

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF GORHAM  
MONDAY, August 13, 2012, 6:30 pm  
GORHAM TOWN HALL

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

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

Cathy Conway, NCIC, Mark Belanger, AVCofC, Val Fauteux, Dan and Lisa Veasey, Don Provencher, Jeff Schall.

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

**2. Appointments:**

**a) Cathy Conway and Mark Belanger - Kiosk:** Cathy Conway explained the status of the project thus far and distributed pictures of the kiosk being built. Prior to this meeting, Ms. Conway had incorporated the changes proposed by the Board into the lease agreement. With regard to the term of the lease, all agreed that it would be changed to a five year lease with three additional five years terms. Selectman Robitaille stated that he was more comfortable with a five year lease. **On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board unanimously gave approval of the lease with the Androscoggin Valley Chamber of Commerce for placement of the kiosk at the agreed upon location on the Gorham Town Common, conditioned on the change in term of the lease to five years. Additionally, the Board directed TM Frost to sign the lease on behalf of the Town.**

**b) Chad Miller - EMS Quarterly Update:** EMD Miller distributed a quarterly report which details the number of calls that EMS covered in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. He reported that the department is thinking about proposing a fee for rescues that do not involve a transport. There are times when they go into the woods for a rescue and the victim either signs off on transport or is airlifted. There are time and equipment/supplies used during these rescues, but currently no way to recoup those expenses. Additionally, EMD Miller will be proposing a hardship policy similar to the one used at other medical facilities in the area. Selectman Jackson asked EMD Miller for call volume statistics to compare to this year's numbers. Selectman Robitaille stated that he likes the idea of a hardship policy and the rescue fee. He is concerned that there are several tone outs for some calls before anyone signs on. EMD Miller stated the policy is that after two tones, another mutual aid is called. He also stated that mutual aid had to be called three times this quarter. Selectman Jackson is concerned about the times that there might be no ambulance available to respond for a Gorham citizen. This might typically happen when one ambulance is out on a transfer and the other is out to another area for a call. EMD Miller said that he feels it is time to look at regionalization of these services. Lastly, EMD Miller would like the Board to consider establishing an equipment capital reserve fund for EMS. This would allow for the purchase of larger items without having to include in the operational budget.

**c) Jeff Stewart – Dugouts:** RD Stewart distributed a picture showing what the dugout with an opening in the back would look like. While it looks better, the Board is still unsure of the design. RD Stewart explained that there would be a vinyl flap that could roll down over the opening in the case of

very bad weather. . He explored digging into the ground and having the dugouts recessed, but the drainage issues would be too great. Selectman Robitaille stated that he has had several calls regarding this issue. He feels this new design is a step in the right direction, but not quite there yet. Would it be possible to have a roof and roll down sides? Selectman Jackson stated that if the school is not participating in this project, he is not interested. RD Stewart stated that this money would come from the Booster Club, so no new taxpayer dollars would be needed. Chairman Graham said that a lot of people have spoken to him and they have concerns. The dugouts would be used for baseball, which is about two months in the spring. They would then be sitting there unused. He would like to see something that could be taken down when the seasons is over. Chairman Graham opened the floor for comments. Val Fauteux wondered if the decision process would be easier for the Board if they could get a petition of sorts signed by people in favor of the dugouts. Selectman Jackson stated that it would be helpful. The Veasey's stated that they would be happy with a lean-to or something that could be removed. They just want a shelter for the boys when they are playing. Jeff Schall stated that he has a concern with the lack of a maintenance plan for the existing structures on the common. He mentioned that the bandstand looks tacky with all the tarps on it. He would rather not see the dugouts at all. Don Provencher stated that he agrees the school should be involved. Chairman Graham suggested that RD Stewart speak with the school to try and get their participation. It was decided that RD Stewart should go to the school to see if they would be involved and also work more on the design.

