

AGENDA & PROPOSED ORDERS  
GORHAM TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 7, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.  
Gorham Municipal Center – Burleigh H. Loveitt Council Chambers

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call of the Town Council

Acceptance of the minutes of the May 3, 2011 Regular Town Council Meeting and the May 17, 2011 and May 26, 2011 Special Town Council Meetings

Open Public Communications

Councilor Communications

Chairman's Report

Town Manager's Report

School Committee Report

New Business

Public

Hearing #1 Public Hearing on a referendum question on June 14, 2011 seeking voter approval to issue general obligation bonds in an amount up to three million (\$3,000,000.00) dollars to construct public safety site improvements at and near the Narragansett School, a synthetic turf competition field and related facilities. This is an informational public hearing only with no Council action expected.

Public

Hearing #2 Public hearing on the proposed 2011/2012 fiscal year School and Town Budget.

Item #8020 Action on the proposed 2011/2012 fiscal year budget for the School Department (Adm. Spon.)

Proposed

Order #8020 Ordered, that the following school budget items be adopted and approved for fiscal year 2011-2012:

That \$12,745,876 be authorized to be expended for Regular Instruction; that \$4,692,842 be authorized to be expended for Special Education; that \$517,945 be authorized to be expended for Career and Technical Education; that \$533,768 be authorized to be expended for Other Instruction; that \$1,974,814 be authorized to be expended for Student and Staff Support; that \$676,025 be authorized to be expended for System Administration; that \$1,587,909 be authorized to be expended for School Administration; that \$1,600,991 be authorized to be expended for Transportation and Buses; that \$2,698,923 be authorized to be expended for Facilities Maintenance; that \$3,939,761 be authorized to be expended for Debt Service and Other Commitments; and that \$0 be authorized to be expended for All Other Expenditures.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED:

1. That \$30,968,854 appropriated for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and that \$10,782,571 be raised as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

*Explanation: The municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.*

2. That \$866,512 be raised and appropriated for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the municipality's legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state-funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12.

*Explanation: Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the municipality's long-term debt for major capital school construction projects and minor capital renovation projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters or other legislative body.*

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that \$1,502,627 be raised and appropriated in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$888,433 as required to fund the budget recommended by the school committee.

The school committee recommends \$1,502,627 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$888,433: The state's funding model does not support all of the costs of the schools because it includes only those costs considered essential by the new state Essential Programs and Services (EPS) model.

*Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the municipality's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the school department budget for educational programs.*

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the school committee be authorized to expend \$30,968,854 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012 from the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Town will appropriate \$226,816 for adult education and raise \$109,050 as the local share; with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program.

Item #8021 Action on the proposed 2011/2012 fiscal year Town Budget (Adm. Spon.)

Proposed

Order #8021 ORDERED that the Gorham Town Council vote to adopt the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year Budget with the following departmental totals:

General Government	\$	1,364,575
Public Safety	\$	3,550,460
Public Works and Solid Waste	\$	2,369,810
Health & Welfare and Social Service Agencies	\$	85,835
Recreation/Community Center/Cable	\$	315,281
Libraries and Museum	\$	442,411
Development	\$	65,000
Debt & Interest	\$	1,438,492
Capital Items	\$	293,075
Insurance and Employee Benefits	\$	1,933,713
Other Town Services and Unclassified	\$	103,202
Subtotal	\$	<u>11,961,854</u>
Cumberland County Property Tax	\$	<u>793,804</u>
Total	\$	<u>12,755,658</u>

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Education budget as finally approved by the Gorham Town Council and subsequently approved by the voters of the Town of Gorham be incorporated into a final Municipal budget; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Town Council vote to adopt the Capital Budget Part II in the amount of \$139,220.00 to be funded from the town's undesignated fund balance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that all taxes on real estate and personal property shall be due and payable upon approval of this Order and that one-half of all real estate and personal property taxes that remain unpaid on November 15, 2011 shall commence bearing interest on November 16, 2011, and that the final half of all real estate and personal property taxes that remain unpaid on May 15, 2012, shall commence bearing interest on May 16, 2012 at the interest rate of 7.0% per annum as authorized by Maine Law until paid and collected and the Tax Collector and Treasurer are authorized to collect and receive thereof; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Gorham Town Council authorizes the Finance Director to accept prepayment of real and personal property taxes; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to Title 36, M.R.S.A., Section 506A, the Gorham Town Council establishes an interest rate of 3.0% per annum to be paid on all real estate and personal property taxes rebated due to overpayment of taxes; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to Title 36, M.R.S.A., Section 906, the Gorham Town Council hereby require and direct that any tax payment received from an individual as payment for any property tax be applied against outstanding or delinquent taxes due on that

property in chronological order beginning with the oldest unpaid tax bill, provided, however, that no such payment shall be applied to any tax for which an abatement application or appeal is pending unless approved in writing by the taxpayer. This order shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Municipal Officers.

Item #8022 Action to consider authorizing the sale of three (3) properties acquired by tax lien (Finance Committee Spon. 3-0)

Proposed

Order #8022 Ordered that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager and Finance Director to proceed with the sale of three (3) tax acquired properties by first offering on final opportunity for the prior owner to pay all taxes and costs, in full, within 30 days and then soliciting bids for those properties that remain unpaid with the staff's recommendation for disposition brought back to the Town Council for final action.

Item #8023 Action to consider having a Council Workshop to discuss opportunities for providing public bus transportation service to Gorham (Finance Committee Spon. 3-0)

Proposed

Order #8023 Ordered, that the Town Council schedule a workshop on (date) to discuss opportunities for providing public bus transportation service to Gorham.

ADJOURN