

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
January 14, 2009
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a regular session on Wednesday, January 14, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at the Gilford Town Hall, 47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, NH. Selectmen present were Connie Grant, Gus Benavides and Kevin Hayes. Also present were Town Administrator Scott Dunn and Administrative Secretary Sandra Bailey.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Selectmen recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Special Presentation**

In recognition of their many years of service to the Town of Gilford, Chairman Grant recognized Wayne and Shirley Snow at tonight's meeting. She praised their sense of community and volunteerism that they demonstrated over the past forty plus (40+) years. Mr. Snow's special chair has been inscribed with a plaque that will be a perpetual reminder of their contributions to Gilford elections.

Public Works Director Sheldon Morgan and Town Clerk/Tax Collector Denise Morrisette also expressed sincere gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Snow. Mr. Snow thanked the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator Dunn for their support.

3. **Announcements**

- 3.1. Energy Fair – Saturday, January 17, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Town Hall
- 3.2. Budget Committee Public Hearing – Thursday, January 15, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at GHS
- 3.3. Town Offices closed on Monday, January 19, 2009 for Martin Luther King Day
- 3.4. Chairman Grant read the list of Town office election vacancies.

4. **Review/Approval of Minutes**

Selectman Benavides moved to approve the minutes of the regular and non-public session of the December 17, 2008 Selectmen's meeting; the special meeting of December 29, 2008; and the Joint Meeting with the Gilford School Board of January 5, 2009, with a correction in the name of the School Board representative from Gilmanton. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

5. **Public Hearings**

5.1. **Police Station Expansion Project and Town Energy System** – Town Administrator Dunn read aloud the proposed Warrant Article for the Police Station Expansion Project. He pointed out that the interest rate set by the NH Municipal Bond Bank in December was 5.05%. \$1.2 million of the \$1.58 million project will be financed with municipal bonds or notes. The tax impact of this project is approximately \$20.00 per year for the average home.

Selectman Benavides moved to remove Article B from the proposed 2009 Warrant for the installation of a new Town Hall Energy System. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

At this time, Selectman Hayes stated that although he was originally opposed to hiring an architect, he was surprised and pleased to see the project brought in at a much lower cost than was anticipated. The project had a \$5 million estimated cost a few years ago, and has currently come in at \$1.58 million. Selectman Grant thanked the Facility

Planning Committee for their hard work.

The public hearing was closed at 7:21 p.m.

- 5.2. An Ordinance Regulating Outdoor Vendors and Transient Sales** – Chairman Grant stated that this public hearing is for an update of the existing Vendor Policy. Town Administrator Dunn stated that the Town is currently operating under a regulation from 1967 and this new ordinance will be similar to that of the City of Laconia. The Police Department and other Code Officials will be able to better enforce the new policy.

In response to any inquiry from a member of the public, Town Administrator Dunn stated that charities will be exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance. The public hearing was closed at 7:24 p.m.

Selectman Benavides moved to adopt the Ordinance Regulating Outdoor Vendors and Transient Sales as presented. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

6. Appointments

- 6.1. Anderson Family – Warm-up Hut Update** – Sarah Anderson provided a summary of the warm-up hut project, including finances, ongoing events and future plans. She also advised the Board that they would like permission to purchase and install shingles to restore the tow shack at the top of the slope. Paint will also be needed and both purchases will be covered within the \$8,000 that has already been raised. The Board concurred with restoring the tow shack and thanked Sarah Anderson and her family for the great job they have done with this project.

- 6.2. Katherine Dormody – Library Update** – Library Director Dormody provided the Board members with an update on past and future programming within the Library, as well as various statistics concerning public use of the facility. She also pointed out that a national trend, during hard times, is for library usage to increase.

Director Dormody stated that the proposed 2009 budget is a challenge to the Trustees and staff because of the decrease in the operating budget. The Trustees have revised the overdue policy in an effort to reduce postage and increase revenue from fines. The residents of Gilford are pleased with how user friendly and green the new building is.

Brief discussion ensued on the use of a geothermal climate system at the new building. Selectman Benavides thanked Director Dormody and the Library Trustees for their role in helping citizens through the tough economy.

