

# **Town of Gorham**

## **Planning Board Minutes**

### **June 15, 2023**

**Members Present:** Paul Robitaille (Chairman), Michael Waddell (Ex-Officio)(Selectman), Reuben Rajala, Earl McGillicuddy, Robert Gargano, and Dennis Pednault.

**Members Excused:** Abby Evankow and Brian Ruel.

**Members Absent:** Dan Buteau

**Members of the Public:** Victoria Hill (Board Secretary) Tara Bamford, (Remote) Allen and Kyle Pike.

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at by Chairman Robitaille at 6:30pm

**Review and Accept Minutes:** On a motion from Dennis Pednault with a second from Mike Waddell the board voted to approve minutes as presented from May 18, 2023. All members voted in favor except Earl McGillicuddy and Rueben Rajala abstained.

#### **New Business:**

Conceptual Consultation: Allen Pike 95 Main St. U5-19. Allen Pike and his son are looking at to purchase the vacant lot and they have a few concerns. They asked about curb cut possibilities, parking/driveway potential. They expressed no distinct plans. The board informed the applicants they will need to site plan review, the planning board can allow off-site parking and that the setbacks for parking are 1 ft.

#### **Old Business:**

HOP Grant update- Tara Bamford- Planning Board Consultant shared an update on the HOP grant. Currently, Kaela, from NCC, and the team are requesting information from local landlords. They would like to interview local landlords.

Tara reviewed the list of items the Board has discussed working on at some point. The list includes driveway regulations/permitting, review and update the by-laws and rules of procedures, sexual orientated businesses and if NHMA advises any changes on STR regulations based on Conway case..

Mr. Robitaille would like to increase the scope of work for Tara Bamford. Mr. Waddell suggested that the Board create a budget and submit this to the selectmen for review.

Tara has spoken with Carl Venezia, an owner of 1 Exchange St. After a lengthy discussion Earl McGillicuddy made a motion, with a second from Bob Gargano, to send a letter from the Planning Board the Selectmen in support of a Life Safety Inspection order at 1 Exchange St by local and state officials as soon as possible. The members of the board have expressed concern that the building is occupied and is not up to code. All members voted in favor except Mike Waddell due to his position as a selectman. Earl McGillicuddy made a motion, seconded by Robert Gargano, to approve the letter to be signed by Mr. Robitaille as the chairman of the Planning Board. All members voted in favor except Mike Waddell due to his position as a selectman.

**Public Comment: Next Meeting – July 20, 2023**

Victoria, the Planning Board Clerk, shared building permit and STR rental application data. The number of applications has had a large increase over 2022. STR applications, in residential areas, have remained the same.

**Adjournment** – On a motion from Dennis Pednault, with a second Robert Gargano, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:00 pm by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Hill

Planning and Zoning Board Clerk

Approved July 20, 2023

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