

GOFFSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 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 made a motion to approve the public and non-public minutes to the Board of Selectmen meeting of January 4, 2016. Vice Chairman Lemay seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Georgantas said the Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at Town Hall on January 19, 2016 from 7 to 7:30 pm for new voter registration and to update the checklist. Change of address changes can be made at this time. No change in party registrations may be accepted due to the Presidential Primary on February 9, 2016. If you are registering to vote, please bring a photo ID, proof of date of birth, and residence address. Anyone not born in the United States must also bring proof of citizenship. Anyone with a disability who needs to be provided a reasonable accommodation in order to participate, please call Town Hall at 497-8990 ext 100 at least 72 hours in advance so arrangements can be made.

Chairman Georgantas read the list of candidate openings for the coming election: Selectmen: 2 for 3 years; Budget Committee: 4 for 3 years, 2 for 2 years, and 1 for 1 year; Cemetery Trustee: 1 for 3 years; Library Trustee: 2 for 3 years and 1 for 1 year; Planning Board: 2 for 3 years; Sewer Commission: 1 for 3 years and 1 for 2 years; Supervisor of the Checklist: 1 for 6 years and 1 for 2 years; Town Moderator: 1 for 2 years; Trustee of the Trust Funds: 1 for 3 years; Zoning Board of Adjustment: 2 for 3 years; School Board members: 3 for 3 years. These official openings are as of January 4, 2016. Future resignations of elected officials may add to candidate openings through the business day of January 19, 2016. Candidate filing opens at the Town Clerk's Office Wed., January 20th, during regular Town Hall business hours, and ends Friday, January 29th at 5:00 pm. Candidates filing on the last filing day must appear in person.

USE OF FACILITY AT PINARDVILLE FIRE STATION

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said they have representatives from the Christie campaign here this evening. They are wanting to use the facility upstairs at the Pinardville Fire Station from 9 to 10:30 am. That facility is listed on our facility use form. There is a slight fee for that. It is \$15.00 per hour. The Chief has checked and there is nothing scheduled so he has signed off on it. We are just waiting for this Board to sign off on it. She has the certificate of insurance that was emailed to them.

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Selectman Gross said regardless of party affiliation, our town facilities are open to any candidate for use. It is part of our policy to treat everyone fairly and consistently.

Selectman Gross made a motion to approve the request. Selectman Adams seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Selectmen's Meeting Schedule

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said the Sewer Commission meets Tuesday at 6 pm. Wednesday at 6 pm is the Selectman's Bond Hearing at the GHS auditorium regarding the Fire Station. The Fire Chief will present about the bond. If he doesn't cover the fact, the Selectmen will cover the fact that this is good timing for the bond. We are retiring two bonds this year. The bond payment won't come about until 2017 and it's less than we are paying now. The Budget Committee Public hearing is at GHS auditorium on Wednesday at 7 pm. Thursday at 6 pm is the snow date for the Budget Public Hearing. If not needed the Budget Committee will meet to vote their recommendations. Selectman Adams said there is a Planning Board meets Thursday at 7 pm.

Consensus Folder

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said there is a Temporary License for a private storm water connection on Map 15, Lot 103.

Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to accept the revocable license for the private storm water connection. Selectman Gross seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

Assessor's Recommendations

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said there is a recommended Release of Elderly and Disabled Tax Deferral Lien for Map 35, Lot 17. Solar Energy Systems Exemptions are recommended for Map 34, Lot 175. Veteran's Tax Credits are recommended for Map 8, Lot 40-37, Map 14, Lot 43-1 and Map 29, Lot 56. Veteran's Tax Credits are recommended for Map 11, Lot 19 and Map 11, Lot 19. This is not a repeat. There are two property owners and each owner of this property qualifies for this credit.

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

Out-of-State Training Request

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said there is a request for the IT Administrator to attend a Virtual Technology User's Group seminar in Foxboro, MA on January 21, 2016. The Seminar is free. The only cost is lodging and mileage. She recommends this as a low cost method of keeping up with the latest technology. It's a one day conference that starts early in the morning. That is why he stays over the night before.

Selectman Gross made a motion to approve the request for out-of-state travel to the Virtual Technology User's Group seminar. Selectman Adams seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

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

Draft Amendments to Social Media Policy

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said, as requested by the Board, enclosed in their packet is a draft with the amendment highlighted under Section II.4. This would allow a designated or elected official appointed by the Board to maintain the social media page when there is no staff to do it. Also included is a prior resolution of the Board under Section II.2.

