



Town of Gorham New Hampshire

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GORHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Gorham Town Hall Public Meeting Room 2nd Floor
Wednesday, September 28, 2022
4:30 p.m.

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Michael Waddell; Judy LeBlanc; and Yves Zornio.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Denise Vallee, Town Manager; Phil Cloutier, Fire Chief

OTHERS PRESENT: Edith Tucker and Larry Davis

1. Non-Public Session - 4:30 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.*

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

Chairperson Waddell called the meeting to order.

3. New Business

a. Announce action, if any, taken in nonpublic session

None.

b. EMS Billing Contract - Medical Billing Services, LLC

Discussion was had regarding the fact that Medical Billing Services cost is at \$14,000.00 per year and that, if the town went with MBS, they would save approximately \$500.00 per year.

MOTION: Vice-Chair LeBlanc moved to enter into contract with BMS Medical Billing Services and to authorize Denise Vallee to sign the contract for the Town. It was seconded by Selectman Zornio.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman Zornio: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

c. Edith Tucker - Candidate for State Senate

Edith Tucker indicated that she is running for District 1. She stated that she had visited all the towns in the district and had discovered many things. She noted that she got an understanding of their needs and sees where there are improvements to be made. She stated that we could all learn from the different towns and hoped that we could all work together to improve what they all hold dear. She asked the Selectmen what their needs were.

Chairperson Waddell answered her stating jokingly that he needed a big bag of cash.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc mentioned several areas where they were focusing their energies.

Chairperson Waddell spoke of grants that they received as well as the work with the Fire Department. He continued to say that they needed to try and route excessive traffic away from residential areas.

Denise Vallee covered their grant situation. She talked about the NHDOT 10-year plans, which included sidewalk improvements and a crosswalk. She noted that additionally they are including bike lanes to the city line of Berlin. She also mentioned that they are currently working on a new website for Gorham for outdoor recreation information for the public.

Candidate Tucker stated that the towns would have a greater opportunity for more grants if all the towns would work together and help each other. She stated that they are all a valley together. She also discussed the Biomass plant and how important it was. She stated that power is a volatile subject.

The board has their photo taken with Candidate Tucker and they thanked her for coming.

d. Cemetery Deed

MOTION: Vice-Chair LeBlanc moved to approve the Cemetery Deed. It was seconded by Selectman Zornio.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman Zornio: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

4. Old Business/Updates, if any

a. Town Manager - Job Posting

Ms. Vallee announced that November 18th is the closing date for all of the postings, and they have already had one applicant. She indicated that April 1, 2023 is her retirement date.

Chairperson Waddell stated that he would like to have a selectperson attend the Department head meetings so they have some knowledge of the current projects being worked on.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc noted that she will attend the first meeting with the Department heads.

b. Howland Avenue Parking Area

Ms. Vallee stated that it is under construction and the work has begun. She noted that they have until the end of October to get that work done based on the stipulations of the Grant.

c. TM - Project Priorities

None.

d. Bronson Paradis - OT Report

The Board received the written report.

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

None.

6. **Other Business**

a. **Approve Minutes of September 8, 2022 (nonpublic and public).**

MOTION: Selectman Zornio moved to approve the Minutes of September 8, 2022 (nonpublic and public). It was seconded by Vice-Chair LeBlanc.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman Zornio: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

b. **Abatements, if any**

- Ron Belleau - 410 Main Street - 2021 & 2022 – Settlement Amount: \$400

MOTION: Vice-Chair LeBlanc moved to approve the abatements for Ron Bellow at 410 Main Street for both 2020 and 2021, totaling \$400. It was seconded by Selectman Zornio.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman Zornio: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

- Summer Fun Inc – Settlement Amount: \$12,000

MOTION: Vice-Chair LeBlanc moved to approve the abatements for Summer Fun for 2021, totaling \$12,000. It was seconded by Selectman Zornio.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman Zornio: Aye

Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

- P&L Cote – Settlement Amount: \$8,822

MOTION: Vice-Chair LeBlanc moved to approve the abatements for P&L totaling \$8,822. It was seconded by Selectman Zornio.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye

Selectman Zornio: Aye
Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

c. Town Manager's Report

- Limitless Playground - Ms. Vallee indicated that the grant was approved by the National Park Service and that it's on its way to Governor and Council for final award. She cautioned that there is still a lengthy process to go through before construction can begin.
- BDS Waste Disposal Notice - Ms. Vallee stated that their prices jumped to \$7 for disposal of two tires.
- Letter of Commendation for Officer PJ - Ms. Vallee summarized that Officer PJ had deescalated an armed individual. She noted that he responded to a missing dog call and has been tirelessly searching for the dog, as well as responded to a call from a woman whose husband recently passed away. She concluded that his behavior as a Police Officer is exemplary.

d. Other

- Discussion ensued regarding salaries for employees for various jobs, revenue, and transfer station and safety issues.
- Larry Davis was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work cleaning up and maintaining the road sides and trails in and around the Town of Gorham.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Selectman Zornio moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Vice-Chair LeBlanc.

Vice-Chair LeBlanc: Aye
Selectman Zornio: Aye
Chairperson Waddell: Aye

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

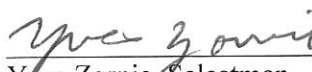
Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Morgan, Recording Secretary
O'Connor Legal, Medical & Media Services Inc.
www.oconnorlmms.com

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on October 13, 2022:


Michael Waddell, Chairman


Judith LeBlanc, Vice-Chair


Yves Zornio, Selectman