### **3. New Business:**

a) **New TRC Process:** TM Frost explained that the department heads most likely affected by Planning Board and ZBA applications have been assembled as a Technical Review Committee designed to discuss applications as they come in and express their concerns and suggestions so that the Boards will have all necessary information before the them when making a decision. It is hoped that this process will benefit both the Boards as well as the applicant. Chairman Graham feels this is a very good idea and Selectman Robitaille stated that, as a member of the Planning Board, he is looking forward to this process.

b) **Non-Public Minutes:** Chairman Graham would like to see the non-public minutes on the website along with the regular minutes,. There was no objection from the other Board members, so TM Frost will begin placing them on the website.

Chairman Graham reported that the Restorative Justice Program of Tri-County Cap is no longer in existence. Therefore, he wondered how the amount appropriated for TCCAP would be distributed. Selectman Jackson stated that it depends on how the warrant article was written. TM Frost will check on that and let the Board know.

Selectman Jackson reported that there was an article about the old bridge in Gorham which was burned. It is being rebuilt. It is an interesting article and good to know it will be replaced. He also referred to the final legislative bulletin from LGC, which has several items of importance to the Town.

### **4. Old Business**

a) **NRCS Projects Update:** These projects are moving along very well. The engineers from NRCS are preparing the information for the wetlands permits, which will be completed by TM Frost and

sent to DES. After those permits are received, the actual work can commence. So far, the two projects that are ready for wetlands permits are at 121 and 127 Glen Road. The project at 4 White Birch Lane is not far behind.

**b) Traffic Signal – Berlin/Gorham Road:** The Town has received information from Councilor Burton that he agrees with keeping the traffic signal at the old Shaw’s building in place. There has been no further correspondence from NH DOT on this matter.

Selectman Jackson asked if there was any response from Attorney Boutin on the private roads matter. There has not as yet. He also asked if DPW had placed a dog waste container at the swinging bridge. He would also like to see a letter prepared to the July 4<sup>th</sup> Committee stating our concern that the winners of the decorating contest had not yet received their prize as yet. Selectman Jackson also asked if the proposed legislative policies from LGC had been forwarded to the other selectmen. The Board needs to let TM Frost know how to vote on these.

## **5. Public Comment:**

Don Provencher has been in close communication with Councilor Burton regarding the paving of Main Street. He hopes that can be completed soon. He also believes that the Town should promote Libby’s more as well as the tennis courts. He was glad to see the historic bridge being rebuilt and replaced. He has concerns about soccer balls going out into Main Street.

Jeff Schall stated that the Town should consider a conduit under the sidewalk to the pole for the wiring of the kiosk. Who would pay for this? He was told that the Chamber would be responsible for this. He also mentioned that Shelburne has some nice fields and since the school is a cooperative, couldn’t those fields be used by the athletic teams? Mr. Schall also stated that there are inconsistencies with the website in that some lists are in ascending order and others are in descending order.

## **6. Other Business:**

**a) Town Manager’s Update:** TM Frost mentioned that John Losier will be given a deadline to submit more information on his current use application. Selectman Jackson asked TM Frost to make sure DRA is copied on the correspondence

**b) Selectmen’s Reports:** Selectman Robitaille mentioned that John Scarinza would like to have a second phone installed in the assessing office for his use. We will work something out. He also would like the Boy Scouts contacted about the appearance of the can cage on Railroad Street.

**c) Approval of Minutes (July 16, 2012, July 18, 2012, July 30, 2012, August 6, 2012):**  
Chairman Graham had a few typographical corrections and Selectman Jackson had a few changes as follows: On the minutes of July 16<sup>th</sup>, the second page, first motion should read “...Town Counsel to supply the Board with guidance...” The July 30<sup>th</sup> minutes should have the words “for the meeting” stricken from the last paragraph. **On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Selectman Jackson, the minutes of July 16, 2012 (amended) , July 18, 2012, July 30, 2012 (amended), and August 6, 2012 were approved as amended.**

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

**d) Sign Abatements (if necessary):** There were no abatements at this time.

**7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3, II (e):** On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Selectman Jackson, the Board moved into non-public session at 8:50 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 9:08 pm by unanimous roll call vote. Jackson - Aye, Robitaille – Aye, Graham – Aye.

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

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED:**

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David Graham

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Paul Robitaille

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William H. Jackson