7. New Business

- 7.1. Donation Acceptance – D.A.R.E. Program** – Selectman Benavides moved to accept a donation from Richard and Marilyn Miller in the amount of \$25.00 for the D.A.R.E. Program, with a big thank you. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 7.2. Tax Collector's Deeds – TC/TC Denise Morrissette** – Selectman Benavides moved to accept the tax deed on 343 Old Lakeshore Road, as prepared by TC/TC Morrissette, for non-payment of taxes. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 7.3. Kimball Wildlife Forest Proposal** – Conservation Commission Chair John Goodhue advised the Board that the Conservation Commission has voted to expend \$4,410 from the Conservation Fund for an update to the Kimball Wildlife Forest Management Plan by Forest Land Improvement, Inc. This expenditure also requires the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Selectman Benavides moved to approve the request of the Conservation Commission to spend \$4,410 to update the Kimball Wildlife Forest Management Plan. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. It was pointed out that there is approximately \$252,000 in the Conservation Fund.

- 7.4. Conservation Easement Reimbursement** – Conservation Commission Chairman Goodhue stated that the Conservation Commission would like to expend \$30,692 from the Conservation Fund for reimbursement of expenses on the Ramblin Vewe Farm Conservation Easement. The Conservation Commission has approved this expenditure.

Selectman Benavides moved to approve the expenditure of \$30,692 from the Conservation Fund for reimbursement of expenses on the Ramblin View Farm Conservation Easement. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 7.5. SB 449 Worker's Compensation for Emergency Service Volunteers** – Town Administrator Dunn briefly explained a memo from Fire Chief Hayes requesting authorization to include up to eight (8) volunteers from the Town of Gilford for worker's compensation insurance for services provided by the Lakes Region Community Emergency Response Team. It was pointed out that the LR-CERT was extremely beneficial to the Town during the recent ice storm.

Selectman Benavides moved to authorize the inclusion of up to eight (8) volunteers from the Town of Gilford for worker's compensation insurance for services provided by the Lakes Region Community Emergency Response Team. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 7.6. Repairs to Town Hall Heating System** – Town Administrator Dunn explained various problems that exist with the Town Hall's heating system. He recently had Alton Bay Mechanical do an evaluation of the system and as a result, they have submitted a proposal for \$7,450 to repair several malfunctioning radiators, as well installation of other controls and wiring. These repairs are not included in the 2009 budget so Town Administrator Dunn requested that the Board authorize the expenditure be made from the Building Repair Capital Reserve Fund.

Selectman Benavides moved to accept the proposal from Alton Bay Mechanical in the amount of \$7,450 for repairs to the Town Hall heating system and authorize the expenditure from the Building Repair Capital Reserve Fund. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 7.7. Finalize 2009 Holiday Schedule** – Selectman Benavides moved to approve the 2009 Town Holiday Schedule as presented. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 7.8. 2009 Petitioned Warrant Articles** – Town Administrator Dunn stated that two petitioned warrant articles were received as of Monday, with three additional petitions

being received on Tuesday. Four (4) of these petitioned warrant articles have dollar amounts attached to them, so the Board is required to make a recommendation.

The first petitioned warrant article to be considered is for \$8,762 for the Community Action Program. Selectman Hayes stated that he has learned that this appropriation is for office expenses only and other monies, such as grants, are used to handle their caseload.

Extensive discussion ensued by the Board on both the excellent services provides by CAP and the need for the County government to assume responsibility for the various outside agencies. Selectman Benavides stated that he has struggled with this issue but feels he represents the majority of the citizens of Gilford, who did not support this program at last year's Town Meeting. For this reason, he will not support CAP.

At this time, Lee Duncan and Alan Robichaud also provided input on a petitioned warrant article for the Youth Services Bureau. Their comments focused on the unification of programs at the County level. Adrian Curtis stated that he thinks Selectman Benavides should vote based on how he feels, not whether it has been previously approved by Gilford residents. Further discussion ensued on how the Board should vote on these recommendations, since they feel it is ultimately the decision of the voters. Town Administrator Dunn provided the Board members with the count of the 2008 Town Meeting vote on Outside Agencies.

Selectman Hayes moved to recommend \$9,402.89 for Genesis Behavioral Health. Selectman Grant seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman Benavides moved to recommend \$8,762 for the Community Action Program. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman Benavides moved to recommend \$26,000 for the Youth Services Bureau. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman Benavides moved to recommend \$2,000 for New Beginnings. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 7.9 2009 Budget and Warrant Article Review** – Chairman Grant brought up the matter of the proposed 2009 Library budget being 7% less than last year's budget, without taking wages into account. Discussion ensued on how this will negatively affect their operation. Chairman Grant moved to restore \$4,200 to the Library's 2009 budget. Selectman Hayes seconded and asked Library Director Dormody what area of the budget will suffer without the \$4,200.00. She replied that it is primarily technology items.

