



PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GORHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Gorham Town Hall Public Meeting Room 2nd Floor
Monday, December 4, 2023
4:30 p.m.

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Michael Waddell; Yves Zornio; and Judy LeBlanc.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Gagnon, Town Manager; Bronson Paradis, Finance Director; Phil Cloutier, Fire/EMS Chief; and Jimmy Wilhoite, Police Chief.

ALSO PRESENT: Lisa Connell;

1. Non-Public Session - 4:30 p.m.

Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3, II(b) *The hiring of any person as a public employee; (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant; and (l) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present.*

2. Public Session Call to Order - 5:30 p.m.

Chairperson Waddell called the public session to order at 5:33 p.m.

3. New Business

a. Announce Action, if any, Taken in Nonpublic Session

None.

b. Review and Approve DPW Equipment Bids

Mr. Gagnon indicated that DPW needs a new lift and explained the rationale for it. He noted they will upgrade to a 14,000-lb lift. He stated the quotes were:

- \$25,000 - available a year to months out
- \$16,942 - available the next week-or-so
- \$20,000 - available a year to months out

4. **Public Comment:** Those in attendance will have the opportunity for public comment of two (2) minute or less.

Lisa requested for Mr. Gagnon to provide the tax rate numbers to her. The numbers are listed above in the appropriate section of the minutes.

5. **Work Session**

a. **Review Fire & EMS 2024 Budgets**

Chief Phil Cloutier presented the EMS budget to the Board, including, but not limited to:

- **Wages** (6 F/T) - Overnight coverage, 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. with on-call 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. - Increase of on-call is \$10.00/hour.
- **Part-Time Positions** - Rolled back by \$17,000 since overtime was increased \$23,000.
- **Health Benefits** - Demographics change (marriage/adoption/etc.).

Discussion was had regarding the different line items in the budget. Further discussion was had regarding the difference of using pellets or electric for heating, as well as current and prospective revenues, and the impact of Medicare transfers on revenues. Chief Cloutier spoke about the current and future Randolph and Shelburne EMS contracts.

Chief Phil Cloutier presented the Fire budget to the Board, including, but not limited to:

- **Wages** - Stayed the same.
- **On-Call Pay** - Dropped to even \$50,000
- **Dues & Subscriptions** - Raised \$500

Discussion was had regarding the different line items in the budget. Further discussion was had regarding volunteers. Chief Cloutier indicated he wasn't prepared with a Building Inspection budget, and would rather that Michelle provide those numbers. Additional discussion was had regarding upcoming grants and potential expenditures, including a new truck/engine and the impact it would have on the capital reserves.

b. **Review Police & Dispatch 2024 Budgets**

Chief Jimmy Wilhoite presented the Police budget to the Board, including, but not limited to:

- **Wages** - (7 F/T &) - \$457,587 with \$28,730 increase due to a new contract.
- **P/T (1)** - Allocated at regular rate, 8 hours a week, gone up \$911 due to salary increase.
- **Overtime** - Kept at 8 hours a week, at average O/T rate, which is up \$1,323 due to salary increase.

Discussion was had regarding the different line items in the budget, including the definition of stipend. Further discussion was had regarding the mileage limit of 125,000 to 130,000 miles on the cruiser and the impact of idle time on the vehicles; as well as uniform needs. Additional discussion was had regarding upcoming cruiser expenses, including capital reserves.

Chief Jimmy Wilhoite presented the Dispatch budget to the Board, including, but not limited to:

- **Wages** - (4 F/T) \$12,522 increase due to a new contract.
- **P/T** - Allocated at regular rate, 16 hours a week, gone up \$1,464 due to salary increase.
- **Overtime** - Left at 2 hours a week, up \$228, due to salary increase.

Discussion was had regarding the different line items in the budget, including the IMC database.

6. Adjournment

MOTION: Selectman Zornio moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Vice-Chair LeBlanc.

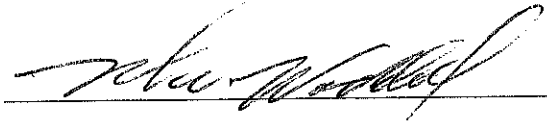
Selectman Zornio: Aye

Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye

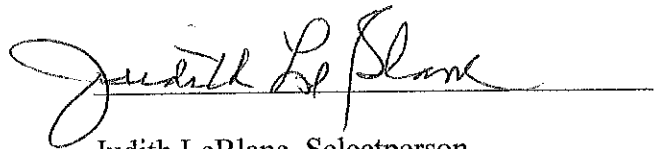
Chairperson Waddell: Aye

The motion carried. (3-0-0).

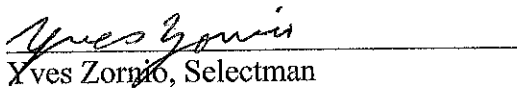
Minutes approved on December 11, 2023 by:



Michael L. Waddell, Chairman



Judith LeBlanc, Selectperson



Yves Zornio, Selectman

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria O'Connor, Recording Secretary
O'Connor Legal, Medical & Media Services Inc.
www.oconnorlmms.com