

**TOWN OF GILFORD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2017
7:00 PM
GILFORD TOWN HALL**

1.0 NON PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:30 pm Selectman Benavides made a motion to enter into non-public session to discuss personnel issues pursuant to Per RSA 91-A: 3, II, (a) and (b). Motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor; (2-0). Present: Selectmen Richard Grenier and Gus Benavides. Also present Town Administrator Scott Dunn.

Town Administrator Scott Dunn informed the Board that a Police Officer has resigned. The Police Chief is seeking permission to advertise to fill the vacancy. Discussion ensued. It was a consensus of the Board to approve.

With the resignation of a part time employee in the Town Clerk-Tax Collectors Office, Town Clerk-Tax Collector Denise Gonyer is seeking permission to hire Gayle Cook (who is currently a volunteer and has worked for the Town before) to the part-time position at \$15.68 per hour effective 01/23/17. Discussion ensued. Selectmen Benavides made a motion to approve the hiring of Gayle Cook to the part-time position at \$15.68 per hour effective 01/23/17 as presented; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

There was a request from Public Works Director Peter Nourse for meritorious pay for one of his Truck Drivers including a synopsis of the event leading to the request. Selectman Benavides made a motion to approve the request and would like to invite the employee to a meeting and acknowledge his act publicly; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

At 6:55 pm Selectmen Benavides made a motion to come out of non-public session; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 7:00 pm Chairman Grenier convened the public session of the Board of Selectmen in the 1st floor conference room and led the assembly with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Board members in attendance were: Selectman Richard Grenier and Selectman Gus Benavides.

Staff members in attendance were: Public Works Director Peter Nourse, Fire Chief Stephen Carrier, Police Chief Anthony Bean Burpee, Police Lieutenant James Leach, Town Clerk Tax Collector Denise Gonyer, Town Administrator Scott Dunn and Executive Assistant Angela Bovill.

3.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

The Chairman read the rules of the meeting and announced there will be a Budget Committee Public Hearing on the Town and School Budgets on 1/12/17 at 7 pm @ Gilford High School. All Town Offices and the Library will be closed Monday, January 16, 2017 for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

4.0 REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Grenier asked if there were any changes to the minutes. There were none. Selectman Benavides made a motion to approve the minutes of December 21, 2016 as presented; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Selectman Benavides made a motion to approve the items previously signed during the period December 19, 2016 through January 6, 2017 as listed (attached hereto): seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

6.0 APPOINTMENTS

Superintendent of Schools Kirk Beitler reported he has been on board since July of 2017 and that in July the Gilford School Board developed goals for the year starting with student learning and the common standards based curriculum which he explained in detail. Superintendent Beitler said they are also working with families and communities to provide information, programs, interventions and supports for the health and well being of students in the District. As part of resource management the focus is on developing staffing, capital improvement and resource needs/allocation plans. Mr. Beitler spoke to the safety and facilities goal and Phase 2 of the Gilford Elementary School infrastructure, security assessment and entry protocols to name a few. The School Board has successfully negotiated a tentative agreement with the teachers union and put together a fiscally responsible budget for the 2017-2018 school year. Superintendent Beitler answered the Board's questions. The Selectmen thanked Mr. Beitler for his update.

7.0 OLD BUSINESS

Town Administrator Scott Dunn gave the Board Draft #4 of the 2017 warrant and reported that yesterday (1/10/17) was the deadline to submit warrant articles. Mr. Dunn directed the Board to Article #9 relative to the Fire Truck purchase and the \$200,000 from the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Mr. Dunn explained that per RSA, the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) will only allow use of these funds for the last payment (instead of the first payment as planned). Town Administrator Scott Dunn would like to pay \$50,000 for the first year from fund balance and then the last payment will be made using Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund of \$200,000. There was a consensus to approve.

Article #20 was to raise and appropriate funding for Genesis for \$21,000 in support of Genesis Behavioral Health for delivery of Emergency Mental Health Services. Discussion ensued. Selectman Benavides made a motion to not recommend; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

New Beginnings submitted a petition warrant article for \$2,630. It was submitted with 24 successful signatures, they were one short and had indicated that more were forthcoming; they never submitted. Administrator Dunn said he spoke with the VNA Hospice to ask if they would be submitting a warrant article as usual. They said due to new staff, etc. this was unfortunately overlooked this year.

Article #21 is a new petition warrant article for the Board to review regarding elected officials of the Town also serving at the State and Federal Level. Discussion ensued. Selectman Benavides made a motion to not recommend; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0). It was also the consensus of the Board not to seek a legal opinion on this article.

Article # 22 added the length of road (200').

Article #11 to raise and appropriate \$525,000 for phase II of the Town Hall Improvement project was not recommended by the Budget Committee. Town Administrator Scott Dunn plans to present this at the public hearing on 01/12/17 with updated information/numbers for the HVAC systems to ask the Budget Committee to reconsider approval.

Lastly, Article #23, Noise Ordinance, section 17.7 (d) regarding enforcement was removed as recommended by the Towns Legal Counsel.

Item 7.2, Potter Hill Road was tabled.

