

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2015 6:00 PM
GORHAM TOWN HALL**

Gorham Selectmen present: Jeff Schall, Grace LaPierre, Terry Oliver – excused absence

Also present: Robin Frost, Town Manager; Kirstan Lukasak, Berlin Daily Sun; Chad Miller, EMS Director; PJ Cyr, Police Chief; Dennis Arguin, Lynn Tremblay, Bert Drouin, Conrad Klefos and John Guertin of the Royalty Inn

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Schall.

2. Appointments:

a) Lynn Tremblay – Street Lights: Chairman Schall stated that the Board had received a copy of the letter Lynn Tremblay sent to the Town. Ms. Tremblay stated that she realizes that the Town has purposely shut down some street lights with the intention of saving residents money. However, on July 15th her restaurant, Yokohama Restaurant, was broken into. The break-in occurred in a location that was dark due to the street light being off. While this may be a coincidence, she is concerned that the break-in occurred because of the lack of lighting. Chairman Schall stated that he and PWD Holmes looked at the street lights not that long ago and did not shut down any additional lights. Chief Cyr stated that in the past month a total of three businesses had been broken into. He said that he does not know if it really has anything to do with the street lights in question but agrees that it certainly gives a perpetrator the upper hand. Further discussion took place regarding this matter. TM Frost stated that FD Vallee is working with Eversource to get a real analysis completed as to exactly how much money the Town is saving by shutting down street lights. She said that she will bring FD Vallee's findings to the next meeting.

3. New Business

a) Passenger Rail Rally – September 24, 2015: TM Frost informed the Board that on Thursday, September 24, 2015, the Northern New England Rally for Passenger Rail is meeting in Auburn, Maine. TM Frost stated that she is planning on attending this meeting.

b) Resolution Endorsing Rail Coalition: TM Frost presented the Board with a resolution endorsing the Rail Coalition, stating that she would like to be able to bring this with her to the meeting. Chairman Schall stated that while they do not have a problem supporting the coalition, he would like to have Selectman Oliver present at the meeting. This item will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

c) Ambulance/Paramedic Position – Chad Miller: EMD Miller presented the Board with documentation regarding a request to hire an additional paramedic. He indicated that the department previously had a qualified paramedic that was previously used for approximately 30 hours per week for transfers. However, that person moved on for a full time position elsewhere. At this time, the department has turned down several transfers because the department does not have enough qualified staff members to assist with coverage. EMD Miller went on to explain to the Board that while a full time position would require additional overhead for the Town, the rate of pay would be much lower than the \$40 per hour that had been paid to the part time position for transfers. Therefore, EMD Miller feels that it would not be a large difference. He went on to say that with a full time person available, the department should be able to accept more transfers. The Board told EMD Miller that they would like time to review his request as well as have a full Board for the decision. This matter will be placed on next week's agenda.

4. Old Business

a) John Ellis Memorial Update: TM Frost informed the Board that the monument had been moved. The Board agreed that the new location was better and that it looked great where it is.

b) Public Works Roof Project Update: TM Frost stated that the project is now complete. Selectman LaPierre said that she went through the building with FD Vallee and noted that it looked good.

c) Tinker Brook Project Update: TM Frost said the project is moving along as planned just waiting for approvals for wetland permits. The project is still on track and hope to start this fall.

d) Randolph Police Agreement: TM Frost informed the Board that Randolph amended the agreement a little bit. She said that the Town did not receive anything other than two signed contracts. Randolph took out provision for a call to the Gorham Police Department. EMD Miller wondered if that information had been mistakenly left out of the agreement. TM Frost and the Board agreed to have EMD Miller check with the Town of Randolph regarding this matter. The agreement will be placed on next week's agenda.

5. Public Comment:

Messrs. Klefos and Guertin, Royalty Inn, questioned and expressed concern with regard to the recent meeting that Messrs. Dagesse were at and asked about a possible tax break if they were to build a motel. The Board explained that while the Dagesse had asked about possible tax breaks, the Board had not made any kind of decision regarding the matter. TM Frost stated that she had received calls from other businesses expressing concern regarding this matter. The Board stated that they would keep them on the agenda when needed and thanked them for the feedback regarding this matter.

Dennis Arguin stated that he was just checking on the status of possible grant money. EMD Miller said that he has been putting out feelers on grants and is still waiting to hear from NRCS. EMD Miller suggested to the Board that if the Town can find a grant that would fit for this area, that the Board/Town contact local representatives to help in obtaining the monies. The Board suggested that EMD Miller contact Mike Scala for this.

Kirstan Lukasak, BDS, asked the Board where the search for a new Boston Post Cane recipient stood. The Board indicated that it would be placed on the next agenda.

6. Other Business

a) Town Manager's Update: TM Frost stated that there is a sink hole near the Mill property near the road. She said that at this time it is unclear whether the catch basin that is causing the issue belongs to the Mill or the Town. A die test will be performed to determine whether it will be the Town's responsibility to repair or not. TM Frost said that at this time there is no ordinance regarding the requirement of house numbering. She asked FDC Eichler to get information on this matter. TM Frost included an estimate on sidewalk paving in the Boards' packets. The estimate of \$71,130 is strictly for 1.5 inches of asphalt and does not include labor or other items such as gravel, etc. At this time, the sidewalk on Lancaster Road needs to be completely rebuilt. The Board asked TM Frost if someone could do a study on what would be needed to done in order to get a more thorough cost to complete the work. TM Frost stated that an engineering study would need to be completed. TM Frost and PWD Holmes have started creating an RFP for engineering to have the sidewalks as well as road work. The Board and TM Frost discussed the current road repairs as well as the sidewalks and plan to look into maybe

bonding the work to get it completed more timely. TM Frost will complete the RFP and get it out as soon as possible.

b) Selectmen’s Update: There were none.

c) Approval of Minutes (July 13 and 20, 2015): Selectman LaPierre made a motion to approve the Minutes of the July 13 and July 20 meetings, seconded by Chairman Schall, voted unanimously.

d) Sign Manifest: All manifests were signed.

e) Sign Abatements and Exemptions (if necessary):

7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-a:3, II a, c: On a motion by Chairman Schall, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to move into non-public session at 7:27 pm. Schall – Aye, LaPierre – Aye.

On a motion by Chairman Schall, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, the Board came out of non-public session by unanimous roll call vote at 8:15 pm. Schall – Aye, LaPierre – Aye.

Selectman LaPierre made a motion to accept Portland Pipeline’s negotiated settlement as presented, seconded by Chairman Schall, voted unanimously.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Jeff Schall

Grace LaPierre

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Terry Oliver