

Town of Gorham
Planning Board Minutes
October 26, 2017

Members Present: Wayne Flynn (Chairman), Michael Waddell (Alt Ex-Officio), Paul Robitaille, Earl McGillicuddy and Dan Buteau

Members Excused: Barney Valliere, Dennis Arguin & Patrick LeFebvre

Members Absent: Reuben Rajala

Members of the Public Present: Robin Frost, Town Manager

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chairman Flynn

Minutes of September, 28, 2017 - On a motion from Dan Buteau with a second from Mike Waddell, the board voted to approve the minutes as presented with Mike Waddell & Earl McGillicuddy abstaining.

New Business – TM Frost explained to the board that the Town is in negotiations to purchase land from Eversource that directly abuts the Public Works property and part of the process requires approval from the Planning Board. The Town currently has its debris pile on the property and it would also be used for snow storage. Mike Waddell recused himself from discussion as he is a direct abutter. Dan Buteau cautioned TM Frost that there were abutters to the property that he wanted to be sure their concerns were heard and addressed. TM Frost explained that the Town would hold 2 public hearings prior to the purchase and the abutters concerns would be addressed at that time. Paul Robitaille made a motion to recommend the Town purchase the property. The motion received a second from Dan Buteau and all members voted in favor.

Old Business – Chairman Flynn reminded the board that at its last meeting they discussed the next steps for updating the Master Plan. There had been concerns about having Tara Bamford continue with the process instead of North Country Council due to contractual obligations. He spoke to TM Frost who explained that everything the board had contracted with North Country Council for had been completed and the board no longer had any contractual responsibility to North Country Council and were free to choose whoever they wanted to continue the Master Plan update. North Country Council currently does not have a planner who could pick up where Tara left off. Tara Bamford had forwarded a proposal to Chairman Flynn for the board to review for \$8,000 to complete the Master Plan Survey. Chairman Flynn felt that Tara had a good handle on what still needed to be done. Paul Robitaille wanted to see a proposal from North Country Council. Dan Buteau felt that though he understood Paul's concerns the board had a good relationship with Tara. Mike Waddell informed the board that the Coos County Planning Board had voted to contract with Tara without hesitation and that he felt the board shouldn't procrastinate any longer and get the Master Plan done. Earl McGillicuddy felt that trying to save money may not be worth it. If the amount Tara is proposing is reasonable, then the board should go with that. Mike Waddell made a motion to authorize Chairman Flynn to sign the contract with Tara Bamford to continue with and finish the Master Plan. The motion received a second Earl McGillicuddy and Chairman Flynn called a roll call vote:

Dan – Yes Earl – Yes Mike – Yes Wayne – Yes Paul – No

Code Enforcement – The secretary brought the board up to speed on Code Enforcement

- 1) There have been several sightings of chickens and new chicken coops in town that have not gone before the zoning board for special exceptions. CO Scarinza is working on those.
- 2) Chairman Flynn questioned if there was any new information on the propane tanks at the former Shaws building. No new information was available.

New Business – None

Old Business - None

Public Comment – None

Next Meeting – The scheduled its next meeting for November 9, 2017 at 6:30 pm

Adjournment: On a motion from Michael Waddell with a second from Dan Buteau, the board voted to adjourn at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle M. Lutz

October 27, 2017

Approved November 9, 2017