

GOFFSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMAN
MEETING OF JANUARY 4, 2016

In attendance were Chairman Peter Georgantas, Vice Chairman Mark Lemay, Selectman Collis Adams, Selectman Scott Gross and Town Administrator Sue Desruisseaux.

Absent: Selectman Allen Brown.

6:00 PM CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Georgantas.

The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Selectman Adams said he had a couple of corrections. On page 4, the 5th paragraph, it reads Selectman Adam instead of Adams. That is important to differentiate between Adam Jacobs, DPW Director. It is twice in that paragraph.

Selectman Gross made a motion to accept the public and non-public minutes as amended to the meeting of December 21, 2015. Selectman Adams seconded the motion. VOTE: 3-0-1. Vice Chairman Lemay abstained. Motion carries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Georgantas said the Goffstown Department of Public Works announces road construction on Mast Road/Route 114 and Henry Bridge Road on January 4th to January 7th. Crews will be working on installing signals at the Rail Trail crossings. Single lane alternating traffic will be necessary at times. Please expect delays. This notice will be posted on the Town's website www.goffstown.com. Go to Traffic Alerts. Please contact Eric Gustafson, Goffstown Engineering Technician, with any questions at 603-497-3617, ext. 227. Thank you for your patience.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Selectmen Meeting Schedule

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said there is a meeting of the EDC on Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Selectman Gross said he would attend. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said the Transportation Committee meets Friday at 3 pm. Chairman Georgantas said he would be there.

Consensus Folder

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said there is a Fire Department E-911 Operation Data Form. There is a Medical Resource Agreement with CMC. There is also a Possession Procedures for Controlled Substances Agreement with CMC. These are annual.

Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to approve the Consensus folder and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreements. Selectman Adams seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

Assessor's Recommendations

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said there is a recommended intent to cut for Map 10, Lot 30-3. There is an abatement application for Map 4, Lot 53-D. It is recommended. Recommended 2015 Tax Year Abatements are Map 16, Lot 117A, Map 16, Lot 118, Map 16, Lot 225-1 and Map 17, Lot 220-A. There is also a recommended Veteran's Tax Credit for Map 10, Lot 8-2.

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Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to accept the Assessor's recommendations. Selectman Gross seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

Appointment of Library Trustee

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said the Library Trustees recommend the appointment of Steve Bouchard as an alternate Library Trustee until 3/31/16.

Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to accept the recommendation of the appointment of Steve Bouchard as alternate Library Trustee until 3/31/16. Selectman Adams seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT—there was no public comment at 6:10 pm.

Draft Annual Warrant

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said at Tab 4e in the packets is a draft of the 2016 Annual Warrant for the Board's review and comment. Article 1 will be the candidates. Articles 2-12 will be the zoning articles. We will start with Article 13, which by statute has to be an appropriate article because it's a bond. The Selectman's bond hearing is the same night as the Budget committee public hearing, but at 6 pm. That is the \$2.3 million bond for the Church Street Fire Station. She hasn't run them by DRA or the Town attorney yet. She wanted them (BOS) to have the first look at the draft warrant. Article 14 is the operating budget article and has a lot of blanks because we usually fill them in after the Budget Committee Public Hearing. Article 15 is a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teamsters for certain employees at Public Works. Those are still blanks. We are hoping this week they can conclude on their agreement. Then she would have something to give them Monday night to approve. That is the drop dead day. Article 16 is an agreement with the Professional Fire Fighters. This is a place finder. We got the Fact Finder's report in today and it is being reviewed by both sides. It is a non-public document for 10 days. The deadline is next Tuesday if it's an appropriation article.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Article 17 is the \$225,000 for the Fire Department Apparatus Reserve Fund. This is to come from fund balance and no amount is to be raised by taxation. Chairman Georgantas suggested including the date this was established to show it's been there for a while.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Article 18 is for \$280,000 for the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and jaws-of-life for the Fire Department. It is to be raised from fund balance and no amount is to be raised by taxation. Chairman Georgantas said it reads to "raise and appropriate." Isn't it already raised if it's coming out of a fund balance? Town Administrator Desruisseaux said it is DRA language.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Article 19 is to see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$230,000 for an ambulance. This is to come from the EMS Revenue Fund and no amount is to be raised by taxation. Article 20 is to see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$250,000 for the Road Improvement Program. This language came out of the 2012 article. "Passage of this article will direct the Selectmen to include this amount in future default operating budgets of the Town of Goffstown beginning in 2016. This appropriation is in addition to Article 14, which has \$845,000 budgeted for road reclamation, resurfacing, and crack sealing of roads." She said it

