

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF GORHAM  
MONDAY, July 16, 2012, 6:30 pm  
CASCADE FIRE STATION

Selectmen present: Chairman David Graham, Paul Robitaille, Bill Jackson.

Also present: Robin L Frost, Town Manager, Jeff Stewart, Director of Parks and Recreation

Melissa Grima, *Berlin Daily Sun*. GMHS Principal Keith Parent, Matt Saladino, Dan and Lisa Veasey, and others.

**1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chairman Graham.

**2. Appointments:**

a) **Jeff Stewart – Town Common Dugouts:** Mr. Stewart told the Board that the shed and soccer goals which had been at the Shelburne field are now at Libby's. The shed is in the corner of the soccer field nearest the softball field. Taillon Crane donated their time and equipment to move the shed from Shelburne to Libby's. Mr. Stewart informed the Board that the North Country 12U Girls Softball Team which has six girls from Gorham and six girls from Berlin on it won the State Championship this past weekend. They will be traveling to Connecticut soon for the NE Regional Tournament.

Regarding the dugouts, Mr. Stewart explained that he feels we need to have dugouts at the baseball field on the common. He took exception to the comment that the common was "cluttered." Selectman Jackson clarified that no one on the Board suggested that the common was cluttered, but they want work with Mr. Stewart to make sure whatever is proposed is the best option. Mr. Stewart is proposing dugouts similar to those at Promenade field. Chairman Graham passed out a document showing samples of temporary dugouts. Selectman Robitaille asked if temporary dugouts would be an option. Mr. Stewart stated that he felt they would not be a good option. Selectman Jackson asked if there could be a compromise by placing what Mr. Stewart is proposing on the Park Street (home) side and a temporary structure on the Main Street (visitors) side. Mr. Stewart felt that would not look good and would not serve the purpose well. Others in attendance spoke of the need for the players to be able to remain out of the inclement weather during games. Keith Parent, Principal at GMHS, suggested making them a true dugout by recessing into the ground thereby lowering the roof relative to the street. Dan Veasey stated that at a minimum, the kids should be out of the rain. He went on to suggest a saltbox style roof with supports, but no walls. Selectman Robitaille stated that he is committed to doing the Park Street side now and gathering more information on options for the Main Street side. Selectman Jackson agreed. Chairman Graham would like to do both at the same time, but isn't sure what the best option would be.

**3. New Business:**

TM Frost referred to the Tax Collector Audit performed by The Mercier Group last week. The audit went well and no negative issues were encountered. As a result of the audit, there is a recommittal warrant for the Board to sign. **On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board voted unanimously to approve and sign the recommittal warrant of unpaid taxes to Carol Porter.** This transfers all of the unpaid taxes as of June 30 2012 to Carol Porter for collection.

TM Frost then spoke about Town activity on private roads. With the application of Clermont Drouin for an expansion of his mobile home park, the subject of trash pickup was discussed. The Town currently picks up trash within the mobile home parks, but is this a practice that should continue? Selectman Jackson suggested that since Attorney Boutin is aware of private road concerns in Gorham, he may be able to give the Board some input on the best way to handle this matter going forward. **On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, the Board voted unanimously to direct TM Frost to consult Town Counsel to supply the Board of Selectmen with guidance on a policy in this matter.**

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

**a) Kiosk – Lease Agreement:** TM Frost reported that she met with Joanne Roy, Mark Belanger, and Paula Kinney of the Chamber as well as Pam Sullivan who is coordinating the kiosk panel designs. The concerns about the lease agreement have been sent to Cathy Conway, who is on vacation. It is anticipated that there won't be a problem with the requested changes. Ms. Conway will be back on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Berlin and Gorham kiosks would be set during the same timeframe to avoid the contractor's equipment being deployed twice. All we are waiting for at this time is the designs of the panels and the lease agreement.