Chairman Georgantas asked if this is the one with the change he asked about. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said she didn't make that change. The reason for Section III.3 is because they don't want to allow any media in until family is informed in the event of an accident. Chairman Georgantas addressed the last portion of the last sentence about the "department head or the designee." That is for the various departments as they do their social media. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said the social media page for Parks & Recreation was set up and got 100 likes today. Chairman Georgantas said a department can still post pictures as long as the department head or their designee approves it. Selectman Gross said the intent is that the safety and security of the public is not compromised. If it is an excavator or the road or kids swimming in a pool its fine, with the appropriate sign off.

Selectman Gross made a motion to approve the amended Social Media Policy as drafted. Vice Chairman Lemay seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

Draft Annual Warrant

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said enclosed in the Selectmen's packets at 4f is the revised draft annual warrant which will be completed with the numbers for the operating budget after the Budget Committee Public Hearing this week. For Wednesday night she'll put in what they decided to go forward with. Article 13 is the bond article for \$2.3 million. Article 14 is the operating budget. At this point, Article 15 will probably go away. She's not heard of any tentative agreement with Teamsters. Article 16 will be discussed at a non-meeting later. It appears we have a tentative agreement and will give you the details after the meeting. We will recess this meeting so you can come back in and vote. Article 17 is the Capital Reserve Fund for the Fire Department apparatus. It is \$225,000 coming from fund balance. It doesn't raise taxes.

Article 18 is \$280,000 for the self-contained breathing apparatus and jaws-of-life. It comes from the fund balance also. We added the phrase "established in 2008" to Article 17 as you asked for. Chairman Georgantas said it was to make sure everyone knew it was something that was continuing. Article 19 is the replacement ambulance. It is for \$230,000 and comes from the EMS Special Revenue Fund. No amount will be raised by taxation. Article 20 is to add \$250,000 to Goffstown's Road Improvement Program.

Selectman Gross asked if, in Article 19, they wanted to add the year that it was established. Chairman Georgantas said it's been around a long time. We can do that. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said she would look it up. Selectman Gross said he likes the idea because it shows

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we have a plan. We are trying to put money away so we don't have an impact. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said they may someday want to look at making the EMS Special Revenue Fund a revolving fund. Then it's not part of your budget. Chairman Georgantas said it is late now. We can do that next year.

Article 21 is for \$20,000 for the purpose of helping support Goffstown Main Street Program. We repeated that in Article 22 for Crispin's House--\$20,000 for the purpose of helping to support them. We shortened that up by ending it after "suicide prevention agency." Article 23 is for \$15,000 for the purpose of helping to support the Goffstown Waterways Association and Namaske Lake Association. Article 24 is to see if the Town will adopt RSA 41:9-a to authorize the Selectmen to establish and amend fees following the procedures outlined in that statute. After last week's meeting, the clause "such authority in effect until rescinded" was added at the end. Article 25 is a petitioned article to get big money out of politics. These numbers will change when we delete Article 15. They had until the end of the business day today. Budget submission deadline is tomorrow, but you would have had to vote on it tonight because you aren't voting tomorrow.

SELECTMEN'S DISCUSSION

Committee Reports:

EDC

Selectman Gross said he attended that meeting. They talked about their goals for 2016. The "Welcome to Goffstown" sign is hopefully being installed this week. The foundation has already been done. It's just a matter of the installation. The realtor forum will be held on February 10th, if you want to attend that meeting. They also expressed a desire to continue the quarterly meetings with the Board of Selectmen. They also expressed a desire to have one or two meetings per year in Pinardville. They could fill out the facility use form and get with the Fire Chief about having it at the Fire Station. The EDSAT presentation will be sometime in February or March. We are just waiting for the final report from the Northeastern University folks.

They will be participating in the Lion's Club Spring Fest again on April 9th. They want to focus on a development guidebook so when businesses or developers are looking to do certain projects, they would have the guidebook to steer them in the right direction. They also want to work on highlighting our natural resources and recreational activities as a means to draw interest to Goffstown. They are talking about Shaw's Plaza. There is a lot of interest. There is a bank that owns the plaza. There are concerns that, if more storefronts become vacant, it would be become problematic. It will require effort to reach out to the bank. There are a variety of reasons a bank will hold onto property. That could make it challenging. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said Shaw's Plaza is in the revitalization tax (area).

