

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, August 30, 2010
GORHAM TOWN HALL

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

Also present: Robin L. Frost, Town Manager; PJ Cyr, Police Chief; Austin Holmes, Public Works Director; Jeff Stewart, Recreation Director.

Craig Lyons, *Berlin Daily Sun*

Norm Provencher, Clermont Drouin, Glen Eastman, Red Hutchins, Randy Labnon, Ron Donato, Bill Jackson

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 a,c

3. Public Session Agenda: 6:30 PM The Chairman announced that no decisions were made in non-public session:

Sign Manifest: The manifest was signed.

Sign Abatements: There were no abatements to sign.

Approve Minutes of 8/23/2010: On a motion by Selectman Oliver, seconded by Selectman Graham, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the non-public session and the regular session of August 23, 2010 as prepared. The Board signed both sets of minutes.

Glen Eastman, et al – Salt and Sand Discussion: Mr. Eastman asked the Board of Selectmen to revisit this issue. About seven plowing contractors have been getting sand from the Town Garage to sand the parking lots of the businesses in Gorham with whom they contract for services. Past practice has been that though they get the sand from the Town, they replenish the sand on at least a 3:1 ratio and are billed directly for that through Clermont Drouin. It is clear, according to Public Works Director Austin Holmes that the Town has received more sand than has been used. All agreed that the Town had not lost any money nor had the tax rate increased as a result of this practice. Last winter, the Board of Selectmen decided to discontinue the practice. The people present tonight would like to see that decision reconsidered since they have no place else to get their sand. Former Town Manager Bill Jackson stated that the people who participated in the sand exchange were honest and of the highest integrity. This worked well over the years. He suggested that PWD Holmes and TM Frost get together and discuss the issue and bring recommendations to the Board at a later date. TM Frost told the Board that a meeting had taken place with PWD Holmes, but we could certainly meet again and revisit the issue. It was decided that TM Frost would bring a recommendation to the Board at the next meeting on September 13th. It is expected that the Board will make a final decision then.

Chief PJ Cyr – Shelburne Request: Chief Cyr informed the Selectmen that he was approached in 2009 by the Shelburne Board of Selectmen to see if he would provide them with an agreement to provide police services to their town. Since the current constable in Shelburne had about 18 months left on his term, it was decided to defer the development of a proposal. Chief Cyr has again been contacted

by Shelburne and is looking for the Board's blessing to pursue the possibility of providing a certain level of coverage, which will be determined by meeting with the Shelburne Board of Selectmen. He reported that the number of calls to Shelburne so far this year is 102. The Board was receptive to the idea of Chief Cyr working with the Town Manager to start these discussions.

Multi-Modal Route: TM Frost reported that she had not yet located the map that she was looking for and would continue to search for it. Bill Jackson offered his assistance, if needed, in looking for the map. This item will be on a future agenda.

Discussion of Possible Revenue Sources: Selectman Graham had nothing new on this issue. Bill Jackson suggested reviewing the charges for items brought to the Town Garage for disposal.

4. Other Business:

Town Manager Frost reported the following: The budget schedules will probably not change much from prior years. The Budget Committee is tentatively scheduling a meeting for September 23rd.

Chief Eichler was looking for direction on the disposal of the old E4, since he has had an inquiry. The Board agreed by consensus that we should try to sell it outright.

The oil bids have been received and for #2 fuel, Rymes was \$2.38 with Irving at \$2.41 and Stiles also at \$2.41. The propane bids were: Rymes at \$1.65 and Irving at \$1.91. We will be staying with Rymes for both #2 and propane. Rymes also has kerosene at \$2.99, if we need it.

There is a Conway Bypass Meeting on September 30th from 5-7 pm at the Albany Town Hall. All Board members as well as the Town Manager will attend.

Chief Eichler is reviewing the complaint by John Losier about the buffer between Berlin City and his property. Mr. Losier has also complained about the outside speaker system.

Selectman Graham attended a windpower presentation at North Country Council. He found it to be interesting and has supplied a copy of the presentation to the other members of the Board.

5. Public Comment: Norm Provencher asked about the Recreation Director coaching soccer on Town time. It was explained that Mr. Stewart has to work rather flexible hours due to the nature of his responsibilities. As such, he chooses to use his personal time to serve the community in other ways during what some perceive to be Town of Gorham time. He is not being paid by the Town of Gorham when he is coaching soccer (in fact, he doesn't get paid at all for coaching soccer!) The Town is grateful that Mr. Stewart is able to work flexible hours and also donate his personal time to the youth of Gorham.

Ron Donato was in to check on where the Town stands on adopting a noise ordinance. TM Frost told Mr. Donato that this was being worked on, but though it may not be an absolute necessity to bring the ordinance to Town Meeting, it would be her recommendation to the Board that they do so.

6. Date for Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on **Monday, September 13, 2010 at the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.**

7. Non-Public Session: There no need for an additional non-public session.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Paul Robitaille, Chairman

Terry Oliver

David Graham