



Town of Gilford, New Hampshire
Deliberative Session "First Session" Minutes
February 3, 2021

Moderator Sandra McGonagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. McGonagle made several announcements regarding no food or drink in the auditorium, no smoking on the school grounds, silence cell phones and pointed out the emergency exits.

McGonagle introduced the Board of Selectmen, Chan Eddy, Gus Benavides and Kevin Hayes and Town Administrator, Scott Dunn. Scott Dunn introduced Department Managers, John Ayer, Director of Dept. of Planning and Land Use; Fire Chief, Steve Carrier; Finance Director, Holly Burbank; Park & Recreation Director, Herb Green; Police Chief, Tony Bean-Burpee; Librarian, Katherine Dormody; Director of Public Works, Meghan Theriault and Town Clerk – Tax Collector, Danielle LaFond. McGonagle introduced and thanked the Budget Committee members for their hard work, as well as the Department Managers, Town Administrator and the Selectmen. McGonagle introduced Danielle LaFond, Town Clerk and recorder of the meeting and Larry Routhier, Assistant Moderator, and official timer of the meeting. McGonagle also introduced Supervisor's of the Checklist/Greeters, Irene LaChance, Miriam York in attendance this evening.

McGonagle went over the rules and purpose of the meeting. She further explained discussion, debate, amendment and how to overrule during the meeting. She cautioned the membership to direct questions to her and to have courteous debate during the meeting; no personal attacks would be permitted and would result in removal from the meeting by the Gilford Police Dept. She explained how to amend a question, the subject matter could not be eliminated (RSA 40:13) and how to proceed with a secret ballot if one was to be requested. McGonagle asked that anyone wishing to speak come to the microphone, announce their name and address for the record before speaking. McGonagle requested that each warrant article not be read and this was acceptable to the members of the meeting. She did announce each article and gave a ample time for them to be read amongs the crowd. Once the time had passed, she asked if there were to be any amendments. McGonagle asked any unregistered voters to ask permission to speak and it would be on the honor system. Registered voters have voting cards and Department Managers may speak on any Article. McGonagle further stated that after the discussion had terminated that the Article would be placed on the official ballot for the March 12th Town Election.

There were approximately 38 people in attendance for the meeting.

The Articles are as follows:

ARTICLE 1: To choose the necessary Town Officers for the following year; to wit:

- ◆ One Selectman for a three year term;
 - DALE CHANNING EDDY

- ◆ One Trustee of Trust Funds for a three year term;
 - NO FILING/BLANK

- ◆ Two Library Trustees for a three year term;
 - DIANE MCKONE TINKHAM
 - PETER ELLIS

- ◆ One Cemetery Trustee for a three year term;
 - DARLENE VACHON
 - RAE MELLO-ANDREWS

- ◆ One Fire Engineer for a three year term;
 - WILLIAM AKERLY

- ◆ Three Budget Committee Members for three year terms;
 - KRISTIN SNOW
 - AMBER LATORRE
 - ANGELO FARRUGGIA
 - STEPHEN PETERSON

ARTICLE 2 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 1 as proposed by the Gilford Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend the Table of Contents, the heading for Article 6, and Sections 6.14, 6.18, and 7.5.6.10 of the Gilford Zoning Ordinance by deleting references to the Family Apartment land use (which was replaced by the Accessory Apartment land use). The Family Apartment land use is no longer permitted by the Gilford Zoning Ordinance and by NH RSA 674:72, VIII, (most references were removed from the Gilford Zoning Ordinance in 2017). (An official copy of the entire proposal is on file at the Town Clerk's Office and on display at the meeting place on the date of the Town Meetings and may be viewed at www.gilfordnh.org.)

ARTICLE 3: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 2 as proposed by the Gilford Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Table 2, Dimensional Regulations, in Article 5 of the Gilford Zoning Ordinance, by changing the minimum Front Setback requirement in the Island Residential (IR) Zone from 40 feet to 50 feet to match the required minimum setback from Lake Winnepesaukee as set forth in Section 5.2.1(a) of the Gilford Zoning Ordinance and in NH RSA 483-B:9,II(b). (An official copy of the entire proposal is on file at the Town Clerk's Office and on display at the meeting place on the date of the Town Meetings and may be viewed at www.gilfordnh.org.)

