



Town of Gorham New Hampshire

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GORHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN Gorham Town Hall Public Meeting Room 2nd Floor Thursday, October 28, 2021 5:30 p.m.

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Michael Waddell, Judy LeBlanc, and Adam White.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Denise Vallee, Town Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Edith Tucker, Reporter, Berlin Sun

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

Chairperson Waddell called the public session to order at 5:45 p.m.

2. New Business

a. Set 2021 Tax Rate

Chairperson Waddell went over the reason for the meeting and indicated that they've received advice regarding the Overlay amount. Ms. Vallee went over the figures that she and Chairperson Waddell reviewed prior to the meeting. The following are the key takeaways from that discussion:

- Tax rate without reduction efforts:
 - Municipal: \$12.95/1,000
 - County: \$5.05
 - Local Education: \$17.29
 - State Education: \$2.08
 - Total: \$37.37/1,000
- 2020 Rates:
 - Municipal: \$12.03/1,000
 - County: \$4.71
 - Local Education: \$13.07
 - State Education: \$2.04
 - Total: \$31.85/1,000

Chairperson Waddell spoke about the fund balance and how the Town has utilized it in recent years. Ms. Vallee indicated the current fund balance is \$2,042,597. Chairperson Waddell indicated that the advice he received regarding the Overlay account would be to have \$170,000 plus the \$80,000 that remains from 2021. He went over how the Overlay account would be covered and what it is used for.

Chairperson Waddell recommended taking \$430,000 from the fund balance to reduce taxes, which would lower the Town's portion of the tax rate to \$11.18, which would give a tax rate of \$35.60. Discussion

was had regarding the application of the fund balance towards the tax rate, as well as the change in the Overlay figure. Further discussion was had regarding what tonight's decision regarding the tax rate would impact, as well as the difference of the current market situation compared to 2020 and how that impacts the tax rate. Ms. Vallee provided some different amounts that could be applied from the fund balance and how that would impact the Town's tax rate.

MOTION: Selectman White moved to take \$170,000 from fund balance and put it into the Overlay account, as well as \$430,000 from the unrestricted fund balance to reduce taxes. It was seconded by Selectman LeBlanc.

Selectman LeBlanc: Aye
Selectman White: Aye
Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

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

None.

4. **Adjournment**

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to adjourn at 6:08 p.m. It was seconded by Selectman White.

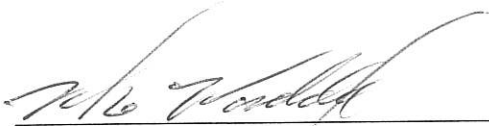
Selectman LeBlanc: Aye
Selectman White: Aye
Chairperson Waddell: Aye

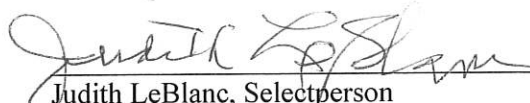
The motion carried. (3-0-0).


Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria O'Connor, Recording Secretary
O'Connor Legal, Medical & Media Services Inc.
www.oconnorlmms.com
(603) 865-1255

Approved on November 8, 2021 by:


Michael Waddell, Chairman


Judith LeBlanc, Selectperson


Adam White, Selectman