham, 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 8:07 pm. Jackson –aye, Graham – aye.**

**On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to return to Public Session at 8:35 pm. Jackson –aye, Graham – aye.**

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

**8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.**

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED:**

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**David Graham**

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**Paul Robitaille**

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**William H. Jackson**