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

Public Works Director Peter Nourse submitted a request for extension of the Road Reconstruction contract for 2017 with Wolcott Construction. Discussion ensued. Selectman Benavides made a motion to approve the request as presented noting that this 2017 contract is at 2015 contract prices; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

Town Administrator Scott Dunn discussed Memo of Understanding (MOU) between The Town of Gilford and the City of Laconia regarding the Black Brook Pump Station Power Expense Cost Sharing. Public Works Director Peter Nourse recommends approval. Discussion ensued. Selectman Benavides made a motion to approve the MOU as presented and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

Town Administrator Dunn explained the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation Fuel Distribution System User agreement from Finance Director Glen Waring for the various departments. Selectman Benavides made a motion to approve the NHDOT Fuel Distribution Agreements as presented; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

Mr. John Morgenstern submitted a formal letter of resignation from his position on the Planning Board and from the Lake Region Planning Commission as Gilford's representative with an effective date of January 25, 2017. Selectman Benavides made a motion to accept the resignation of Mr. John Morgenstern effective 01/25/17 with deep regret and appreciation for all that he has done; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

Item 8.5, Appointment to fill Planning Board vacancy was tabled.

Town Administrator Scott Dunn reviewed the Reimbursement of Property Tax Interest Change request he received from Town Clerk Tax Collector Denise Gonyer. This request was due to the passing of the property owner. Selectman Benavides made a motion to approve the request for a \$42.19 abatement as presented; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

Town Administrator Dunn explained that an RFP went out to solicit bids for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Administrator. Mr. Dunn is recommending the proposal from Donna Lane. Discussion ensued. Selectman Benavides made a motion to accept the proposal from Donna Lane in the amount of \$9,000; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

Town Administrator Dunn explained the Status of Access Easement to the Recycle Center that was brought to his attention by Steve Smith following a Planning Board meeting where Selectman Grenier expressed his concern over the lack of a formal road layout connecting Rt. 11-C with the Town's Recycle Center. The Town currently has a deeded easement but it does not describe the exact location. The Board felt that it would be good to clear this up. It was the consensus of the Board for the Town Administrator Dunn to begin the process of layout.

9.0 OTHER BUSINESS

An updated letter from Mr. Jan Buitendag was submitted to the Board along with an Outdoor Event Application for the Continuation of a Triathlon in Gilford on August 12th and 13th. He is requesting use of the Gilford Town Beach for all three events for those two days. The original proposal was thought

to be for one morning only. Selectman Benavides asked if the applicant was present. He was not. The Board is not very willing to give up the Town beach for 2 days in the prime time of summer although they feel it is admirable to try to continue this event. Discussion ensued and to be fair, the Board would like Administrator Dunn to contact Mr. Buitendag to invite him to the 01/25/17 Selectmen's meeting to give him the opportunity to speak, reiterating that they are not in favor.

Town Administrator Scott Dunn explained that at the 12/07/16 the Selectmen approved a donation of a parcel of land (.83 acres at 48 Hedgewood Circle); that donation has been recanted but a purchase price of \$3,000 that matches the appraisal is on the table. The Conservation Commission will be holding a public hearing on 01/17/17 to address the purchase for \$3,000 from the Land Conservation Fund. Town Administrator Dunn wanted to bring this to the Boards attention to see if they wanted to revisit the vote based on this new information. Discussion ensued. Selectman Benavides made a motion to go along with the recommendation of the Conservation Commission to purchase the property from the Land Conservation Fund for \$3,000; seconded by Selectman Grenier for discussion. Selectman Grenier asked if this was a substandard lot. Yes it is. Selectman Grenier called the vote; motion failed. Further discussion ensued and concluded with what better way to use a substandard lot than for conservation. Selectmen Benavides made the motion to approve as presented; seconded from Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).

10.00 PUBLIC INPUT

Karen Thurston, School Board member asked if when one Selectmen speaks if they are speaking on for themselves or on behalf of the full Board. Discussion ensued and she expressed her displeasure for Selectman Grenier voting against the cost items associated with the School Boards tentative bargaining agreement with the Teachers Union as an alternate member of the budget committee last night. She would have appreciated the support of the Selectman. Town Administrator Scott Dunn also noted the School Board member representative on the Budget Committee, Chris McDonough voted against the Phase II renovations for Town Hall.

Attorney Patrick Wood asked the Board if they had any questions that he could answer regarding the petition warrant article for road discontinuance of a portion of Locke's Hill Road. There were none.

Andrew Howe asked Town Administrator Scott Dunn if farming will be exempt from the Noise Ordinance. Answer=Yes.

11.0 SELECTMEN'S ISSUES

Selectman Benavides was contacted by a former Town resident (who now resides in Stewartstown, NH) and read an their email regarding the Northern Pass and stopping the power companies from trying to gain authority allowing use of Town highway Right of Ways for utility use.

Selectmen Grenier asked Town Administrator Scott Dunn to schedule another visit to the Town of New Castle regarding a follow up on the Fire Boat.

12.0 ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Town Administrator Scott Dunn announced that there was no warrant article submitted for the Candlelight Stroll and this event will not take place in 2017. This is a big project and they do not have enough volunteers. It's a lot of work for the few that prepare this event.


13.0 NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Monday January 16th at 7:00 pm and Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Selectmen, Selectman Benavides made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm; seconded by Selectman Grenier and passed with all in favor; (2-0).


Respectfully submitted,



Angela A. Bovill, Executive Assistant

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on the 25th day of JANUARY, 2017.

Attest:



Selectman Gus Benavides, Clerk