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could just end after “Article 14.” The difficult part is knowing how much to add to it. So if it’s all in one place, then when you do the 2016 default you would add the \$845,000 and the \$250,000. Selectman Adams said including it makes it transparent. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said at one point our road plan was \$2 million. This shows how much it has gone down. Selectman Gross said he thinks we have to include it. People may not be aware of it, and for transparency purposes.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Article 21 is to see if the Town will raise \$20,000 to support the Goffstown Main Street Program. This appropriation is in addition to Article 14. That has been standard language. Do you want to put the date that started? Chairman Georgantas said there should be something to show this has been an ongoing program. Selectman Adams said it would be included as background information in the Voter’s Guide.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Article 22 is to see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$20,000 to support the programs of Goffstown’s non-profit Crispin’s House—a youth drug, alcohol and suicide prevention program. This is in addition to Article 14. She would like to send it off to Crispin’s House to make sure they still provide all that is included. Selectman Adams asked why we provide this level of detail in this article for \$20,000 and not the same level of detail for the Main Street Program for the same amount. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said it’s a newer program. Selectman Gross said a lot of people don’t know what the Main Street Program is. Maybe it should be beefed up. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said she would cut down on the Crispin’s House article and add a little to the Main Street article. Selectman Gross suggested ending Article 22 after “suicide prevention program.” Chairman Georgantas said the rest would go in the Voter’s Guide.

Selectman Gross said when we have our budget hearings and we go through these articles, he recalls people would speak on behalf of Main Street Program. Chairman Georgantas said at the Deliberative Session the Budget Committee presents the article. Selectman Gross asked if we should be asking them for a baseline type of budget because the townspeople are contributing to their program. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said they present to the Budget Committee. Chairman Georgantas said it is less than ¼ of their budget. They have several different funding sources. Selectman Gross asked if their information could be made available. If we are putting it on the warrant, we should be asking them to provide it. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said she would see what they provided to the Budget Committee. It would be helpful information in the Voter’s Guide.

Selectman Adams compared Article 21 to Article 22. He said Article 21 is for the purposes of supporting while Article 22 is for the purposes of helping to support. We should change Article 21 to read, “for the purpose of helping to support.” Town Administrator Desruisseaux said it would reflect it is for purposes of helping with their budget.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Article 23 is to see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$15,000 for the purposes of supporting Goffstown Waterway Association and Namaske Lake Association efforts to manage milfoil. This will assist in meeting match grants from NHDES and other sources. Selectman Gross said the same change should be made to have it read “for the purpose of helping to support.”

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Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Article 24 is to see if the Town will adopt RSA 41:9-a to authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish and amend fees following procedures outlined in the statute. This is the housekeeping amendment. Selectman Gross asked if this is done every year. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said no. This should say it is until rescinded. In 1992 or 1993 the laws changed. They grouped the authority to establish fees all in one RSA. It should have been done at that time but it was missed. It's basically housekeeping. Now you will have just one reference for fees. Selectman Gross said if it should fail, we'd still have the ability to set fees. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said they would, in the other statutes. This was the Legislature's way of consolidating it.

