

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, June 20, 2011, 6:30 pm
GORHAM TOWN HALL

Selectmen present: Terry Oliver, Chairman; David Graham; Paul Robitaille.

Also present: Robin L. Frost, Town Manager

Don Provencher, Michelle Grima, *Berlin Daily Sun*

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by Chairman Oliver.

2. Appointments:

a) **Reuben Rajala – Gorham Historical Society Abatement Request:** The Board discussed the issue and with all the information provided to them by TM Frost, they decided that they cannot entertain this application. **On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Selectman Graham, the Board unanimously voted that after consultation with Town Counsel, the Board can provide no relief to the Historical Society on the 2010 taxes.**

3. New Business:

Selectman Robitaille reported that he has received several telephone calls from people opposed to opening up the rail trail to ATV travel. Some of the complaints he has heard are regarding the lack of restrooms and dog problems. He referred people to the Bureau of Trails to voice their opinions, since this is a State decision. Selectman Graham felt that if there are further problems in that area, perhaps the OHRV and snowmobile clubs could be called upon for assistance in addressing them.

Selectman Robitaille also mentioned that he heard from some people who went to watch the Gorham baseball team in a playoff game on the common. They were asked to pay to watch the game. This same issue cropped up the last time GHS was in the playoffs. Selectman Robitaille remembers that the School estimated the attendance and made a payment to NHIAA for the approximate amount. He emphasized that no one should be charged to watch any sports on the Gorham Town Common. A letter will go to the School Principal and Superintendent reiterating the Town's position.

4. Old Business:

a) **Baseball Damage:** Selectman Graham stated that he feels more should be done for people whose property is damaged as a result of wayward baseballs from play on the common. He suggested that it might be worthwhile to look into reconfiguring the field. TM Frost included a letter from Town Counsel from back in June 2009 that addresses the issue. The Board members will review the letter, but Selectman Graham believes that we need to find a solution to this problem.

b) **Fur, Feather & Fin:** TM Frost reported that there will be a survey for asbestos done this Thursday. Selectman Robitaille asked about lead paint and TM Frost will see if that is also being done. Selectman Graham mentioned that a resident who lives in that area suggested that the lot where the old white house stands on the corner opposite the pool might be a good location for the recreation department

trailer. This lot and house is owned by a private party, although it is widely known that the house is due to be demolished at some point.

5. Public Comment: Don Provencher thanked Selectman Graham for bringing up the baseball damage issue. He would like to see some better resolution to the problem since his vehicle was parked on his property when it was damaged.

6. Other Business:

a) Town Manager's Update: TM Frost reported that the Town will enter into a contract with Comstar for ambulance billing on August 1st. There is a meeting with a representative from Comstar this Wednesday at 11am to go into the particulars of setting this up.

The first iteration of the new website will be available for us to review very soon. Bill Letsky of Virtual Town Hall had a conference call with several Town employees to establish a layout and he is working on getting us something to review in the near future.

The new recreation bus has been ordered and should be here in time for the busiest part of the Moose Tour season.

The American Legion Auxiliary is requesting permission to sell mylar balloons during the July 4th Celebration. Said permission is granted by the Board by consensus.

TM Frost distributed a report and cost estimate from VHB for the final engineering and design for the multi-modal path. This was just received this afternoon and TM Frost has not had a chance to review. It will be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

Chairman Oliver signed the State permit for Atlas Pyrovision Productions to display Gorham's July 4th fireworks, which are being set to music and simulcast on the radio.

b) Approval of Minutes (June 6, 2011): On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Selectman Graham, the Board unanimously approved the minutes for both the regular and non-public sessions of the meeting of June 6, 2011 as prepared.

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

d) Sign Abatements (if necessary): There were no abatements to be signed.

7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3, II (a, c, & e): On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Selectman Graham, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to move into Non-Public Session at 7:20 pm. Robitaille –aye, Graham – aye, Oliver – aye.

On a motion by Selectmen Graham, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to return to public session at 8:10 pm. Robitaille –aye, Graham – aye, Oliver – aye.

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

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Terry Oliver, Chairman

Paul Robitaille

David Graham