Town of Gorham New Hampshire



VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE GORHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN Gorham Town Hall Public Meeting Room 2nd Floor Monday, October 26, 2020 5:00 p.m.

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

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Denise Vallee, Town Manager; and Carol Porter, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

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

Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted; (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 6:15 p.m.

3. New Business

a. Announce any action taken in Non-Public Session

None.

b. State General & Presidential Election Update

Carol Porter provided a description of how the election will take place, including the hours of operation, personnel/volunteers, and COVID precautions. Discussion was had regarding absentee ballot procedure.

c. Tax Rate Setting - Issue

Chairperson Waddell indicated that the MS-1 has been submitted. Denise Vallee noted that they have submitted their MS-434 and briefly described the process that DRA has to take regarding the submission. Discussion was had regarding tax filing timetables.

d. Health Insurance - GMR for 2021-22

Ms. Vallee noted that she had performed a comparison of health insurance coverage between the current policy and two site-of-service plans with co-pays for prescriptions. She went over her analysis, including what was taken into consideration. Discussion was had regarding the analysis.

e. Personnel Policy - Longevity

Selectman White gave an overview of the discussions being had by the Personnel Committee, including the different policies that were recently put into place and/or amended. He touched upon some challenges being faced with the current Policy, as it is written. Discussion was had regarding how and when to handle the topic of severance/longevity pay, health insurance, dental benefits, call-out pay, and the policy amendments, as a whole. Additional discussion was had regarding the Personnel Policy, as a whole, including vacation time.

f. Town Code

Ms. Vallee discussed the issues with the Town Code. Discussion was had regarding the current Town Code, including the steps and timeline that should be followed to amend it. The Board requested of Ms. Vallee to investigate utilizing a code company, and the cost involved, in order to assist with the update.

4. Old Business/Updates

a. OHRV - Signs at Route 2 Parking Lot

Ms. Vallee indicated that Chris Gamache had called her and told her that he had extended his employment with the State for an additional week to tie up any loose ends. She went over her conversation with him, including requesting relocating the Preferred Parking signs. Discussion was had regarding the current signs.

b. Cell Phone Coverage in Pinkham Notch

Chairperson Waddell spoke about a short virtual meeting wherein the consensus is a desire to find a solution to this issue. He went over some potential solutions.

c. Shelburne EMS Contract

Ms. Vallee indicated she has a 2021-2024 contract. Discussion was had regarding the contract.

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to approve the Shelburne EMS 2021-2024 Contract, as written. It was seconded by Selectman White.

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

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

5. <u>Public Comment:</u> There will be a 5-minute recess so that Public Comments can be sent in via email to townmgr@gorhamnh.org or by dialing in. Any comments received will be read. Telephonic comments should be limited to 2 minutes or less, and everyone should identify themselves.

None.

6. Other Business

a. Town Manager's Report

Halloween 2020

Ms. Vallee indicated there is no update as of right now, but for residents to keep an eye on the town's website or the Facebook page in case there are any changes posted.

b. Approve Minutes of October 19, 2020 (Regular and Non-Public Hearing)

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to accept the Minutes of the October 19, 2020 Regular and Non-Public Hearing. It was seconded by Selectman White.

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

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

c. Letters of Engagement

The Board reviewed documents concerning three pieces of property.

MOTION: Selectman White moved to accept the proposals from DTC Lawyers to represent the Town of Gorham in the BTLA for Jack and Corrine Jennings v. Town, 595 Main Street LLC v. Town, and ESW Reality v. Town. It was seconded by Selectman LeBlanc.

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

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

d. Revenue and Expense Reports

Selectman LeBlanc inquired regarding whether these reflected all of the entries, including deductions and additions and transfers to Capital Reserve Funds. Ms. Vallee responded that that would take place in December. Discussion was had regarding the reports.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Selectman White moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. It was seconded by Selectman LeBlanc.

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 LLC www.oconnorlmms.com (603) 865-1255

Minutes approved on November 9, 2020 by:

Michael Waddell, Chairman

Judith LeBlanc

Adam White