

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
August 11, 2010
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a regular session on Wednesday, August 11, 2010, 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 were Town Administrator Scott Dunn and Executive Secretary Sandra Bailey.

Staff members in attendance included Director of Public Works Sheldon Morgan, Finance Director Geoff Ruggles, Police Chief John Markland, Fire Chief John Beland and Town Clerk/Tax Collector Denise Morrissette.

1. **Summer Town Forum** (6:00 – 7:00 p.m.)
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Selectmen recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Announcements/Presentations**
 - 3.1. Sale of Tax Deeded Properties at 11:00 a.m. on August 21
 - 3.2. Gilford Old Home Day – August 28, 2010 – Chairman Hayes reiterated comments made during the Summer Town Forum concerning a shortage of funds for Old Home Day. At this time, approximately \$10,000 in additional funds is needed to cover the expenses for the event.
 - 3.3. SAU Office Dedication at 11:30 a.m. on August 28
4. **Review/Approval of Minutes**
 - 4.1. Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the minutes of the regular and non-public sessions of July 28, 2010. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.
5. **Consent Agenda**
 - 5.1. Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the Consent Agenda for the period July 26, 2010 through August 6, 2010. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

<u>DOCUMENT DATE</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u>	<u>MAP/LOT #</u>
04/29/10	Change of Status - Latosek	
05/02/10	Change of Status - Proulx	
05/16/10	Change of Status - Balcom	
05/28/10	Change of Status - Thevenin	
05/30/10	Change of Status - DiCarli	
06/03/10	Change of Status - Sevin	
06/03/10	Change of Status - Adams	
06/03/10	Change of Status - B. Scholbe	
06/03/10	Change of Status - C. Scholbe	
06/03/10	Change of Status - Olsen	
06/03/10	Change of Status - Ellsworth	
06/03/10	Change of Status - Hildreth-Brown	
06/20/10	Change of Status - Abbott	
07/08/10	Change of Status - Cronin	
07/12/10	Change of Status - Crowell	
07/19/10	Payroll Register	

07/20/10	Accounts Payable Manifest	
07/20/10	Change of Status - Wise	
07/22/10	Abatement - Sargent	201-011.023
07/26/10	Abatement - Reynolds (2)	201-011.012
07/28/10	Appointment Form - King	
07/28/10	Deed Waiver - Pangburn & Sharps	212-016.009
07/28/10	DRA Form PA-16 - Forest Land Reimbursement	
07/28/10	Veteran's Tax Credit - Corrigan	229-019.000
07/28/10	Sewer Abatement - Gunstock	254-139.000
07/28/10	NOITC - Boulanger	229-055.000
07/28/10	NOITC - Boulanger	230-022.001
07/28/10	Speed Zone Regulation Alteration of Limit	
07/28/10	Certificate of Recognition - J. Drolet	
07/28/10	Certificate of Recognition - C. Jennison	
07/28/10	Certificate of Recognition - M. Hurst	
07/28/10	Tax Collector's Warrant - Sewer Rents	
07/28/10	Abatement - Lynch	224-075.016
08/02/10	NOITC - Blue Sky Enterprises	205-025.000

6. Old Business

6.1. Ernest Houle Logging Request – Chairman Hayes reported that Town Administrator Dunn and Town Forester Tim Nolin conducted a site walk of the proposed logging operation location this past Monday. Numerous concerns, primarily the very poor condition of the Class VI section of Belknap Mountain Road, were noted during the site walk.

Selectman O'Brien moved to deny Mr. Houle's most recent request to cross over Town property due to concerns cited by Town Administrator Dunn after his site walk with Town Forester Tim Nolin and the previously approved permit for Paul Pierce to log the property remains in effect. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

7. New Business

7.1. Acceptance of Resignation – Gayle Cook, P/T Assistant TC/TX – Chairman Hayes announced the resignation of Gayle Cook from the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office, effective September 1, 2010.

Selectman O'Brien moved to accept the resignation of Gayle Cook, with deep regret and gratitude for her hard work. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. At this time, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Denise Morrissette presented Mrs. Cook with a bouquet of flowers in appreciation of her years of valuable service to the Town.

7.2. Request to Advertise Job Vacancy – Assistant TC/TX – Selectman O'Brien moved to authorize the advertising of a job vacancy for a 24-hour per week part-time position in the Office of Town Clerk – Tax Collector. Selectman Benavides seconded.

Selectman Benavides stated that he is aware that the office of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector operates very efficiently and the staff is very hard working. He often receives favorable feedback concerning both this office and the Department of Public Works. However, he feels that he has a dilemma regarding this decision because of the global recession that currently exists. Incomes have decreased and the Board has

been forced to take people's homes this year because of non-payment of property taxes. This was a very difficult decision that had to be made.

