

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF GORHAM  
MONDAY, August 23, 2010  
GORHAM TOWN HALL

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

Also present: Robin L. Frost, Town Manager

Craig Lyons, *Berlin Daily Sun*  
Norm Provencher

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

**2. Non-Public Session:** RSA 91-A:3,II c

**3. Public Session Agenda:** 6:30 PM The Chairman announced that the following decisions were made in non-public session:

**On a motion by Terry Oliver, seconded by David Graham, the Board voted 2-1(Graham) in favor of approving the abatement settlement for Woodlands Credit Union as follows: A reduction in assessment of \$250,000 for 2010 and an additional reduction in assessment of \$250,000 in 2011.**

**On a motion by Terry Oliver, seconded by David Graham, the Board voted 2-1(Graham) in favor of granting the abatement settlement for Top Furniture as follows: A reduction in assessment of \$269,934 for 2010, no further reduction for 2011..**

**Sign Manifest:** The manifest was signed.

**Sign Abatements:** There were no abatements to sign.

**Approve Minutes of 8/9/2010:** On a motion by Selectman Oliver, seconded by Selectman Graham, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the non-public session of August 9, 2010 as prepared. On a motion by Selectman Graham, seconded by Selectman Oliver, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of August 9, 2010. The Board will sign both sets of minutes at a later date.

**Sally Manikian – Success Township Conservation Project:** Ms. Manikian was present to request a letter of support for this project from the Board of Selectmen. She explained that Phase II and Phase III would be covered in this request. This will finish the project and result in a conservation easement being placed on 24,200 acres in Success Township. Chairman Robitaille expressed his support for the project, citing the need for conservation of open space. Both Selectman Oliver and Selectman Graham agree. **On a motion by Selectman Oliver, seconded by Selectman Graham, the Board unanimously voted to sign a letter of support for this project.** Ms. Manikian will email a template for the letter to Town Manager Frost tomorrow.

**Chief PJ Cyr – Shelburne Request:** Chief Cyr was not present and Town Manager Frost stated that she was probably not clear on when the Board would discuss the request for services by Shelburne. Town Manager Frost will ask Chef Cyr to come to the next meeting.

**Cascade Signage:** The signs to redirect trucks from the residential entrance to cascade Flats are in and PWD Holmes is looking for the Board to approve their placement. There are also signs as requested by a resident whose child has special needs. The Board approved the signs being placed appropriately, so trucks and passenger cars alike can see them clearly.

**TIGER Grant Resubmission:** TM Frost explained that the grant is to be resubmitted with just the request for Berlin and Gorham. **On a motion by Selectman Graham, seconded by Selectman Oliver, the Board voted the following: The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Gorham hereby affirm their intent to recommend to the Town Meeting full funding of the proper maintenance of Town streets that are brought up to a decent standard as a result of receiving a \$4,079,000 TIGER grant. It is estimated that this maintenance funding will be approximately \$1,395,000 over a period of eight years following the initial project improvements.**

**Discussion of Possible Revenue Sources:** Selectman Graham had asked at a previous for a list of Town-owned properties. This was provided to him at this meeting. There are only a couple of properties which are not used by the Town for Town purposes. Those couple of properties are ledge and not suitable for sale as a revenue source.

Selectman Graham would like to review the Time Warner revenue history from 2002 to present. He would also like to see us invite a representative from Time Warner to come to a Selectmen's meeting to get the ball rolling for a new contract.

#### **4. Other Business:**

Town Manager Frost reported a request by the US Department of the Interior for the installation of a cableway system for the streamflow gage on the Androscoggin River. This would be installed on property of the Town of Gorham. This new system would allow the department to obtain high and medium flow discharge measurements in real time. The cableway would be attached to trees at each side of the river and be at an elevation above the 100-year flood to prevent recreational river users from coming in contact with the cable. Though they intend the system to be permanent, it could be disassembled at any time upon request. Additionally, annual inspections would be performed. **On a motion by Selectman Oliver, seconded by Selectman Graham, the Board voted unanimously to approve this request.**

TM Frost reported that PWD Holmes advised her that there are two very large trees in Evans Cemetery which are dying and shedding limbs. One limb has knocked over a headstone. He consulted with a tree company who advised him that rather than just limbing the trees, they should be removed. The Board agrees that since this poses a safety hazard to anyone visiting the cemetery, they agree to have the trees removed. TM Frost will ask PWD Holmes to get another price for the service.

TM Frost received a phone call from Ted Miller who is reported that the Veteran's Memorial is in need of cleaning. Nathan Corrigan of the Veteran's Committee obtained a cost for the service at \$395. Mr. Miller is suggesting that the Town should pay for this maintenance. A discussion ensued about the ownership of the actual memorial. The Board agrees that the memorial needs to be maintained. TM Frost will get more information for the Board.

**5. Public Comment:** Norm Provencher expressed a concern that maintenance should be done on the memorial. Mr. Provencher also asked about whether the Board had ever decided to support the ATV request that came before them last spring. They did not have enough information to make a decision.

Chairman Robitaille reported that he has a copy of NHDOT's 10-year plan and will leave it in the Selectmen's folder. He also mentioned that there is a presentation on wind power at NCC on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

**6. Date for Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on **Monday, August 30, 2010 at the Town Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room.**

**7. Non-Public Session:** The Board agreed to a recess of five minutes before going back into non-public session.

Out of non-public session at 8:45 PM. There were no decisions made in this portion of the non-public session.

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm.

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED:**

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**Paul Robitaille, Chairman**

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**Terry Oliver**

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**David Graham**