

## PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GORHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

Tuesday, February 5, 2024

5:00 p.m.

**SELECTMEN PRESENT:** Yves Zornio and Michael Waddell

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Gagnon, Town Manager; Bronson, Paradis Financial  
Director John Bijeau, Jeff Tennis and Jeff Stewart

### **Public session Call to Order – 5:05pm**

Michael Waddell called the public session to order.

### **New Business**

#### **Cascade Flats Project**

Jeff Tennis from Water and Sewer and John Bijeau discussed with the board their plans for the Cascade Flats Road work. Water and Sewer need to change the water line on the east side of the road properties. There is a 12-inch water line on the west side of the roads. Monies that were received from Congresswoman Custer's program will help Water and Sewer to run copper lines from the 12-inch water lines to the 37 homes on the east side of the road. Eventually water and sewer will dig up the old lines once all the properties are hooked up to the new copper lines. River street has already been done. The board asked about the drainage issues. The Public Works Department said the catch basin are built on top of the sewer main interceptor the basins are 6 feet around not very big and are difficult to work in. The water department will have the water lines done by the fall of 2024. Public Works will be working on shorten the width of the road they want to move the sidewalks out and put-up new poles up between the property lines and sidewalks.

### **Libby's Pool**

It was suggested to get an estimate from an engineer to install a pump to fill Libby's and to keep the water moving. Also looking at raising the side of the road so if we have a high-water storm again that it would not flood the area again. Summer program will continue if Libby's is not able to be filled on time Jeff Stewart will have alternative plans for the kids. Michael Waddell said he has been getting complaints about the ice conditions. A need for volunteer or paid staff so there is some consistency on the ice. Jeff Stewart says a big problem is making the ice it gets later in the season every year, which makes the ice rough. He also stated that he has put up signs and zip tie it shut, and people go into ice rink anyway and destroys the ice even more.

The Androscoggin Valley Chamber of Commerce has reached out to Jeff Stewart and asked for the town to help for their ATV festival on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024. Jeff is working out different things to hold in the town to make it family orientated.

Assessing office needs signatures on (2) documents first on an abatement was over valued and the assessor reevaluated the property. Michael Waddell motioned to approve the amount of \$1337.97 for property of 18 Lary Street. Yves Zornio motioned to accept Michael Waddell seconded the motion. **Chairman Waddell votes yes. Selectman Zornio voted yes.**

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

A DRA document for year end from the Assessing office to DRA saying we accept and understand the property values and equalization ratio. 83.09 is our median ratio. Michael Waddell asked for a motion to approve. Yves Zornio motioned to accept Michael Waddell seconded the motion. **Chairman Waddell votes yes. Selectman Zornio voted yes**

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

Grant paperwork for federal financial award to the town of Gorham. A USFS. \$600,000.00 grant going towards our Community Forest was discussed. Yves Zornio motioned to accept and approve this award. Michael Waddell seconded the motion. Micheal Waddell need signed the grant. **Chairman Waddell votes yes. Selectman Zornio voted yes**

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

Northwoods Childcare Center for a CDFA grant. Was signed for and approval by Michael Waddell

MOA's with Gorham Land Company the town of Gorham agrees upon the transfer of roughly 6.5 acres undeveloped land owned by Gorham Land Company. This property abuts the Libby Pool area located on route 16 and the Peabody River. The property is identified as R4/40 Glen Road Gorham NH. The town of Gorham has the reserves rights to review the final lot line adjustment to determine the exact acreage being transferred. Limited wood rights if any wood is taking down with work that the town is doing that Tobey Reichart will have the limited rights to the wood. Surveying was done by Gorham Land Company and the clear title will be given to the town of Gorham. The town of Gorham will pay for any survey cost, legal fees that are related to the transfer. Gorham will abide by all requirements RSA 41 Chapter 14-A. Yves Zornio motioned to accept Michael Waddell seconded the motion.

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

MOA's with Gorham Land Company for property known as the Gorham Police Association Range 8.25 acres taken out of current use under order from the BLTA. The parcel of land is not deeded to the town of Gorham or agents in any way. The town of Gorham releases and terminates any claims to use or access the range or training area if any prior arrangement made by the town of Gorham and Gorham Land Company formal or informal are terminated. Gorham will move any private property and deconstruct any range construction as much is practical. Any taxes will be the responsibility of Gorham Land Company as owners. Yves Zornio motioned to accept Michael Waddell seconded the motion. **Chairman Waddell votes yes. Selectman Zornio voted yes**

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

Discussion on the 2024 calendar select board will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month. Board member Judy Leblanc was not available to discuss and approve any meeting changes at this meeting discussion for changing February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to February 13<sup>th</sup>. Also, the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting changed to March 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be discussed. Town Manager said he was asked to provide vacations on the calendar, but he doesn't plan on taking any weeklong vacations.

Warrant Articles are still being worked on with Peter and Bronson. The board looked of them.

Town had a cyber incident last week from the water and sewer department system apparently an email was sent out to multiple people without authorization. SNS worked on the issue and the situation was taking care of this matter did not cause any harm. Town attorney and Primex suggested that the town put out a statement.

Peter will be working with North Country Council on some grants that might work for the town.

Our solar panel project on the Public Works building was in limbo, a meeting was held with DOE and a blanket waiver was given. The project is back on track and will start in the spring.

Federal Disaster declaration is on track the state asked for an extension until March.

Next Public meeting will be February 12<sup>th</sup> 2024


**Adjournment**

**Selectmen Zornio moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Chairman Michael Waddell. Chairman Waddell votes yes. Selectman Zornio voted yes**

**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: March 12, 2024

  
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Michael Waddell, Chairman  
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Judith LeBlanc, Vice-Chair  
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Yves Zornio, Selectman