Selectman Gross said he talked with Chairman Georgantas in passing about a process of welcoming a new business in town. When one opens, a selectman would go visit them, take a photograph and post it on the website for a week, and welcome them. Chairman Georgantas said he went to the chicken place when it opened in town to welcome them and to let them know we

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know they are there. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said she did that with the Blue Moose when they moved in.

Transportation Committee

Chairman Georgantas said he attended this meeting. It was a quick meeting. In July, in the first month of operation, we had a total of 34 riders for that month with 444 service miles. In November we are up to 100 in ridership and 634 miles. In December it went down to 77, but they say that is normal. One of the interesting things brought up is there were no cancellations or no shows. Most are to a medical rides, but there are a few to Hannaford's, etc. We are accomplishing what we set out to do, which was to get the elderly and disabled rides, especially to their doctor's. They are really happy. Mike Whitten was saying we far out-perform what they are doing in Manchester. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said the last meeting she was at they were at about a 50% participation for the number of hours they were contracted for. Chairman Georgantas said it is probably still the same because it is still the same 60 hours they contracted for. We're only six months into the program. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said they were going to send flyers to the hospitals in the event they have patients with transportation issues they can help. Chairman Georgantas said Barbara Charbonneau is going to hold a meeting at the Meeting House. Mike Whitten will go over and talk to them about how to do a better job.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Georgantas said it is 6:25 pm and we are almost done. He's thinking the Board should consider meeting every two weeks instead of every week. Sometimes he knows they can't do it. Selectman Adams said it depends on the time of year. Selectman Gross said it is very feasible. You have to go back to certain times of the year. When we had holidays we still came in, signed the warrants, etc. We had duties but didn't have an official meeting. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said the law now allows you to do that without legislative change. Selectman Gross said it is something the Board should consider and at least try it to see how it works. Chairman Georgantas said after February and until September it's usually quiet.

Selectman Gross asked what the department heads think. Are there things that need immediate attention? There have been a handful of those times. Has it been a problem? Town Administrator Desruisseaux said they could call a special meeting if it is. Vice Chairman Lemay said he's in favor of it as long as the selectmen still come in to do their administrative duties, sign the warrants, and things that need to be done. If a special meeting comes up, we can make adjustments to our schedule. It depends on the time of year. During budget season there would be a need for weekly meetings.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux asked when the School Board meets. Selectman Gross said he thinks it is the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said we could alternate with them. Except when we meet with them, they come in at 6 pm, before their meeting. Selectman Gross said what he likes about it is that it could open opportunities to attend some of the other meetings. It might be a better use of time. Town Administrator Desruisseaux asked when they would want to start. Selectman Adams said after the deliberative session. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said that is February 15, 2016. Selectman Adams said that is a holiday. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said they may want to start on February 8th. It is the day before the primary.

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Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion that the Goffstown Board of Selectmen begin meeting every other week, on the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month, beginning on February 8, 2016. Selectman Adams seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

Selectman Gross suggested amending the rules of procedure.

Selectman Gross said he was in Town Hall and happen to speak with a Supervisor of the Checklist. The issue is that of space because they have a lot of work to do. Is there a problem having them go in the Selectmen's room? They'd have to put another filing cabinet in there. There is nothing secret in there. Chairman Georgantas said he thought they were setting up the room down the hall for them.

Town Administrator Desruisseaux said they don't have anyone to do it right now. She'd rather see them there (down the hall) because they will have more space. There are filing cabinets down there, as well as desks for them to spread out. Chairman Georgantas asked what is needed. We were going to section off that room because a part of it is used for storage. Selectman Adams said it's not uncommon to have sensitive documents in the Selectmen's room. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said IT will have to set them up down here also. They can have that window back to use, if they are registering people. The Board's consensus was to get them set up in the room down the hall.

Vice Chairman Lemay said he wanted to address the new pay matrix they've talked about. They've talked about it but done nothing about it. Town Administrator Desruisseaux said we are waiting for MRI. We'll get their report in April. We're on schedule with everything they've asked. Chairman Georgantas said we may not be talking about it but behind the scenes things are going on.

6:32 pm Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion for the Board take a recess. Selectman Adams seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0-0. All in favor. Motion carries.

The Board recessed at 6:33 pm. The meeting resumed at 7 pm.

Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to ratify the three year contract of the Goffstown Firefighters Local 3420. Selectman Adams 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 1/18/16 with no corrections.