Selectman Adams said the signature block at the end is wrong. Chairman Georgantas asked if anything would be included about the Sewer. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said she's not received anything in writing but has heard talk of Sewer becoming a department of the Town, and the efficiencies that may be gained from doing that. The warrant has to be posted by the last Monday in January. Chairman Georgantas said we could have them in next week. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said she would invite them in. There will be no money tied to this. You would still keep it as a separate Sewer Fund.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Article 25 is a petitioned article to see if the Town will urge the next President and Congress to fight big money politics, and restore the government of, for and by the people, by championing the "We the People" agenda. It has a list of six items. The record of the vote would be transmitted by written notice to the NH Congressional Delegation and to Goffstown's state legislators, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents by the Selectmen within 30 days of the vote. Chairman Georgantas said it is a petitioned article and we can't do anything with it.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said you would vote on January 18th, after hearing the Budget Committee. They have scheduled their vote for January 14th, the day after their public hearing, unless they need it as a snow date for the public hearing. Then she will put in the tally votes and the Selectman can sign it that night. She will get the dollar figures from the Budget Committee Public Hearing and insert those. There is a \$5,000 reduction that needs to be made for Sewer. They only deducted \$50,000 and it was supposed to be \$55,000. Chairman Georgantas said they would fix that.

SELECTMEN DISCUSSION

Committee Reports:

Historic District Commission

Selectmen Lemay said they discussed the Grasmere Town Hall fire escapes, and are moving forward with those. The HDC took action with a couple of companies to do the work. They will fix the fire escape doors and they will transfer the hardware so they will have the correct door at the correct place to match everything. They will fill in three windows for the fire separation needed for safe evacuation.

New Business: There was no new business.

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Old Business:

Action Matrix

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said we have the Media Policy. She will draft language to authorize elected or appointed officials to be designated by the Board of Selectmen. This is to manage social media pages. We will schedule the Sewer Commissioners for next week.

Chairman Georgantas asked about a meeting with the EDC. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said we don't have the completed reports from the EDSTAT review. She's not sure when they are expecting them. That would be the next time we should meet with them—to review those results. Vice Chairman Lemay asked if the sign is up on Route 114. No one had seen it yet.

Chairman Georgantas confirmed that Selectman Adams would be working on the issues with the Planning Board in 2016. Selectman Adams said he would be. Chairman Georgantas said he's seen nothing on GTV about 03045. We need to continue to push that public awareness campaign to remind people. Town Administrator Desruisseaux suggested putting it in Nixle also. Selectman Adams said now that the Planning Board has wrapped up their Zoning Ordinance amendments, they'll start work on the Development Regulations. He did forward Barbara Griffin's letter to Town Administrator Desruisseaux relative to the DOT mitigation funds. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said she will use that as a basis to draft a letter for the Chairman to sign next week.

Chairman Georgantas asked about the dam and a possible grant. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said that is why you didn't see it in an article here. We have spent enough in design and other things to meet our match. So we didn't need to raise and appropriate any money by a special article this year. Chairman Georgantas said if we get the grant, we're all set. If we don't, we'll have to bring it back next year.

The Board took a break from 6:25 to 6:30 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING - Accepting Executory Interest in a Conservation Easement for approximately 60 acres on Map 12, Lot 6-3 off Montelona Road

Chairman Georgantas opened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Georgantas said in compliance with RSA 41:14-a, the Selectmen announced public hearings to be held on January 4, 2016 and January 18, 2016, starting at 6:30 pm, at Town Hall, 16 Main Street, Goffstown, NH to accept an Executory Interest in a Conservation Easement for approximately 60 acres on Map 12, Lot 6-3 off Montelona Road. The Selectmen plan to vote on January 25, 2016. Any person with a disability who needs reasonable accommodations can call Town Hall at 497-8990 ext 100 at least 72 hours in advance to make arrangements. The legal notice was posted in the Manchester Union Leader.

