

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
March 12, 2014
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a regular session on Wednesday, March 12, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at the Gilford Town Hall, 47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, NH. Selectmen present were Kevin Hayes, John O'Brien and Gus Benavides. Also present was Town Administrator Scott Dunn.

Staff members in attendance included Finance Director Geoff Ruggles, DPW Director Sheldon Morgan, Acting Police Chief Jim Leach, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Denise Gonyer, Director of Planning and Land Use John Ayer, Fire Chief Steve Carrier and Executive Secretary Sandra Bailey.

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance** – The Selectman led the assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. Announcements/Presentations**
 - 2.1.** Chairman Hayes read aloud the March 11, 2014 Town meeting results for Town Officers and thanked the members of the community for participating in the voting process.
 - 2.2.** Chairman Hayes read aloud the 2014 Spring Road Posting Notice.
 - 2.3.** The Kimball Castle Public Forum has been re-scheduled to April 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.
- 3. Review/Approval of Minutes**
 - 3.1.** Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the minutes of February 26, 2014, as presented. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.
- 4. Consent Agenda**
 - 4.1.** Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the previously signed items for the period February 24, 2014 through March 7, 2014 as listed. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

<u>DOCUMENT DATE</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u>	<u>MAP/LOT #</u>
11/12/13	Change of Status - Duverger	
12/05/13	Change of Status - Stuart	
02/01/14	Change of Status - Akerley	
02/18/14	Payroll Register (2)	
02/19/14	Accounts Payable Manifest	
02/24/14	Payroll Register (2)	
02/25/14	Accounts Payable Manifest	
02/26/14	Certificates of Appreciation - Police Search Committee	
02/26/14	Appointment Form - J. Ayer to LRPC	
02/26/14	Veterans Tax Credit - Grant	213-068.010
02/26/14	Veterans Tax Credit - Bradshaw	266-088.000
02/26/14	Veterans Tax Credit - Bean	277-155.000
02/26/14	Veterans Tax Credit - Cote	201-009.128
02/26/14	Appointment Form - Silber	
02/28/14	Change of Status - Lemay	

5. Public Hearings

- 5.1. Appropriation of Unanticipated Funds** – Chairman Hayes opened the public hearing to accept \$169,424 from the NH Department of Safety, Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division, to be used in the Police Station Improvement project, for constructing an Emergency Operations Center, purchase and installation of building security measures, dispatch communications and equipment and furnishings.

Chan Eddy of 201 Chestnut Drive stated that he was very pleased to see these funds made available to the Town, as well as receiving voter approval for the Police Station Improvement project.

There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Hayes closed the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Selectman O'Brien moved to accept the unanticipated grant funds in the amount of \$169,424 and to authorize the expenditure of those funds for their intended purpose in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant program. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 5.2. Proposed Cable Television Franchise Agreement** – Before opening the public hearing, Chairman Hayes stated that the agreement does not regulate rates or channels, since the Board has no authority to regulate them under Federal law. He opened the public hearing and recognized Town Administrator Scott Dunn, who explained the process involved in the negotiations. These negotiations took place with eleven (11) other communities, and the terms of all of the agreements are virtually the same.

The new contract represents a series of compromises and Town Administrator Dunn further stated that, given the Town has no input as far as rates and programming, it represents the best terms available to the Town.

Chan Eddy of 201 Chestnut Drive stated that he was involved in some of the negotiation process as a Technical Advisor to the Consortium and agrees with Town Administrator Dunn's assessment that the terms of the contract are the best that the Town is going to receive.

There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Hayes closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the Cable Television Franchise Agreement, as presented, and authorize the Town Administrator to sign. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

6. Appointments

- 6.1. Greg Goddard – Gunstock Update** – Mr. Goddard began his presentation by thanking Chairman Hayes for his service to the Town, over the past several years, in many different capacities.

The final documentation for the layout of Area Road has been received. This led to further discussion on the re-mapping of the interior roadways of Gunstock, which will be

provided to the Town. Buildings within Gunstock will also be identified, making it clearer for emergency personnel to find the location where services are needed.

Next, Greg Goddard brought up the matter of the recent severe snowstorm that occurred a few weeks ago when many patrons were leaving Gunstock for the day. There were two, almost simultaneous accidents that occurred on Cherry Valley Road, which created quite a traffic situation. This brought out the need for an effective means of mutual communication and action plan, should something like this ever occur again. As a result, a meeting was held between representatives of NH DOT, the Town of Gilford and Gunstock, where a protocol was established to alleviate traffic problems in this type of situation.

Mr. Goddard stated that Gunstock is also assisting the Town in locating a facility for a repeater that is needed for radio transmissions. The Gunstock Commissioners are in complete agreement in providing the Town with an appropriate site. Town Administrator Dunn then stated that the Town appreciates Gunstock's assistance, but the representatives of NH DRED think that they have sufficient space for the Town to locate the repeater on their tower, at a cost of \$1,000 per year.

Gunstock has had a terrific ski season and had its best month in its history during February 2014. They are anticipating a closing date of April 6th, in order to provide adequate time to transition to summer activities. No major projects are planned for this summer, as the focus will be on landscaping and general "sprucing up".