**5. Public Comment:** there was no public comment at this time, since all the public had left at this point.

#### **6. Other Business:**

**a) Town Manager's Update:** TM Frost stated that she had spoken with Willis Blevins about the lagoon odor and he believes they have conquered the problem. The request for the playground equipment has been sent to Lynn Tilton for review. We are also hoping to get approval to continue to use the property for this purpose.

The roof on the gazebo will be fixed soon. A couple of employees from Water & Sewer will be doing the work and materials will be paid for by the Booster Club. The ceiling inside the structure will be removed to provide better acoustics. Selectman Robitaille asked if there could be some roll-up tarps installed as well.

With the loss of WMUR on Time Warner Cable, TM Frost has been in touch with other managers, who are also concerned. TM Frost would like the Board's permission to sign on to a letter from as many towns as possible, which will urge the two sides to work harder to get to an agreement that would bring WMUR back on air. The Board unanimously agreed to support this effort.

KRT Appraisal will be ready to report to the Board on the new assessments on August 6<sup>th</sup>. This works for everyone and the meeting will be held at the Town Hall at 6:30 pm.

**b) Selectmen's Reports:** Selectman Robitaille has heard gripes from people on Crestwood Drive about ATV "races" on the trail near their homes. He also heard that there is a trail to downtown that is being used by ATV riders. TM Frost stated that she will contact Henry Sanschagrin to see if he is aware.

Selectman Robitaille also wanted to say that he feels the Town crew is doing a good job. He mentioned this to Fred Corrigan on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Selectman Jackson asked TM Frost if she was aware ahead of time that the Governor was coming to visit. She was not and he further asked if she called the Governor's office to see why we were not notified; she did not.

Selectman Jackson asked quite some time ago to have the dog waste container moved from the parking lot on Rt 2 to the swinging bridge. TM apologized for not getting this done and will take care of it right away.

Selectman Jackson asked if the other Board members had seen the proposals for the legislative policy conference at LGC. They have not and TM Frost will distribute the document to them. The conference is on September 21<sup>st</sup> and the Board will give their recommendations to TM Frost so she can represent the Town at the conference.

Selectman Robitaille wanted to thank the Town crew for moving the engine brake sign to the bottom of Gorham Hill.

Chairman Graham is glad to hear about the sign the State plans to put at the Shelburne Rest Area, but hopes it is big enough for travelers to read. TM Frost will contact Travel and Tourism to see what the plans are.

**c) Approval of Minutes (June 28, 2012, July 2, 2012, July 8, 2012):** Selectman Jackson stated that the minutes of July 18<sup>th</sup> which were amended at the last meeting still are not quite right. He stated his reason for not participating in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and that should be included in those minutes as well as the minutes of July 2<sup>nd</sup>. TM Frost will correct and redistribute for signing. Also regarding the July 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes, Selectman Jackson had asked Rob Tozier of KRT what happens when they are unable to do an interior inspection of a property. Mr. Tozier replied that they will have to use the information on the card in that case. This should be reflected in the minutes. TM Frost will make the correction.

**On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Selectman Jackson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular session of June 28, 2012 as presented.**

**On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the non-public session of June 28, 2012 as presented.**

**On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board voted 2-0-1 (Robitaille) to approve the minutes of the non-public session of July 2, 2012 as presented.**

**On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board voted 2-0-1 (Robitaille) to approve the minutes of July 9, 2012 as presented.**

**c) Sign Manifest:** The Board signed the manifest as prepared.

**d) Sign Abatements (if necessary):** Abatements were signed as presented.

**7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3, II (e):** On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, the Board moved into non-public session at 7:50 pm by unanimous roll call vote. Jackson, Aye, Robitaille – aye, Graham – Aye.

On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, the Board came out of non-public session at 7:55 pm by unanimous roll call vote. Jackson, Aye, Robitaille – aye, Graham – Aye.

The Board decided by consensus that they would proceed with the legal case without any side meetings with the other party.

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED:**

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**David Graham**

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**Paul Robitaille**

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**William H. Jackson**