

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, June 7, 2010
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM, SECOND FLOOR

Selectmen present: Paul Robitaille, Chairman; Terry Oliver, David Graham.

Also present: Robin L. Frost, Town Manager

Craig Lyons, *Berlin Daily Sun*
George Sansoucy, Contract Assessor
Diane Labbe, Assessing Director
Mike Waddell

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

2. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:2,1; RSA 91-A:3,II a,b,c,d,e

3. Public Session Agenda: 6:30 PM The Chairman announced that there were no decisions made in non-public session.

Approve minutes of 5/24/2010: On a motion by Selectman Oliver, seconded by Selectman Graham, the Board unanimously approved the minutes as prepared.

Approve and Sign Manifest: On a motion by Selectman Graham, seconded by Selectman Oliver, the Board unanimously approved the manifest. The Board members signed the manifest.

Sign Abatements: There were no abatements for the Board to sign.

Assessing Review: The Board recognized George "Skip" Sansoucy, the contract assessor for Gorham. Mr. Sansoucy explained the process that he follows in assessing the Town. He also explained how his training and oversight of Assessing Director Diane Labbe will enable her to take over the assessment of the residential properties in the near future. Ms. Labbe requires one more course in order for her to become certified as an assessing supervisor. Mr. Sansoucy then explained the assessment process for the numerous utilities in Gorham. There is no current contract with his company, but there is an agreement with regard to compensation. A taxpayer was present to discuss her difficulty with paying her taxes. She was advised to contact the Town Manager to discuss options that may be available to her.

Public Hearing Date for EECBG: The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) in the amount of \$5600 which was awarded to the Town requires a public hearing on the acceptance and expenditure of these funds. This will be held on June 21, 2010 at a regular Board of Selectmen's meeting.

TAN Increase Approval: The TAN originally approved for \$400k is now increased to \$800k due to the July payment requested by the school.

Sign Project Superintendent's Contract: The Board signed the contract for Michael Waddell to continue on as project superintendent for the Town Hall project. Mr. Waddell was also present and signed the contract as well.

4. Other Business: Mike Waddell was on hand to discuss the flood plain remapping project being performed by FEMA along with other organizations. He briefly explained the process and how important it was for the Town to become involved at this stage. He is requesting that the Board appoint him along with EMD Heather Mortenson as the representatives of Gorham for this project. **To that end, Selectman Oliver made a motion to appoint Mike Waddell and Heather Mortenson as the official representatives for the Town of Gorham to negotiate with the organizations performing the flood plain remapping project to ensure that best interests of the residents of Gorham are met. This motion was seconded by Selectman Graham and voted unanimously in the affirmative by the Board.**

Selectman Graham reported that he ran into Rep. Bill Hatch who would like to meet with the Selectmen sometime soon. It was decided that the Town Manager would contact Rep. Hatch and ask him to attend the next meeting.

Selectman Graham also reported that in a discussion with former Selectman Yves Zornio, it was mentioned that Stark has used a different, less expensive mix of material to pave their roads. According a Stark Selectman, it has worked well. Both Selectmen Oliver and Chairman Robitaille stated that it works well for roads with much less volume than is experienced on Gorham roads. Selectmen Graham mentioned that he found reading the PWD Quarterly Report helpful.

The Board briefly discussed the issue with some of the elderly population paying their taxes. It was agreed that there must be some way to keep the tax rate from increasing even with the potential of further State revenue decreases.

5. Public Comment: Craig Lyons wanted to know if the increase to the TAN was primarily for the school payment. The answer is yes. He also wanted affirmation that the EECBG is for the energy audit at the Public Works Facility. So affirmed.

6. Date for Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on **Monday, June 21, 2010.**

7. Non-Public Session: No need for an additional non-public session.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:



Paul Robitaille, Chairman



Terry Oliver



David Graham