

# Town of Gorham New Hampshire



## VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE GORHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN Gorham Town Hall Public Meeting Room 2nd Floor Monday, July 26, 2021 5:00 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.

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### 1. Non-Public Session - 5:00 p.m.

Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3, II(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; (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community; and (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph.*

### 2. Public Session Call to Order - 6:00 p.m.

Chairperson Waddell called the public session to order at 6:00 p.m.

### 3. New Business

#### a. Announce action, if any, taken in nonpublic sessions.

None.

#### b. Cemetery Deed

**MOTION:** Selectman White moved to approve the Deed for Roselle Higgins. It was seconded by Selectman LeBlanc.

Selectman White: Aye

Selectman LeBlanc: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

**c. Grant Agreement for Northern Forest Center Outdoor Recreation Grant**

Denise Vallee went over the details of the Grant Agreement. Chairperson Waddell noted that a Report was due July 15, 2021 and inquired as to whether that would pose any problems in the process, to which Ms. Vallee affirmed that she is aware of that language and that it is not an issue.

**MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to approve the Grant Agreement for Northern Forest Center Outdoor Recreation Grant. It was seconded by Selectman White.**

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

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

**MOTION: Selectman White moved to authorized Denise Vallee to sign the Grant Agreement for Northern Forest Center Outdoor Recreation Grant. It was seconded by Selectman LeBlanc.**

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

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

Chairperson Waddell requested of Ms. Vallee to go into further detail regarding the Grant, which she did.

**d. Property to be Tax Deeded**

**MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to table this discussion in public session, to be discussed in nonpublic session. It was seconded by Selectman White.**

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

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

**4. Old Business/Updates**

**a. Conservation Easement Deed**

Ms. Vallee went over why the Deed had to be resigned. The Board went over the amended document. Chairperson Waddell went over what the Conservation Easement Deed entailed, and then resigned the Deed.

**5. Public Comment:** Public comments can be sent in via email to dvallee@gorhamnh.org prior to the Public Comment session. Any comments received via email will be read. Those in attendance will have the opportunity for public comment.

None.

## **6. Other Business**

- a. Approve Minutes of June 24, 2021 (Nonpublic Meeting) and July 12, 2021 (Regular & Nonpublic Meetings)**

**MOTION:** Selectman LeBlanc moved to approve the Minutes of June 24, 2021, nonpublic meeting, as presented. It was seconded by Selectman White.

Selectman White: Aye

Selectman LeBlanc: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

**MOTION:** Selectman White moved to approve the Minutes of July 12, 2021, regular and nonpublic meetings, as presented. It was seconded by Chairperson Waddell.

Selectman White: Abstain.

Selectman LeBlanc: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

The motion carried. (2-1-0).

- b. Abatements**

None.

- c. Town Manager's Report**

- **Lancaster Road Sidewalk Project**

Ms. Vallee indicated that this project was picked up by Annie Kuster and attached to an Infrastructure Bill, which has been approved by the House and is on its way to the Senate for their consideration.

- **ARPA Funds - Public Hearing to be Held August 18, 2021**

Ms. Vallee stated she was on a Zoom session this morning regarding the ARPA funds and indicated that the Board will need to hold a public hearing to accept the money. She went over the detail of the ARPA Funds. Discussion was had regarding what was to be presented at the public hearing, as well as any criteria for the use of the money.

- Ms. Vallee stated she has closeout work for the Community Forest Grant that took place as part of the Tinker Brook Parcel Acquisition. She said she has the Final Financial Report and the Final Project Report. She discussed an upcoming call with Neil Bungard at the Community Forest Program, wherein the Report may be tweaked. The Board signed the Reports.
- Ms. Vallee indicated that Phil got a quote for having some repair work done to the parking lot up at the Fire Station, which is for \$4,600 from Morency. She stated that since she just received it today, she hasn't investigated as to where the funds would come from. Chairperson Waddell requested more quotes from other providers to compare.
- Ms. Vallee stated she went to the wrap-up meeting for the 4th of July. She stated the 4th of July Committee still earned \$9,000 from Miller Amusements, even with the shortened schedule.

Discussion was had regarding the events. Further discussion was had regarding the changes on the Committee.

## **7. Non-Public Session**

Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3, II(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; (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community; and (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph.*

**MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to reenter nonpublic session at 6:26 p.m. It was seconded by Selectman White.**

**Selectman White: Aye**

**Selectman LeBlanc: Aye**

**Chairperson Waddell: Aye**

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

## **8. Public Session**

**At 7:51 PM, the board re-entered Public Session, which was called to order by Chairman Waddell.**

**MOTION: Selectman White moved to disburse stipends to employees from ARPA funds per the provided list of Essential employees. It was seconded by Selectperson LeBlanc.**

**Selectman White: Aye**

**Selectman LeBlanc: Aye**

**Chairperson Waddell: Aye**

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

**At 7:52 PM, Selectperson LeBlanc moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Selectman White.**

**Selectman White: Aye**

**Selectman LeBlanc: Aye**


**Chairperson Waddell: Aye**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria O'Connor, Recording Secretary  
O'Connor Legal, Medical & Media Services LLC  
[www.oconnorlmms.com](http://www.oconnorlmms.com)  
(603) 865-1255

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021:



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Michael L. Waddell



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Judith LeBlanc



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Adam White