

**MINUTES OF SELECTMAN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2017 6:00 PM
TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

Gorham Selectman present: Terry Oliver, Patrick Lefebvre, Mike Waddell

Also present: Robin Frost, Town Manager; Arthur Perry; Diane Bouthot; Kim Gallant; Maurice Tanguay; Joanne Tanguay

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Oliver at 6:00 pm.

2. Appointments:

a) Eric Cornish –Approval for Opening Jimtown Road During ATV Festival – TM Frost advised that Eric Cornish was not able to attend, but was requesting that ATV traffic be allowed on Jimtown Road to Moose Brook State Park during the ATV festivals, the same as it was last year.

On a motion by Selectman Lefebvre, seconded by Chairman Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to allow ATV traffic on Jimtown Road to the Moose Brook State Park, as long as the state allows access through the Park again this year.

Diane Bouthot asked if this included the portion from Moose Brook to Route 2 and was advised it did not.

3. New Business:

a) Munce Property Sealed Bids – TM Frost advised that one bid was received. Chairman Oliver opened the bid, which was from P&L Cote for 437 Main Street, U9-Lot 8A, in the amount of \$10,000.

Selectman Lefebvre made a motion to accept the bid for \$10,000 for the property at 437 Main Street.

Diane Bouthot asked if there were any liens on the property and TM Frost advised that Northway Bank, Passumpsic Savings Bank, and Brandon Guida all had liens on the property. Maurice Tanguay asked about back taxes and TM Frost advised the amount owed was \$64,829.65, with an assessed value of \$182,000.

Chairman Oliver seconded the motion by Selectman Lefebvre.

Selectman Waddell suggested that the bid be awarded conditional to review by the town's attorney.

The Board voted unanimously to accept the bid of \$10,000 from P&L Cote for the property at 437 Main Street conditional to review by the town's attorney.

Selectman Waddell mentioned that there was an interested party who chose not to bid on the other Munce properties and wondered why. The Board, by consensus, directed TM Frost to contact Bob Chapman to ask why.

b) Street Lights – TM Frost advised there is nothing new to report. Denise Vallee has been working on this and they are hoping for the first group to be completed this year. Diane Bouthot asked how many were being replaced this year, and TM Frost advised it is either 19 or 21. Ray's Electric was awarded the bid.

4. Old Business/Updates:

a) Fairpoint Poles in Cascade - TM Frost advised there is nothing new to report.

b) Eversource Dam/Dike Update – TM Frost advised that she has sent out all the information that was agreed upon to send. Frost advised that she received a reply from them confirming that they had received it and they said they would start research right away.

c) Spring Road Project Update – TM Frost advised that there is nothing new to report.

d) Stony Brook Roads – TM Frost advised that she spoke with Buddy Holmes about the possibility of gravel roads and he was not in favor of that idea. Holmes advised it would cost more to maintain and there are too many hills. Holmes also pointed out that the roads would need to be graded often, and the town does not have a grader. TM Frost advised they do not have numbers yet on the cost to maintain them as gravel roads, but will continue to work on that. Selectman Waddell advised that he would like to have that information available, as it will come up in discussions.

e) Ambulance Revenue Reports – TM Frost advised that she spoke with Chief Watkins at length, and they also consulted with Cagney Hatch, about the reports requested. Since some of the information needed was able to be entered in the system before, but is no longer able to be entered, the end result is that the reports requested are not available without a significant amount of work. Selectman Waddell advised that just a report of revenues month-by-month would suffice, as it is the big picture they are looking at as to where the ambulance service is going in the future. TM Frost advised that Watkins advised it only costs about \$4500 per year to keep the third ambulance stocked and running, and that Diesel Works was able to fix it. The cost is not very high to keep the ambulance, as they would not get much by selling it.

f) Fire Ponds in Stony Brook – TM Frost advised that the plan back in 1989 was for the two fire ponds and a 30,000 gallon tank. Frost advised that they are still talking with Gorham Land Company to see who would be responsible for the maintenance. Selectman Waddell advised that he would like to see it be the responsibility of the town. Selectman Lefebvre advised that when the plan was created, the fire department did not have the resources it does now, such as the tanker truck. Lefebvre would like the Fire Chief to determine what would be needed. Kim Gallant mentioned that one of the ponds was very low and she was not sure why.

