

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
November 6, 2013
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a regular session on Wednesday, November 6, 2013, 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, Fire Chief Steve Carrier, Deputy Fire Chief Brad Ober, Acting Police Chief Jim Leach, Acting Deputy Police Chief Kris Kelley, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Denise Gonyer and Executive Secretary Sandra Bailey.

1. **Non-Public Session** – Selectman O'Brien moved to enter non-public session at 6:00 p.m., pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II, to discuss the conveyance of real property, matters which would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person and personnel issues. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor. Present were Kevin Hayes, John O'Brien and Gus Benavides. Also present was Town Administrator Scott Dunn.

Chairman Hayes moved to approve the refunds of HealthTrust to employees and retirees as presented. Selectman O'Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman O'Brien moved to promote Mia Gagliardi to DPW Operations Manager at \$940.00 per week, effective 11/10/13, and advertise the positions of Highway Superintendent and Clerical Assistant at Step 1. Chairman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman Benavides moved to appoint Kirk Young as Truck Driver at \$19.57 (Step 10), effective November 10, 2013. Selectman O'Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman O'Brien moved to exit non-public session at 7:00 p.m. and seal a portion of the minutes. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** - The Selectmen recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Announcements/Presentations**

- 3.1. The Board of Selectmen will be meeting on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays during November (6 & 20) and December (4 & 18), due to the holidays.
- 3.2. The Town Hall and Library will be closed on Monday, November 11, 2013 for Veterans' Day.
- 3.3. Chairman Hayes announced that the Drug & Alcohol Task Force will be conducting an online survey during the months of January and February 2014.

4. Review/Approval of Minutes

4.1. Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the minutes of October 23, 2013, as presented. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1. Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the previously signed items for the period October 21, 2013 through November 1, 2013, as listed. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

<u>DOCUMENT DATE</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u>	<u>MAP/LOT #</u>
07/01/13	Change of Status - Raper	
10/15/13	Payroll Register(2)	
10/20/13	Change of Status - Cappello	
10/20/13	Change of Status - Ober	
10/21/13	Change of Status - Morin	
10/22/13	Payroll Register	
10/22/13	Accounts Payable Manifest	
10/23/13	Veteran's Tax Credit - Ribieri	203-263.001
10/23/13	Veteran's Tax Credit - Clark	216-061.000
10/23/13	Veteran's Tax Credit - Howe	266-034.041
10/23/13	Veteran's Tax Credit - Roberts	204-057.000
10/23/13	Veteran's Tax Credit - Hickey	230-022.000
10/23/13	Veteran's Tax Credit - Evans	216-075.020
10/23/13	Accounts Payable Manifest	
10/24/13	Letter to Gilford Got Lunch	
10/28/13	Change of Status- King	

6.0 Appointments

6.1 Chief Steve Carrier – Gilford Fire-Rescue Department Update – Chief Carrier began by introducing Deputy Fire Chief Brad Ober to the Board. He highlighted some of Deputy Chief Ober's past accomplishments and stated that his primary area of responsibility will be Fire Prevention.

Chief Carrier stated that attendance at the October 26th Open House was light, but the Department does have some ideas to promote the event for next year. He also explained how Firefighter Dion DeCarli constructed and provided a sprinkler demonstration for the Open House, all done with funding from a grant.

Chief Carrier reviewed the status of 2013 Emergency Incident Activity. He further reported that the Department now has a revived Explorer Post with five members. They have also hired seven new call firefighters in 2013 and have 3 pending applications. Chief Carrier also advised the Board that they have established a new level of affiliation, known as Associate Membership, in order to maintain members for non-emergency involvement that can no longer meet their minimum incident and training requirements.

Senior Safety Day was held on the same day as the Open House, where members were out in the community visiting 36 households to change batteries in smoke detectors and install new smoke detectors, where necessary.

The Department has also been very busy with vehicle maintenance issues and Chief

Carrier outlined some of the work that has taken place this fall. He also discussed the situation with the Alvah Wilson Road Dry Hydrant.

As far as the 2013 budget is concerned, the outlook is good for the rest of the year. The 2014 budget, which represents a 1.29% increase, will be presented to the Budget Committee tomorrow night. Future projects include working on E-911 discrepancies, drafting a fireworks ordinance and a fire prevention ordinance review and update.

The Board thanked Chief Carrier for his presentation.

6.2 Denise Gonyer, Town Clerk/Tax Collector – Credit Card Update – Town Clerk/Tax Collector Gonyer reported that the Department went live on October 30 with the acceptance of credit cards for payment. She provided Board members with a copy of her new brochure of frequently asked questions about credit cards, where she highlighted several potential scenarios for taxpayers. One of the primary issues that she expects questioning about is the matter of the fee for use of credit cards being charged back to the credit card user. She also mentioned the irregularity with Visa not allowing the fee to be charged back to the customer for over-the-counter water and sewer payments.

TC/TC Gonyer provided the Board with an explanation of how accounting functions will be changed with the introduction of credit cards. She also stated that the potential is there for other departments to be able to use credit cards through this vendor.

