



## **PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GORHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Gorham town Hall, Public Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

4:30 p.m.

**SELECTMEN PRESENT:** Judy Leblanc; and Yves Zornio, Michael Waddell via phone

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Gagnon, Town Manager; Bronson, Paradis Financial Director

### **Public session Call to Order – 4:31pm**

Judy Leblanc called the public session to order.

### **New Business**

Review of property sales of 2023. We are showing below assessing value by 62.8%. We need to do statistical for 2024 to even out the residential and commercial property value.

Town of Randolph tax bill on the pump house which is part of a negotiation to pay \$5000.00 for the tax to Randolph the select boards signature is needed to proceed. Board approved.

Motion and signature from the board for Town Manager to sign for any federal monies awarded. Motion was granted and signatures were given.

A new police officer Nicolas Varieure was sworn in on December 18<sup>th</sup> selectmen signatures were needed to complete his initiation.

A motion to except minutes from the non-public meeting from last week was accepted.

### **Town Manager Report**

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December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, storm would like to commend PDW, Fire, EMS and Police. They came in on their days off or worked over. They worked around the clock. Jimtown and Spring Road have been repaired and more permanent repairs will be coming in the spring. There was severe property damage on Glen Road. The town is in the process of working with Homeland Security, FEMA, Federal and State Agencies. A disaster declaration will be made imminently. The state is putting together numbers. HEB Engineering is working with the town to help with projects that will need to be done. Property owners are urged to call 211 to report their damage, even if they have gone into the town office and gave their information to the town manager. All the new work that was done on White Birch, Evergreen, Hemlock and Clay Hill Brook held up very well from this last storm.

#### **Budget Review- Assessing**

There was an increase in the salary and benefits line due to the Assessing Clerk going from an hourly to a salary position also a new assessing assistant which will be working in assessments, planning and code enforcement. A large increase in the training line which is due to the new software that is being purchased. Property assessing line increased we are working on getting a new CNHA. KRT is leaving the town of Gorham due to a business decision. Phone and internet stayed the same. Tax mapping is down \$12,000.00 the update to the maps was a 3-year contract and we have fulfilled our obligation to the contract. Dues and subscriptions are the same. Supplies and printing are staying the same. Revaluation line has increased due to the budgeted amount for the statistical.

#### **Budget Review- Planning and Zoning Board**

There have been changes to the Planning and Zoning Board. The requirements are very time consuming and overwhelming. Code enforcement officer has been doing a great job and working to get the residences in compliance with planning and zoning. We need to change the application process by adding that the residents will be billed for the consultation by Tara. Tara will do train a new employee on her procedures. Flood planning procedures done by Tara can't be found this report was 2015 and 2016. Paul would like someone to look into old emails and see if anything can be located on this matter. Residents can't go and start making berms in the rivers.

#### **Budget review – Code Enforcement**

Salary line has changed to new code enforcement person a lot of building permits are coming in, short term rentals making sure they have the proper license to operate and to bring them up to code.

#### **Budget Review – Executive Office**

Selectmen wages and cost stayed the same. Travel video for town hall streaming has stayed the same. Town managers permit position is down \$7627.00. Minute taker will decrease and will be put to in house. Salary and benefits decreased. Telephone and internet have increased. Our current phone service is not compatible with the services, so updates are being done. Membership and dues stayed the same. Travel went up \$500.00 due to more conference that will be attended. Budget clerk, budget monitor, we have more elections this year causing a slight increase.

#### **Budget Review – Finance**

Salary and benefits increased. Bank serves has decreased. Phone and internet have decreased with a 5-year contract. Printing, dues, subscriptions, software, conference and meetings have decreased. Office supplies stayed the same. Postage and travel have increased. Audit services have increased. Maintenance and repair, which also counts our IT department increased.

#### **Budget Review – Town Hall**

The salary for custodial and town clock keepers stayed the same. Electricity stayed the same. Heat and oil we currently under contract until the end of June at \$3.09 a gallon. Increased the budget for not having pricing for the second half of the year. Propane increased we are under contract until end of May are not locked in on pricing. Supplies and vehicle maintenance stayed the same. Light fixture on town hall will be fixed as soon as possible.

#### **Budget review - Welfare**

Welfare funds decreased for 2023. We increased the budget this year 2024 to \$25,000.

#### **Adjournment**

**MOTION: Selectmen Zornio moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Vice-Chair Leblanc.**

**Selectmen Zornio: Aye**

**Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye**

**The motion carried. (2-0-0)**

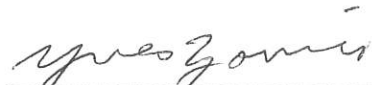
Respectfully submitted,  
Rita Alimandi, Recording Secretary  
Town of Gorham  
[ralimandi@gorhamnh.org](mailto:ralimandi@gorhamnh.org)

Minutes Approved on February 5, 2024 by:



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Judith LeBlanc, Vice-Chair



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Yves Zornio, Selectman