Town Administrator Dunn advised the Board that they will need to meet prior to January 26, 2009, to sign the warrant. The Board will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

8. Old Business

- 8.1 Renewal of SAU Lease Agreement for Town Hall** – Town Administrator Dunn advised the Board that the current SAU lease is set to expire on June 30, 2009. Selectman Benavides moved to approve the 6-month lease extension for SAU 73 until December 31, 2009, at a rate of \$500 per month. Selectman Hayes seconded.

Brief discussion ensued on how the existing SAU office and lunchroom would be utilized if the new Police Station Expansion Project is approved. Selectman Hayes then stated that he thinks there is too much in play right now to make this decision and would like to wait on the motion. Town Administrator Dunn stated that the Board can wait until after Town Meeting to make a decision. Selectmen Benavides and Hayes withdrew their motion. Chairman Grant asked Town Administrator Dunn to prepare a letter to the School Board, indicating the Town's intention to have them vacate the office space.

9. Public Input - None

10. Selectmen's Issues

Selectman Benavides stated that he would like to have an opportunity to view last year's audit. He asked Town Administrator Dunn to obtain it from our auditors. He would also like to have the Town Administrator review the Board of Selectmen's Code of Conduct.

11. Administrator's Report

Town Administrator Dunn advised the Board that the Cy Pres petition for the old library building has been filed. He has also been working on budget preparation, Town Meeting preparation, warrant articles and Beach Regulations.

12. Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a)(e)(i)

Selectman Benavides moved to enter Non-Public Session at 8:41 p.m. Selectman Hayes seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor. Present were Selectmen Connie Grant, Gus Benavides and Kevin Hayes. Also present were Town Administrator Scott Dunn and Executive Secretary Sandra Bailey.

While in Non-Public Session, the Board discussed employee compensation, pending litigation and emergency functions.

While in Non-Public Session, action was taken.

The Board exited Non-Public Session at 9:38 p.m.

13. Signatures

<u>DATE SIGNED</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u>	<u>MAP/LOT #</u>
11/15/08	Change of Status - Clarke	
11/21/08	Change of Status - Madon	
11/23/08	Change of Status - Denver	
12/01/08	Change of Status - Wawrzynski	
12/01/08	Change of Status - Pendergast	
12/01/08	Change of Status - Pelletier	
12/01/08	Change of Status - Adams	
12/01/08	Change of Status - Beaulac	
12/01/08	Change of Status - S. Davis	
12/01/08	Change of Status - L. Latosek	

12/01/08	Change of Status - McGonagle	
12/05/08	Change of Status - Stuart	
12/08/08	Payroll Register	
12/08/08	Abatement - Turner	204-025.000
12/10/08	Tax Collector's Warrant - Supplemental Assess.	
12/14/08	Change of Status - Tidd	
12/16/08	Payroll Register	
12/19/08	Payroll Register	
12/22/08	Payroll Register	
12/29/08	Notice of Intent to Cut Timber - Howe	225-001.100
12/29/08	Notice of Intent to Cut Timber - Howe	225-013.000
12/29/08	Conservation Restricted Assess. Application -Evvard	238-006.000
12/29/08	Payroll Register	
12/29/08	Notice of Lien - Doubleday	213-013.211
12/29/08	Change of Status - Aselton	
12/29/08	Change of Status - Hayes	
12/29/08	AFSCME Agreement Local 534	
12/29/08	Veteran's Tax Credit - Smith	252-186.000
12/29/08	Veteran's Tax Credit - Brasley	224-049.026
12/29/08	Veteran's Tax Credit - Nichols	223-002.000
12/29/08	Notice of Intent to Cut Timber - Allen	226-103.000
12/30/08	Abatement - Goodwin	203-127.000
01/01/09	Change of Status - Latosek	
01/01/09	Change of Status - Mercuri	
01/03/09	Veteran's Tax Credit - Ray	235-012.000
01/12/09	Fire Dept. Certificates of Appreciation	
01/14/09	Elderly Exemption - Watson	201-009.109
01/14/09	Veteran's Tax Credit - Torres	216-076.000
01/14/09	Veteran's Tax Credit - Roy	205-014.000
01/14/09	Veteran's Tax Credit - Fuller	213-013.010
03/19/09	Change of Status - Skafas	

14. Next Meeting – Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting

15. Adjournment – With no further business before the Board, the Board of Selectmen's January 14, 2009 meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra J. Bailey
Executive Secretary