The Board thanked TC/TC Gonyer for her update.

7.0 Old Business

7.1 Sign Deed for Rowe Farm Road – Selectmen O'Brien moved to accept, approve and sign the deed to Rowe Farm Road as presented. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Appointment of Deputy Emergency Management Director – Selectman O'Brien moved to appoint Brad Ober to the position of Deputy Emergency Management Director. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

8.2 Request for Waiver of Minimum Road Standards/Driveway Permit – 12 Ridgeline Loop – Selectman O'Brien moved to waive the Town's Minimum Road Standards to allow the construction of a driveway that is less than 15 feet from the property boundary, as shown on a drawing submitted with the driveway permit application dated October 24, 2013, to permit the driveway to be 12 feet from the property line at 12 Ridgeline Loop. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

8.3 Acceptance of Donations – Selectman O'Brien moved to accept the following donations and authorize their expenditure for the intended purposes:

Judy McShane - \$100 for the Candlelight Stroll
Town of Hanover - \$400 for the Fire Training Facility
Walmart - \$800 for the Child Car Seat Program

Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

9.0 Other Business

9.1 Budgeted Funds for a Replacement Culvert Thawer – Selectman O’Brien moved to authorize Public Works to purchase the Power Eagle power washer/steamer for a total cost of \$5,695.00, from H.O.P. Sales & Service of Sandown, NH, as the low bidder. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

9.2 Town Administrator Dunn advised the Board that the property owner who was recently granted a waiver to the Minimum Road Standards for their driveway location, would now like to re-configure the driveway. Amended plans will be forthcoming at the next meeting.

10.0 Public Input – Willard Drew, one of the owners of the Lakes Region Café & Tavern, stated that his attorney represented him at a recent Board meeting, regarding his application for Adult Entertainment. At that time, it was his understanding that the Town would be seeking a legal opinion and the matter would be brought forth again at the first meeting in November. Mr. Drew went on vacation during that time period and returned to Gilford last night to attend this meeting. He stated that he learned after 3:00 p.m. today that he was not scheduled on the agenda and was not advised of it.

Mr. Drew stated that he showed his liquor license to Selectman Benavides some time ago, but only brought a copy into the Town Hall this afternoon. Further, he expressed his frustration with the lack of progress being made in the approval of his Adult Entertainment License.

Mr. Drew then addressed the question that was raised to him regarding how he will protect the public from drugs and over-serving of alcoholic beverages. He stated that after returning from Florida last night, he picked up some of the copies of the Laconia Daily Sun that he had not seen while he was away. He pointed out a marijuana growing operation on Governor’s Island, underage drinking in a local hotel and a married couple found in the Gilford Elementary School parking lot under the influence of narcotics.

Mr. Drew responded that he and his staff will protect the public from drugs and alcohol in the same way that the public safety departments in the Town of Gilford do – the best way that they can. He also stated that he does not think that the Board of Selectmen is making the correct decisions regarding businesses within the Town.

Tim Sullivan of Bedford Avenue expressed empathy with Mr. Drew, paying property taxes and trying to run a business. Although Mr. Sullivan stated that he does not intend to visit naked dancers at Mr. Drew’s business, he left the meeting where this was previously discussed thinking that the license would be granted when the proper documentation was presented. He encouraged the Board to approve Mr. Drew’s business because the contribution of his commercial property taxes is valuable to the community. In summary, Mr. Sullivan thinks that the Town has acted in bad faith.

Willard Drew responded to Mr. Sullivan’s comments on “naked” dancing. He clarified that the dancers are “near-naked” and must wear clothing over certain body parts. Mr.

Drew also complimented members of the Police Department, Fire Department, Tax Collector's Office and Public Works Department for their cooperation over the years in working with him.

Co-owner Tom Lyons expressed his opinion that this establishment promotes an upbeat, happy vibe, bringing hope to lonely people who need a place to go. He thinks that, very often, people are just looking for some interaction and can find it here. Mr. Drew added that "R" rated movies are more sexually explicit than exotic dancing.

- 11.0 Selectmen's Issues** – Chairman Hayes corrected his previous statement that the Board met in non-public session and no action was taken. The Board did take action and sealed the minutes.

Selectman Benavides is hopeful that the Board will be able to assist Mr. Drew.

- 12.0 Administrator's Report** – Town Administrator Dunn stated that work continues to progress on the Town Hall renovations. Forty-five (45) sheets of rotten plywood were replaced on the rear of the building.

The Public Works crew has prepared the Potter Hill sledding area.

On December 4th, the Selectmen will be conducting a public hearing on the layout of Area Road.

Town Administrator Dunn will be attending the NH Municipal Association conference tomorrow and plans to be on vacation from December 6-13, 2013.

- 13.0 Next Meeting** – Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall

- 14.0 Adjournment** – With no further business before the Board, the Board of Selectmen's November 6, 2013 meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gus Benavides
Clerk