

REPORT OF MEETING
GORHAM TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2014

Chairman Phinney opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. There were 55 members of the public present at the start of the meeting.

Roll Call: Chairman Phinney; Councilors: Roullard, Moulton, Phillips, Benner, Robinson, Hartwell. Town Manager David Cole and Town Clerk Jennifer Elliott.

Moved by Councilor Moulton, Seconded by Councilor Roullard and VOTED to accept the Minutes of the January 7, 2014 Town Council Meeting. 7 yeas

Open Public Communications

Ginger Proulx of Libby Avenue spoke to the Council about her concerns about hobby farms like her own and the conflict with the ordinance, restricting the sale of her goods. She also spoke about her concern about the loss of agriculture in the Town.

Kristen Uhlig of Wescott Road let the public and Council know that she would like to plan a Bike Gorham Day on September 27, 2014 to promote the Town and coincide with a State wide bike event that would bring hundreds of bikers through the Town of Gorham.

Dick Pratt of ODAT Machines stated his interest in a metal building for the Public Safety Building and how cost effective and sturdy it would be. He has several metal buildings and encouraged the Council to visit one that is under construction to see the process.

Council Communications

Councilor Robinson reported that the Ordinance Committee had met on February 3rd and had a productive discussion about air-strips. The Committee will be discussing home occupied business and the Post Office intersection at the next meeting.

Councilor Phillips reported that the Gorham Snow-Goers will be having an open house on Saturday February 15th from 11-4 at 209 Mighty Street. She thanked the public for their input on the parking survey at workshop. She stated that she had some feedback about the last workshop on January 28th not being on the website. She also reported that the Council had a site walk at the Sampson House to assess some of the needs of the building.

Councilor Moulton reported that the Volunteer Boards in the Town need members to help the Town move forward. If anyone is interested, they are to contact the Town Clerk and submit applications before February 28th. He stated that the Gorham Police Department did a phenomenal job at the standoff at USM. He also praised Sigma Nu fraternity.

Councilor Roullard stated that the Gorham Police Department did a stellar job during a critical situation at USM recently and he also thanked USM and the First Parish Church for providing a safe warm place for people to stay during the situation.

Town Manager Report

David Cole had nothing to report at this time.

School Committee Report

Chairman Libby presented the School Committee Report stating that last week there was an incident at the High School involving threats made through social media. He thanked the Police Department and the GHS administration. The emergency plan was followed and the threat was investigated. On February 3rd, the Narragansett School had used the emergency action plan due to a water issue that set off a fire alarm and also disrupted drinking water piping. The issue has been resolved as of today. At the January meeting the Building Committee rolled out their recommendation. The next workshop will be February 22. The next School Committee meeting will be February 12, 2014 at 7 pm in Council Chambers; the Superintendent will be rolling out the proposed FY2015 School Budget at that meeting.

Chairman Phinney opened Public Hearing #1 on a renewal Restaurant Liquor License in the name of Lucky Thai Restaurant. There was no public comment and the Hearing was closed.

Item #8417 Moved by Councilor Moulton, Seconded by Councilor Benner and Ordered, that the Town Council approve a renewal Liquor License in the name of Lucky Thai Restaurant. 7 years

Chairman Phinney opened Public Hearing # 2 on a renewal Restaurant Liquor License in the name of Pine Crest Bed & Breakfast. There was no public comment and the hearing was closed.

Item #8418 Moved by Councilor Phillips, Seconded by Councilor Moulton and Ordered, that the Town Council approve a renewal Liquor License in the name of Pine Crest Bed & Breakfast. 7 years

Chairman Phinney opened Public Hearing # 3 on a Massage Therapist License in the name of Natalie Poulin. There was no public comment and the hearing was closed.

Item #8419 Moved by Councilor Moulton, Seconded by Councilor Benner and Ordered, that the Town Council approve a Massage Therapist License in the name of Natalie Poulin. 7 years

Chairman Phinney opened Public Hearing # 4 on a proposal to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Mark Eyerman of Planning Decisions gave a power point presentation on the draft of the Comprehensive Plan for the Town. He touched base on the different parts of the new plan and referred to the draft as the "Staff's take" of the Plan. He presented a map of General Growth Areas of the town and spoke in some detail to that subject. He also presented a Future Land Use map of the Town and made note that Council and Public input will be next to make additions and or changes to the draft. Seven members of the public spoke in opposition to changing the Rural zone to a Suburban Residential zone in their area of Town. (Bracket/Longfellow Road). Margaret Oliver of Longfellow Road presented a petition to the Council from area residents to show this opposition. Four members of the Public spoke with concerns of preserving farming and agriculture in the Town. One member of the public had questions as to where the data came from and how old that data was, in reference to maps and use of the land. Two members of the public spoke about concerns of South Gorham and the growth of the "village" aspect to that part of Town. There were no further comments and the Hearing was closed.

