

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 09 , 2015, 6:00 PM
GORHAM TOWN HALL**

Gorham Selectmen present: Jeff Schall, Grace LaPierre, Terry Oliver
Also present: Robin Frost, Town Manager; Kirstan Lukasak, Berlin Daily Sun

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

2. Appointments: There were no scheduled appointments.

3. New Business

a) Abatement Recommendations: TM Frost presented the Board with two Abatement Recommendations from KRT Appraisal. Property owned by Ronald and Theresa McCauley at 297 Main Street recommendation stated that the condition of the property had changed from fair to good on the property card. No updates had been completed on the property, therefore Rich Dorsett recommended that the property value be reduced from \$281,200 to \$259,600. The second recommendation is for property owned by David and Ellen Holt at 10 Stony Brook Road. Mr. Dorsett stated that although the property is listed for sale less than the assessed value, however, it is in line with other similar vacant lots. Mr. Dorsett recommended to deny the request. **Selectman LaPierre made a motion to accept the Abatement Recommendations for the McCauley property at 297 Main Street and Holt property at 10 Stony Brook Road as presented by Rich Dorsett of KRT Appraisal, seconded by Selectman Oliver, voted unanimously.**

b) Release Easement – Willis Place: TM Frost presented the Board with a Release of Easement for a right of way for the Water and Sewer Department. The easement is no longer needed and the Water and Sewer Department agrees with relinquishing the easement. **Selectman Oliver made a motion to accept the Release of Easement and for the Board to execute the document, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, voted unanimously.**

c) Town Meeting Warrant Article Recommendations: The Warrant Articles had been presented to the Board. Because all Board members had been in agreement with the articles, and had previously approved, they agreed to move forward. **Selectman Oliver made a motion to accept the Warrant Articles as presented, seconded by Selectman LaPierre, voted unanimously.**

d) 2015 Dates for Extended OHRV Hours: TM Frost presented the Board with an email that had been received from the Androscoggin Valley Chamber of Commerce with regard to this coming year's ATV events. The Chamber is looking for the Town to extend the hours of operation on the Town/State trail system as it relates to the Jericho ATV Festival on July 31 and August 1; Wingzilla on September 17 and the RiverFire on October 17. TM Frost met with Chris Gamache of the NH Trail Bureau that afternoon and spoke to him with regard to these extended hours. Mr. Gamache stated that it should not be a problem and he will take care of the necessary leg work with the State. TM Frost asked the Board if they were in agreement with this request. The Board agreed to allow the extended hours of operation for the three events.

4. Old Business

a) **KGI Gorham, LLC Abatement Update:** TM Frost stated that mediation with KGI is currently at a standstill. The Town has an extension with BTLA. The Town had presented an offer to KGI and KGI countered with a completely unacceptable number. The Town has ordered an appraisal to be completed on the property by an outside vendor. The appraisal should be received sometime in March. If need be the Town will inform BTLA that an agreement has not been reached and a hearing will be scheduled.

b) **Gorham Paper & Tissue Abatement Update:** TM Frost stated that she met with Brian Fogg of George Sansoucy's office along with Dick Arnold and Wayne Johnson of Gorham Paper & Tissue last Thursday. TM Frost stated that she asked Messrs. Arnold and Johnson where they thought the assessed value number should be, noting that Skip Sansoucy's office had not received information that was requested in preparing the assessed value. They stated that they knew the amount of money that was spent for construction. While GPT considered the equipment in the building to be confidential, Mr. Arnold stated that he would check to see if he could get some of the building construction information released so the matter could get settled.

c) **Sign Union Contract:** TM Frost presented the Board with the final union contract for signature. The Board signed the contract.

5. Public Comment:

Ms. Lukasak asked if the request for extended OHRV hours for the specified events was a done deal. TM Frost stated that the Town still needed final approval from the State. Ms. Lukasak asked how much money had been spent to date for snow removal versus the budget balance. TM Frost stated that she did not have this number, but would request it and forward it to her.

6. Other Business

a) **Town Manager's Update:** TM Frost presented the Board with a spreadsheet that FD Vallee prepared. The spreadsheet shows that if the budget stays as proposed, it will raise the tax rate nine cents. The Board stated that they were happy with the information and financial direction of the Town.

TM Frost presented the Board with two grants for the Police Department for their signatures. The first grant is for \$3,744, which requires no Town match, for highway safety patrols. The second is for \$2,000, which requires no Town match, for forestry patrols. The Board signed the grants.

b) **Selectmen's Update:** Selectman LaPierre had no updates. Selectman Oliver asked TM Frost if she spoke with Mr. Gamache about some of the issues with regard to trail access. TM Frost stated that they had not reviewed that as of yet. Selectman Oliver stated that he had received a complaint with regard to the Town salting Gorham Heights. The residents are concerned about salt getting into the water wells, as most of the wells are close to the roadside. TM Frost stated that she was aware of the issue, and noted that PWD Holmes is also aware but explained the complexity of doing a change of salt/sand to straight sand during a storm. Chairman Schall mentioned the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner to his fellow board members that is coming up on March 6. Chairman Schall asked TM Frost if EMD Miller had gotten the figures together on the EMS Contracts.

TM Frost stated that the information was forwarded to both Shelburne and Randolph last Thursday. The new contract figures are as follows: Shelburne - \$16,200, Randolph - \$11,300, Coos County - \$21,400. These numbers are for a 12 month period. For this year, the contracts for the Towns of Randolph and Shelburne will be a 15 month contract. The contract amounts for this year are as follows: Shelburne - \$20,250, Randolph - \$14,125.

c) Approval of Minutes (January 26, 2015 and February 4, 2015): Selectman LaPierre noted grammatical errors on both sets of Minutes and corrections will be made. **Selectman LaPierre made a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 26, 2015 and February 4, 2015, meetings with noted grammatical corrections, seconded by Selectman Oliver, voted unanimously.**

d) Sign Manifest: All manifests were signed.

e) Sign Abatements and Exemptions (if necessary): None were presented.

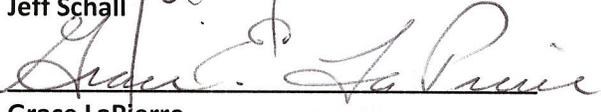
7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-a:3, II a-e: There was no need for non-public session.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:



Jeff Schall



Grace LaPierre



Terry Oliver