Selectman O'Brien reiterated his recent statement during the Summer Town Forum, that the Selectmen have a constant balancing act to reduce costs if at all possible. Town Clerk/Tax Collector Morrissette stated that she does need the position and if it is not filled, she will be forced to eliminate some services that are not legally obligated, such as dump coupons and Town decals. She has provided these services as a convenience to the citizens of Gilford and took pride in providing "one stop shopping". In closing, she feels that this part-time position is very cost effective and reminded the Board that she has lost employees to the Finance Department because their hourly wages are considerably higher.

At this time, Selectman O'Brien withdrew his motion and proposed monitoring the length of the lines in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office for a month or two. Selectman Benavides withdrew his second and suggested tabling the matter for a couple of months.

- 7.3. **Abatement Request - Laflamme** – Selectman O'Brien moved to approve an abatement of \$11.18 plus interest, due to a clerical error. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.
- 7.4. **Acceptance of Donations** – Selectman O'Brien moved to gratefully accept a \$500 donation from the Laconia Lodge of Elks for the D.A.R.E. program; \$10 from Leon and Barbra Ells for the Fire Training Center; \$5 from Connie Bernier for the Fire Training Center; \$40 from David and Stacey Pacinia for the Fire Training Center; \$10.67 from donation boxes for old cemetery restorations, \$45 from Dee Chitty for a cemetery sign; \$1,500 from the Gilford Rotary Club for old cemetery restorations and \$45 from Susan Leach for a cemetery sign. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.
- 7.5. **2011 Town Budget Preparations/Schedule** – The Board concurred to hold an all-day budget work session on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 to review Department budgets. They also concurred to have Department Managers submit their budgets in the same manner as last year, where they highlight new budget requests over and above their basic operating budget.
- 7.6. **Driveway Permit Waiver Request – 61 Harris Shore Road** – Selectman O'Brien moved to approve a request for a driveway permit waiver to enable William Rice to construct a driveway that is only 10 feet from the property line. Selectman Benavides seconded. Town Administrator Dunn reported that he has viewed the property and found it to be a very narrow lot, as are all of the lots in this neighborhood. A large pine tree prohibits Mr. Rice from being able to move the driveway further than 10 feet from the property line. DPW Director Sheldon Morgan agreed with this assessment. Motion carried with all in favor.
8. **Public Input** – none.
9. **Selectmen's Issues** – Selectman Benavides stated that he would take care of the opening ceremony at the Timberman Triathlon on Sunday, August 22nd. Chairman Hayes stated that he will be in attendance for the opening ceremony on Saturday, August 21st.

Selectman Benavides stated that the speed limit reduction proposed at the Summer Town Forum on Scenic Drive is a very legitimate concern.

Selectman O'Brien stated that he met with DPW Director Sheldon Morgan today to view the Town's triangle of land located at the intersection of Route 11-A and 11-B. He would like to see this area become more attractive with a flagpole, plantings, etc., and is interested in seeking donations to construct a memorial to veterans of the Korean and Viet Nam Wars. He thanked Director Morgan for taking the time to view the site today.

- 10. Administrator's Report** – Town Administrator Dunn reported that the Advisory Board of Winnepesaukee River Basin Project met this morning and invited various representatives from their member municipalities. At this meeting, he learned that the State of NH runs this program and the Town of Gilford pays for it without any input. Since approximately \$100 million worth of upgrades are being proposed, the member communities will seek a legislative solution.

Other matters he has been working on include the new evaluation process and preparation for the proposed Police Station and Town Hall renovations, which will be sent out to bid in September. He also advised the Board he is awaiting a reply from the State of NH regarding Liberty Hill and expects to have a request for a Purchase and Sales Agreement extension from Gilford Village Knolls at the next meeting.

He will also have information for the Board at their next meeting regarding proposed speed limit reductions. A traffic investigation is required before any changes can be made and citizen petitions, such as the one received earlier this evening regarding Scenic Drive, are an excellent means of citizen interaction concerning proposed speed limit reductions.

- 11. Next Meeting** – Regular Meeting – August 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

- 12. Non-Public Session** – Selectman O'Brien moved to enter non-public Session at 7:35 p.m., pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (d)(c), to discuss the sale of real property and matters which may adversely affect someone's reputation. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor. Present were Selectmen Kevin Hayes, John O'Brien and Gus Benavides. Also present were Town Administrator Scott Dunn and Executive Secretary Sandra Bailey.

While in non-public session, action was taken.

Selectman O'Brien moved to exit non-public session at 7:48 p.m. and seal the minutes. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 13. Adjournment** – With no further business before the Board, the Board of Selectmen's August 11, 2010 meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gus Benavides
Clerk