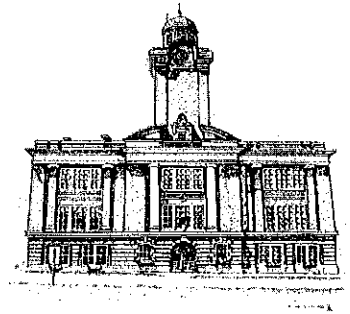


Town of Gorham New Hampshire



VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE GORHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN Gorham Town Hall Public Meeting Room 2nd Floor Monday, January 25, 2020 5:00 p.m.

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

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Denise Vallee, Town Manager

OTHERS PRESENT VIA VIDEO: Edith Tucker, Reporter, Berlin Sun

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

Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (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. (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 6:04 p.m.

3. New Business

a. **Action Taken in Nonpublic Session**

Board authorized some legal advice to be sent to the Planning Board Chair, which should take place either tomorrow or the next day, advising them on conflicts of interest.

b. **Shah Property - Settlement Agreement**

Chairperson Waddell indicated that this was regarding the Gorham Motor Inn located in the center of the village. Denise Vallee provided a quick overview regarding the agreement, noting that the new assessment is in the amount of \$700,000.

MOTION: Selectman White moved to accept the Settlement Agreement for the amount of \$700,000. It was seconded by Selectman LeBlanc.

Selectman LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman White: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

c. Mask Ordinance

Ms. Vallee indicated this was extending the same ordinance that was in effect previously, except for now it states that:

"The Ordinance shall be in effect until such date as the Governor discontinues the statewide mask ordinance."

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to extend the existing Mask Ordinance to such time as the Governor repeals the statewide mask ordinance. It was seconded by Selectman White.

Selectman LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman White: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

d. Travel Policy - Town Employees

Ms. Vallee indicated this mirrors what was in place through December 31, 2020. Discussion was had regarding the changes to the proposed Travel Policy.

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to extend the travel ban for town employees, but reduce the quarantine time to 10 days as opposed to 14 days. It was seconded by Selectman White.

Selectman LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman White: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

4. Old Business/Updates

None.

- 5. Public Comment:** There will be a 5-minute recess so that Public Comments can be sent in via email to dvallee@gorhamnh.org or by commenting during the Zoom session. Any comments received will be read.

Edith Tucker clarified if it was called Gorham Motel. Ms. Vallee responded that it's Gorham Motor Inn.

Ms. Tucker inquired whether the conflict of interest discussed previously be specified in the letter authored to the Planning Board by Town Counsel. Chairperson Waddell responded that it is all spelled out in the letter.

Ms. Tucker inquired whether we heard back from the State if they're going to have a hearing on the parking lot, to which Ms. Vallee responded no.

Ms. Tucker inquired as to when the recording will be available for playback on Town Hall Streams, to which Ms. Vallee responded that it would be uploaded by the next day.

6. Other Business

- a. Approve Minutes of December 30, 2020 (Regular and Nonpublic Meeting) and January 11, 2021 (Regular and Nonpublic Meetings)**

MOTION: Selectman White moved to approve the Minutes of December 30, 2020 regular and nonpublic meeting and January 11, 2021 regular and nonpublic meetings. It was seconded by Selectman LeBlanc.

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

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

- b. Abatements: Steven Niquette & Gorham Paper & Tissue, LLC**

Ms. Vallee indicated, with regards to Gorham Paper & Tissue, LLC, they received \$597,425.41, which was the agreed-upon amount, and there is an abatement of \$2,615.97 required for the account to start out fresh with the new owners of the mill at a zero balance. Discussion was had where the abatement amount came from.

MOTION: Selectman White moved to accept the abatement for \$2,615.97. It was seconded by Selectman LeBlanc.

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

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

Ms. Vallee indicated the next abatement, for Steven Niquette, was for \$46.12, which includes a refund of \$44.52, and \$1.60 would be applied to the remaining interest outstanding in the system. She explained that the reason for the abatement was because the owner didn't receive the notice in a timely fashion.

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to accept the abatement for Steven Niquette. It was seconded by Selectman White.

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

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

Ms. Vallee indicated there are two parcels for the Recreation Department, 27 Exchange Street and 33 Exchange Street, which is the parking lot, where the abatement is \$2,263.95 plus interest of \$1,253.79 for a total refund of \$3,517.74. She noted there isn't going to be a check, that it'll just be taken off the books. Chairperson Waddell clarified that these are leftover amounts from when the Town acquired the properties.

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to agree to the abatements on 27 Exchange Street, for \$750.71, and 33 Exchange Street, for \$3,517.74. It was seconded by Selectman White.

Selectman LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman White: Aye
Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

c. Town Manager's Report

- Ms. Vallee reminded Chairperson Waddell that he needs to give Michelle a report for the Town Report, where they will sit down and do a combination report, like last year.
- Ms. Vallee spoke about the River Maintenance Capital Reserve, indicating that it does not include consultant fees, and that they would have to change the purpose of the fund at Town Meeting for the Map Risk Flood Project. Discussion was had regarding the goals of the capital reserve, particularly addressing the berms and dikes protecting the village.
- Ms. Vallee indicated that on Friday the Governor issued another Emergency Order with respect to the Town Meeting. She went over the Emergency Order and inquired as to whether the Selectmen would like to keep their date in March. Discussion was had regarding the logistics, and trying out possible options during the Public Hearing.
- Ms. Vallee stated she received a letter from Andrew Vanikiotis, which she wanted to distribute to the Board for their review.
- Chairperson Waddell stated that the annual budget has increased roughly \$266,000, which is a little less than \$1.00 on the tax rate. He went over the items that caused the increase. He added that on the school side, there's a struggle with \$3.30 per 1,000. He explained the rationale for the amount.

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to reduce the Road Resurfacing and Reconstruction Capital Reserve account to \$200,000. It was seconded by Selectman White.

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

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

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Selectman LeBlanc moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. It was seconded by Selectman White.

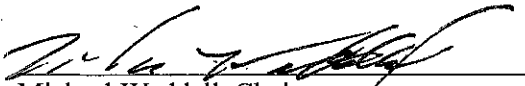
Selectman LeBlanc: Aye
Selectman White: Aye
Chairperson Waddell: Aye

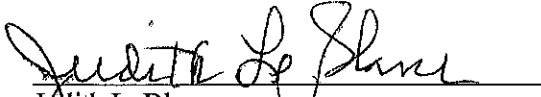
The motion carried. (3-0-0).

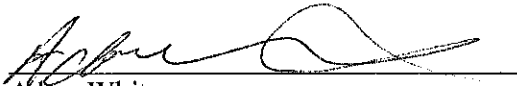
Respectfully Submitted,

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

Minutes approved on February 8, 2020 by:


Michael Waddell, Chairman


Judith LeBlanc


Adam White