5. Public Comment:

Kim Gallant stated that she hoped the proposal of gravel roads in Stony Brook does not happen. Gallant stated that the dust would be an issue if this was to happen and wondered if it would affect the tax assessments. TM Frost advised that part of the cost of maintenance would be dust control and the assessment would be less on a gravel road than on a paved road.

Maurice Tanguay mentioned the property at 2 Glen Road. Tanguay stated that the grass is long, there are still garbage bags, and there are still boards with nails sticking out. TM Frost advised that John Scarinza will contact the owner again.

6. Other Business:

a) Town Manager's Update – TM Frost advised that the Trustees at the Congregational Church met and approved moving the handicapped access on the sidewalk to the driveway as long as the town paints a crosswalk from the driveway to the parking lot. Selectman Lefebvre questioned whether the entrance

so far from the sidewalk access would be allowed. The public works department will recurb that section to help control the flooding issue.

b) Selectmen's Updates – Selectman Waddell asked about the bond schedules. TM Frost advised that she will have Denise Vallee get them and she will email them.

Selectman Waddell asked about the Shoreland Protection Application. TM Frost advised that she spoke with Michelle Lutz today and she is working on it.

Selectman Waddell asked about the flood maps and if Chuck Henderson had been contacted. TM Frost advised that she did contact him and he would like an email listing what the issues are. Selectman Waddell stated that he would send the email.

Selectman Waddell asked about the police and dispatch studies. Selectman Lefebvre stated that he had spoken with Chief Morency, who advised they have met twice and things are going well. Waddell asked when the proposal might be ready and Lefebvre stated that Chief Cyr had been given until October. Waddell asked if they could come up with a timeline of when the transition would take place if the vote was in favor of the contract with Berlin, so that employees would know that it would not be an immediate change, as many employees are worried and may begin looking for other employment. Waddell is concerned that it may become a self-fulfilling prophecy for the town if employees choose to leave. This will be added to the next agenda.

Selectman Waddell asked when they might receive a report on the meeting with the Recreation Director. TM Frost advised that she would email the report.

Selectman Lefebvre asked that it be added to the next agenda to discuss adopting rules and procedures for the Selectmen's meetings.

Selectman Lefebvre asked if there was an answer from the mill on leasing the playground property, as it has been over a year. Lefebvre stated that if nothing has been heard by the next meeting, they should sit down with them again to discuss it. TM Frost advised that the lease is currently in their attorney's hands.

Selectman Waddell asked about the Bikes not Bombs shelter and Selectman Lefebvre stated they are still waiting on the railroad.

Selectman Lefebvre asked about the new tax exemption form for commercial and industrial properties. TM Frost advised that they are going to make few changes, to include the map and lot number and change the amount for the second year to 75%. Selectman Waddell expressed concern over the line for estimated cost of project, and stated that cost and assessed value are two different things. Waddell suggested adding bullets which explain the process.

Joanne Tanguay brought up a concern about the fir trees that Jay Holmes planted on his property. TM Frost advised that this is an issue for John Scarinza to address and she has sent him an email.

c) Approval of Minutes (May 30, 2017 Public and June 6, 2017 Public/Non-public) –

On a motion by Selectman Waddell, seconded by Chairman Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of May 30, 2017 and the public and non-public minutes of June 6, 2017 as presented.

d) Sign Manifest; Abatements and Exemptions (if necessary) – There were no abatements.

7. Non-public Session: RSA 91-A:3, IId

On a motion by Chairman Oliver, seconded by Selectman Lefebvre, the Board unanimously voted by roll call to move to non-public session at 6:51 pm to discuss the Eversource divestiture. Oliver - Aye, Lefebvre – Aye, Waddell – Aye.

On a motion by Selectman Waddell, seconded by Chairman Oliver, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to come out of non-public session at pm. Oliver – Aye, Waddell - Aye.

8. Adjournment: On a motion by Chairman Oliver, seconded by Selectman Lefebvre, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at pm.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Terry Oliver

Patrick Lefebvre

Michael Waddell