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$14,263,580? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$13,645,456, which is the same as last year, except for certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the Board of Selectmen may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)
(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to approve the cost items included in the three year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Local 534, on behalf of certain Public Works Department employees, which calls for increases in the benefit package of \$700 for the estimated costs necessary to fund the new collective bargaining agreement in each of the next three fiscal years over the costs attributable to benefits that would have been due under the current agreement at the current staffing level; and furthermore, vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred dollars, (\$700), for the current fiscal year?
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)
(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty four thousand dollars, (\$64,000), for phase 2 (out of 3) of the Police Department radio system upgrade project? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or by December 31, 2021, whichever is sooner.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a five year lease purchase agreement in the amount of two hundred fifty thousand dollars, (\$250,000), for Fire Department air tanks and breathing apparatus, contingent upon such an agreement having a non-appropriation clause in accordance with the provisions of RSA 33:7-e; and to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-one thousand five hundred dollars, (\$51,500), to be used as the first year's payment for that purpose? This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purchase is completed or by December 31, 2021, whichever is sooner.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars, (\$275,000), to purchase and equip a new ambulance? This sum to come from the Ambulance Services Revolving Fund and no amount to be raised from taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purchase is completed or by December 31, 2021, whichever is sooner.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars, (\$75,000), to purchase a used roadside mower? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purchase is completed or by December 31, 2021, whichever is sooner.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars, (\$125,000), to purchase a heavy duty pick-up truck with plow and accessories? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purchase is completed or by December 31, 2021, whichever is sooner.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a five year lease purchase agreement in the amount of one hundred eighty thousand dollars, (\$180,000), for a DPW back-hoe, contingent upon such an agreement having a non-appropriation clause in accordance with the provisions of RSA 33:7-e; and to raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars, (\$40,000), to be used as the first year's payment for that purpose? This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purchase is completed or by December 31, 2021, whichever is sooner.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand nine hundred dollars, (\$2,900), to be added to the Police Dog and Training Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2018?

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand three hundred eighty-seven dollars, (\$10,387), to be added to the Technology Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2018? This sum to come from surplus fund balance using FY2019 cable television franchise technology grants that were deposited into the general fund and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars, (\$20,000), to be added to the Building Repair Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2007? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town vote to establish a Public Works Building Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the evaluation, design and construction of a new Public Works building; and to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars, (\$50,000), to be placed in this fund; and furthermore, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, (\$25,000), to be added to the Fire Water Supply Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008 for town-wide fire suppression purposes? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars, (\$50,000), to be added to the Recreation Facilities Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars, (\$10,000), to be added to the Glendale Boat and Launch Ramp Facilities Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008? This sum to come from surplus fund balance using FY2019 Glendale Permit revenues that were deposited into the general fund and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, (\$100,000), to be added to the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1989? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-eight thousand dollars, (\$58,000), to be added to the Lakes Business Park Capital Trust Fund previously established pursuant to the terms of the Inter-Municipal Agreement that was approved under Article 18 of the 2001 Annual Town Meeting? This sum to come from surplus fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars, (\$10,000), to be added to the Sewer Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2007? This sum to come from sewer fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand five hundred dollars, (\$6,500), to comply with a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services request to perform a focused site investigation to evaluate the source of PFOA and PFOS compounds in the potential contamination of groundwater at the municipal complex?

(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)

(Not recommended by the Budget Committee 11 to 0)

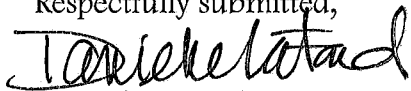
ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars, (\$10,000), (level funding request), to support the operation of the Laconia Area Center of Community Action Program? The Laconia Area Center staff provides low income, elderly and disabled residents of Gilford assistance with basic needs such as fuel assistance, electric assistance, meals on wheels, home weatherization, security deposits for housing, and maintains a food pantry accessible every day during business hours. In 2019 residents of Gilford received services through the programs of Community Action Program, Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc., and the Laconia Area Center. (Submitted by petition)
(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)
(Recommended by the Budget Committee 6 to 5)

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-three thousand five hundred dollars, (\$23,500), to support the operations of Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice, a local agency that provides visiting nurse services, hospice care, and pediatric care to residents of the Town of Gilford, NH? This past year residents of Gilford received over 3,837 home visits from Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice and approximately forty-two thousand dollars in uncompensated care. Town funds are used chiefly to support hospice care, pediatric care to children at medical or social risk, wellness clinics, bereavement support groups and immunization services. (Submitted by Petition)
(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)
(Recommended by the Budget Committee 7 to 3)

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-one thousand dollars, (\$21,000), in support of the Lakes Region Mental Health Center (LRMHC) for the delivery of emergency mental health services? These services include access to Master's level clinicians and psychiatrists by individuals, police, fire, schools, hospitals and others, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Services are provided to anyone in need, regardless of their ability to pay. LRMHC is designated by the State of New Hampshire as the community mental health center serving Belknap and southern Grafton Counties. We served 4,081 children, families, adults and elders in fiscal year 2019, 247 of whom were Gilford residents. LRMHC provided emergency services to 61 Gilford residents in fiscal year 2019. LRMHC provided \$63,239 in charitable care to Gilford residents; a 41% increase over 2018. (Submitted by petition)
(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)
(Recommended by the Budget Committee 8 to 4)

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand, six hundred and sixty dollars, (\$2,660), in support of New Beginnings Without Violence & Abuse, the center for free and confidential intervention, support and advocacy for those whose lives have been affected by domestic, sexual and stalking violence? Services include access to crisis line, emergency shelter, information and referral, staff and advocates for individuals, schools, police, courts, hospitals and others, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You don't have to be in crisis to call a crisis center. There are no fees for service. (Submitted by petition)
(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 to 0)
(Recommended by the Budget Committee 8 to 4)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle LaFond". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'L'.

Danielle LaFond, NHCTC
Town Clerk-Tax Collector