Item #8420 Moved by Councilor Robinson, Seconded by Councilor Benner and Ordered, that the Town Council schedule a Workshop for March 11, 2014 at 6 P.M. to discuss the proposal to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan. 7 years

Item #8421 Moved by Councilor Moulton, Seconded by Councilor Benner and Ordered, that the Town Council schedule a Workshop for March 11, 2014 at 6 P.M. to discuss the proposal to update the Town's Capital Improvement Plan. 7 years

Item #8422 Moved by Councilor Roullard, Seconded by Councilor Benner and Ordered, that the Town Council accept Harding Bridge Road Extension, located in Harding Bridge Farms Subdivision, as a Public Road, and Be It Further Ordered, that Harding Bridge Farm Road be classified as a Rural Access Road. 7 years

Item #8423 The proposed Order was Moved by Councilor Robinson, Seconded by Councilor Benner, Moved by Councilor Robinson, Seconded by Councilor Benner to AMEND the Proposed Order to send it to the Ordinance Committee after it has been to the Planning Board. 7 years. The Order as Amended to read as follows; Ordered, that the Town Council refer a proposal to amend Chapter II, Section V, Minimum Standards for the Design and Construction of Streets and Ways to the Planning Board for Public Hearing and then to the Ordinance Committee for their recommendations with the proposed amendments follows;

Chapter II: General Standards of Performance, Section V – Minimum Standards for the Design and Construction of Streets and Ways, H. Standards for Private Ways.

5) Private ways shall be designed to **meet the following requirements:**

- a) **Private Ways shall conform with meet** the standards presented in Tables 1 and 2 and the typical cross sections depicted in Figures 9 and 10.
- b) **Private ways will not cause congestion or unsafe conditions with respect to use of the highways or public roads, existing or proposed on or off the site.**

10) That the Planning Board shall have the ability to require improvements to both public roads and private ways serving any proposed private way to ensure off-site access is suitable to serve the proposed private way.

7 years

Item #8424 Moved by Councilor Phillips, Seconded by Councilor Moulton and VOTED to waive the reading of the proposed Order. 7 years

The Proposed Order was Moved by Councilor Phillips, Seconded by Councilor Hartwell, Moved by Councilor Phillips, Seconded by Councilor Hartwell to AMEND the Order to replace" Edward" with Edmund, replace "Sherri" with Sherrie, add at the bottom "Baxter Library * Pamela Turner" and add Be It Further Ordered, that the Town Council appropriate \$3,000 from the contingency account for the project. 7 years.

The Amended Order results in the following;

WHEREAS, Gorham was founded by Captain John Phinney in 1736, and

WHEREAS on October 30, 1764, the General Court of Massachusetts passed an act incorporating Gorham as the 20th Town in what is now the State of Maine, and
WHEREAS, October 30, 2014 will be the 250th anniversary of Gorham's incorporation, and
WHEREAS, Gorham's first Moderator in 1764 was John Phinney, and
WHEREAS, the current Chair of the Gorham Town Council is Michael John Phinney, a direct descendant of the first moderator,
NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, that the Town Council authorize a plaque to commemorate Gorham's 250th Anniversary of incorporation as a Town with the Following wording:

Oct. 30, 1764

Incorporated 250 Years

Oct. 30, 2014

On Oct. 30, 1764, the General Court (of Massachusetts) passed an act incorporating Gorham as a Town.

Moderator
John Phinney

Selectman At-Large
Benjamin Skillings*Amos Whitney*Joseph Weston

In Recognition and Celebration of Gorham's 250th year of Incorporation, the Town of Gorham hereby commemorates this event with a plaque illustrating its Governing body. It is with distinct Honor and Pride, that since being founded in 1736 by Capt. John Phinney and his son Edmund, the Town of Gorham has grown to over 16,000 citizens and is home to the University of Southern Maine's Gorham campus.

Council Chairman
Michael John Phinney

Councilors At-Large
Sherrie Benner*Benjamin Hartwell*Shonn Moulton
Suzanne Phillips*Matthew Robinson*Bruce Roullard

Town Manager
David O. Cole

Town Clerk*Police Chief*Fire Chief*Assessor
Jennifer Elliott*Ronald Shepard*Robert Lefebvre*Michael D'Archangelo

Public Works Director*Zoning Administrator*Finance Director*Recreation Dept.
Robert Burns*David Galbraith*Sharon LaFlamme*Cindy Hazelton

Baxter Library
Pamela Turner

and

Be It Further Ordered, that the Town Council appropriate \$3,000 from the contingency account for the project. 7 yeas

Moved by Councilor Moulton, Seconded by Councilor Roullard and VOTED to Waive Council Rules and take an item not on the agenda. 6 yeas, 1 nay (Robinson)

Moved by Councilor Moulton, Seconded by Councilor Hartwell and Ordered, that the Town Council, in consideration that the Town has an opportunity to purchase new left-over Police Cruisers at a reduced cost while they are still available, and before expected price increases for new models, and thereby save money, authorize the Town to purchase 2 Utility Cruisers and 1 Sedan Cruiser at a cost not to exceed \$76,481, and

Be It Further Ordered, that the Town Council understands that the Town has sufficient cash-flow to purchase these vehicles now and hold off placing them in service until the beginning of the next fiscal year and will budget the funds in the next fiscal year budget. 1 yea, 6 nays (Roullard, Phillips, Phinney, Benner, Robinson, Hartwell) Motion Fails

Moved by Councilor Robinson, Seconded by Councilor Hartwell and VOTED to Adjourn. 7 yeas
Time of adjournment 9:05 P.M.

A TRUE RECORD OF MEETING

Attest: _____
Jennifer Elliott, Town Clerk