Selectman Benavides thanked Greg Goddard for working with the Town to better handle emergency situations. He also commended Mr. Goddard and his staff for taking Gunstock from being a ski resort to a year-round destination. Selectman O'Brien added that he appreciates the positive effect that Gunstock has had on the local economy. He then asked about the status of horses at Gunstock. Mr. Goddard replied that horses and zip-lines are not compatible, so it is not likely horseback riding will return.

Following a question from Chairman Hayes, brief discussion ensued on the Tough Mudder. Greg Goddard informed that Board that there has not yet been a commitment for an event to occur during 2014, due to scheduling conflicts, but he anticipates a date will be established for a 2015 event.

The Board thanked Greg Goddard for his update.

7. Old Business – none.

8. New Business

8.1. Approval to Purchase Cruisers – Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the purchase of two police interceptor sedans from the low bidder, Hillsboro Ford, in the amount of \$22,723 each. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

8.2. Disposition of Decommissioned Vehicle – Selectman O'Brien moved to authorize the sale of the 1999 Ford F-350 by sealed bids due on 4:00 p.m., March 21, 2014, with an award to be made to the highest bidder by the Town Administrator. Selectman

Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

8.3. Meeting to Discuss Issues and Concerns Regarding Welfare – The Board concurred to have Town Administrator Dunn attend the meeting on March 26, 2014 with the Towns of Tilton and Sanbornton, to discuss issues and concerns regarding welfare. Finance Director Geoff Ruggles and Welfare Director Erika Johnson will also be invited to attend.

8.4. Employee Corrective Action Form – The Board concurred to have Town Administrator Dunn take steps to implement the use of the Employee Corrective Action Form. They also commended Operations Manager Mia Gagliardi for attending the training on Effective Performance Evaluations and bringing this recommendation back to the Town.

9. Other Business – Town Administrator Dunn stated that the Kimball Wildlife Forest Committee has engaged the services of Fremeau Appraisal to perform an appraisal on the 20.35 acres of land where the castle resides. He is seeking authorization from the Board to pay for their services, not to exceed \$3,500, from the Kimball Wildlife Forest Trust Fund.

Selectman O'Brien moved to authorize the expenditure of up to \$3,500 to Fremeau Appraisal, to perform an appraisal on the 20.35 acres of land, from the Kimball Wildlife Forest Trust Fund. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

10. Public Input – Chan Eddy of 201 Chestnut Drive thanked Chairman Hayes for his service to the Town, both as a Selectman and the Selectmen's representative to the Planning Board.

11. Selectmen's Issues – Selectman Benavides stated that he would like to take a few moments to talk about Chairman Kevin Hayes. He stated that he did not know him when he first came into office six years ago, but has come to know him as a man of integrity. He also thanked him for his hard work over the past six years, particularly with the Town budget and Teamster negotiations.

Selectman Benavides commended Chairman Hayes for his wealth of knowledge, as an Engineer and local business owner, which will be missed. In closing, he stated that Chairman Hayes has made a difference for the Town of Gilford, which is in a better place than it was when he first came to office.

Selectman O'Brien stated that he will miss Chairman Hayes' friendship, advice and counsel.

At this time, Chairman Hayes stated that he thinks it is important for more people to have the opportunity to serve in Town government. He added that there are many other positions in Town government, other than being a Selectman, which people don't seem to be interested in. During his terms as Selectman, he thinks that he and Selectmen Benavides and O'Brien have made a good team and done many positive things for the Town. He highlighted some of the accomplishments.

He thanked Town employees, Department Managers and citizen volunteers for their efforts. Chairman Hayes also stated how he enjoyed his tenure as the Selectmen's representative to

Teamster negotiations. He specifically cited Finance Director Ruggles and Town Administrator Dunn for their diligence and efforts. In closing, he encouraged citizens to participate in Town government, both by volunteering and voting, and thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as Selectman.

Next, Selectman O'Brien presented Chairman Hayes with a plaque, thanking him and recognizing his years of service as Selectman. Chairman Hayes expressed his appreciation and cited the two times when he most enjoyed the position – being able to speak at the Memorial Day commemoration and participate in the Old Home Day parade.

- 12. Administrator's Report** – Town Administrator Dunn reported that there will be several items on the next Selectmen's agenda, including committee assignments, goals and objectives, line item approval of the 2014 budget and personnel policy amendments.

The Town Hall improvement project will begin again during the first week in April. In addition, he is currently looking into the heat loss issues that exist with the building and hopes to have a proposal for the Board at the next meeting.

Town Administrator Dunn welcomed and congratulated all newly elected Town officials. In closing, he told Chairman Hayes that it has been a privilege and honor to serve under him.

- 13. Next Meeting** – March 26, 2014.

- 14. Closing Ceremonies** – Chairman Hayes then presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Finance Director Geoff Ruggles, for meritorious effort, for his dedication and long hours.

Chairman Hayes presented a Certificate of Appreciation to retiring Supervisor of the Checklist member Connie Hayes.

Town Clerk-Tax Collector Gonyer then swore in new Selectman Richard Grenier. Before being sworn in, Mr. Grenier submitted a letter of resignation from the Budget Committee.

- 15. Adjournment** – With no further business before the Board, the Board of Selectmen's March 12, 2014 meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gus Benavides
Clerk