David Nieman, from the Conservation Commission, said this is Map 12, Lot 6-3. Carrie and Tim Finke of Montelona Road, Goffstown, are donating a 59 acre permanent conservation easement on their 61.5 acre property to the Piscataquog Land Conservancy. The Goffstown Conservation Commission will contribute toward project costs in return for an executory

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easement to the Town of Goffstown. Both the Goffstown Conservation Commission and Planning Board recommend the Board of Selectmen accept the executory interest in the easement. A permanent conservation easement will be placed on the property to preserve its open space conditions. The easement's purposes will be: to protect the water quality of surface and ground water resources; to protect natural habitats including vernal pools and wetlands; to provide the general public low impact recreational access and scenic enjoyment; and to conserve the property's forest lands. The PLC will monitor the property annually and will enforce the easement restrictions in perpetuity. So the project does include a \$10,000 stewardship endowment contribution. The site is 100% within a Tier I Merrimack Valley Regional Strategic Conservation Plan focus area. It contains both sides of 1,700 feet of Purgatory Brook and 2,000 feet of another tributary. It contains 11 acres of wetlands and beaver ponds. There is 80% or 47 acres designated as Tier I under the NH Wildlife Action Plan, which is their highest ranking category, with both blundings and wood turtles documented within a mile of the site. The project is part of an overall effort in this area that includes 210 acres of protected land plus an ongoing 101 acre project known as the Black Brook Preserve. These are all in very close proximity to one another. He offered copies of the maps for the Board to see.

This property, as well as other conservation land, plays an important role in flood water storage and filtering of waters entering Black Brook. This area is one of the Town's most flood prone so we also have a strong economic reason to preserve the wetland systems that are buffering Black Brook. They are very important in retaining flood waters. The Conservation Commission has already held a public hearing and voted to fund expenses from the Land Use Change Tax Conservation fund. The value of the easement is a 100% donation by the family, leaving only expenses associated with conveying the easement. Since he last appeared before the Selectmen to tell them about this, the PLC also received a partnership grant to pay for half of those expenses. They received a grant for \$13,875, which leaves a balance of about \$13,800 to be paid for by the Conservation funds. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said this has been recommended by the Planning Board also.

There was no public comment.

The public hearing was closed at 6:34 pm.

6:35 pm Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (b) hiring and (c) adversely affects reputation. Selectman Adams seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Georgantas-aye; Vice Chairman Lemay-aye; Selectman Adams-aye; Selectman Gross-aye. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

6:55 pm Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to exit non-public session. Selectman Gross seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to seal the minutes to the non-public session. Selectman Gross seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Georgantas-aye; Vice Chairman Lemay-aye; Selectman Adams-aye; Selectman Gross-aye. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

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PUBLIC HEARING - change in fees for Parks and Recreation Programs

Chairman Georgantas opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Georgantas read the notice for the public hearing: "The Goffstown Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing for increases in 2016 Parks & Recreation program fees Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7 pm at Town Hall, 16 Main Street, Goffstown, NH.

Youth Basketball League – Resident from \$30.00 to \$40.00 / Non Res. \$40.00 to \$50.00

Youth Lacrosse League – Resident from \$65.00 to \$75.00 / Non Res. \$75.00 to \$85.00

Men's 18 Plus Basketball – Resident from \$70.00 to \$80.00 / Non Res. \$80.00 to \$90

Any person with a disability who needs reasonable accommodations can call Town Hall at 497-8990, ext 100 at least 72 hours in advance to make arrangements." The legal notice was posted in the Manchester Union Leader.

Parks & Recreation Director Wilhelmi said the Commissioners review these fees on an annual basis. For the past two years we've not seen an increase in youth basketball or youth lacrosse fees. Looking at fees of other communities, we thought it reasonable to raise these fees by \$10. Selectman Gross said there are several other programs and the Commissioners decided not to change those. The reason for increasing the fees for basketball and lacrosse is that, in looking at other communities, these fees are still substantially lower. It's minor compared to what other communities are charging.

There was no public comment and the public hearing was closed at 7:04 pm.

Selectman Gross made a motion to move forward with the increase in Parks & Recreation program fees as outlined in the legal notice. Vice Chairman Lemay seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

7:05 pm Selectman Adams made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Lemay seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Labrecque
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Board on 1/11/16 with no corrections.