

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
August 9, 2006
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a regular session on Wednesday, August 9, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. at the Gilford Town Hall, 47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, NH. Selectmen present were Chairman Dennis Doten, Alice H. Boucher and Connie Grant. Also present was Town Administrator Evans E. Juris, Assistant Town Administrator Debra Shackett and Administrative Secretary Sandra J. Bailey.

1.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Selectmen recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Board of Selectmen approved the regular and non-public minutes of the July 26, 2006 Selectmen's meeting.

3.0 APPOINTMENTS

3.1 Troy Schrupp – Historic Distric Commission

Dr. Schrupp was in attendance because of his interest in becoming an alternate member of the Historic District Commission. He stated that he has attended many HDC meetings and is interested in the future direction of Gilford Village.

Alice Boucher moved to appoint Troy Schrupp as an alternate member of the Gilford Historic District Commission. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

3.2 Wil Corcoran

Mr. Corcoran provided a review of his 2006 Assessment Update and Assessment Statistics memorandum to the Board of Selectmen, dated July 31, 2006. He stated that although sales were previously escalating, they are now flat. The 2006 ratio, with sales data utilized through July 3, 2006, is projected to come in at 81% of full market value for 2006.

Wil Corcoran further stated that he would like the Town to be at a 95% ratio, which is in keeping with State of NH DRA standards. He further elaborated that commercial properties have the highest ratio of 96%, and island properties are the lowest at 62%. The island property ratio is based on four (4) sales.

If the Board authorizes Mr. Corcoran to update assessments to the 95% range, preliminary impacts by class, property and ratio will be presented to the Board by August 16, 2006, with notice to taxpayers to follow immediately.

Chairman Doten asked Wil Corcoran to explain the requirements for this update. Mr. Corcoran stated that this update is not a requirement of the Town of Gilford – it is a requirement of the State of New Hampshire.

Connie Grant moved to authorize Town Appraiser Wil Corcoran to conduct an assessment update, which will bring all properties to a 95%

range. Alice Boucher seconded. Motion carried.

3.3 Ronald Magoon – Franklin Savings Bank

Ronald Magoon of Franklin Savings Bank and Paul Fluet of Fluet Engineering were in attendance to discuss the discontinuance of Sawmill Road. Mr. Fluet inquired if the “old” Sawmill Road needs to remain accessible. Chairman Doten stated that Town Counsel has indicated that the Board of Selectmen does not have the authority to abandon the old road until the new road is constructed and open to the public.

Mr. Fluet further questioned if the old Sawmill Road could be diverted around the proposed bank, so that it is still accessible. At this time, Mr. Magoon also pointed out how delays could significantly impact construction and feels that this development would be beneficial to the Town and the bank. He also suggested that the Bank’s counsel could work with Town Counsel on finding a workable solution. Selectmen Grant stated that she does not feel that taxpayers should fund this project. Mr. Magoon assured the Board that Franklin Savings would take care of this.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Authorization to Accept Pre-Payment of Taxes

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Denise Morrissette was in attendance to request authorization to accept pre-payment of taxes. She stated that the computer system is functioning well and can accommodate pre-payments and pre-payments are beneficial to both the Town and taxpayers.

Alice Boucher moved to authorize the pre-payment of taxes and authorize the Collector of Taxes to accept payment in pre-payment of taxes, as authorized under RSA 80:52-a. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

4.2 New Hire – Police Department

Captain Keenan recommended the hiring of Brenda McNutt as a Communication Specialist, at Grade 7, Step 1.

Alice Boucher moved to hire Brenda McNutt as a Communication Specialist at Grade 7, Step 1. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

4.3 Promotion – Heavy Equipment Operator

DPW Director Sheldon Morgan was in attendance to recommend the promotion of Kirk Young from Light Equipment Operator to Heavy Equipment Operator at Grade 7, Step 3.

Alice Boucher moved to promote Kirk Young to Heavy Equipment Operator at Grade 7, Step 3. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

4.4 Abatement Request

Town Administrator Juris explained a request for an abatement from

TopNotch Properties, whose lot on Guild Circle has been determined to be unbuildable. Mr. Beaulieu is seeking an abatement for 2003 and 2004. The problem with the lot was not discovered until 2005, but the Board does not have the authority to abate the previous years.

Alice Boucher moved to deny an abatement for TopNotch Properties. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

4.5 Hoyt Road Cemetery

Town Administrator Juris informed Board members that a resident of Gilford has expressed concern at the condition of the Hoyt Road Cemetery, which needs to be mowed. He further stated that the resident has offered to mow the grass himself or pay for someone to mow it more than the two (2) times a year that the budget provides for. The Board concurred that the resident can mow the grass or pay to have someone mow it. Assistant Town Administrator Shackett stated that the Town would require proof of liability insurance from the individual.

5.0 OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Village Field

Chairman Doten stated that the Board of Selectmen has received input from various members of the community regarding the renaming of the Village Field. After considering this input, the Board has determined that it cannot support the renaming of the Village Field after Nathan Babcock. Mr. Doten further stated that the Board would be supportive of a remembrance for Nate, such as a granite bench, where people could sit and remember him.

6.0 PUBLIC INPUT – There was no public input.

7.0 SIGNATURES

06/20/06	Change of Status - Abbott	
07/12/06	Accounts Payable Manifest	
07/17/06	Payroll Check Register	
07/19/06	Accounts Payable Manifest	
07/20/06	Payroll Check Register	
07/24/06	Payroll Check Register	
07/25/06	Payroll Check Register	
07/25/06	Accounts Payable Manifest	
07/26/06	Abatement - Curtis	240-105.002
07/26/06	Change of Status - Marden	
07/26/06	Change of Status - Young	
07/27/06	Sewer Abatement - Ludwig	216-087.000

07/27/06	Accounts Payable Manifest	
07/28/06	Tax Collectors Warrant - Gerald Realty Ltd.	201-024.000
08/01/06	Tax Collectors Warrant - Jeopardy Tax	213-088.002
08/01/06	Payroll Check Register	
08/02/06	Change of Status - MacKinnon	
08/02/06	Change of Status- McMahon	
08/02/06	Supplemental Property Tax Assessment - \$189.00	
08/02/06	Change of Status - Wilson	
08/07/06	Abatement - Bolianites	216-108.000
08/07/06	Tax Collectors Warrant - Sewer - \$111,113.23	
08/09/06	Change of Status - McNutt	

8.0 SELECTMEN'S ISSUES

Selectman Grant expressed her appreciation in having the public input portion of the meeting moved to after the portion with persons with a scheduled appointment. She also expressed concern with the Town making donations to new organizations – she feels that the Board should have a policy of not funding any new organizations. Town Administrator Juris suggested that the Board consider a cap on spending with outside agencies and allocate funds according to it. Chairman Doten also suggested the cap could be a percentage of the total budget.

Selectman Boucher brought up the issue of establishing a “No Parking” zone on a portion of Route 11B. Town Administrator Juris stated that he and DPW Director Morgan will measure the area and pass the information onto NH DOT.

9.0 ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

9.1 Property Tax Deeds

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Morrissette briefly described how the tax deed process works. Brief discussion also ensued on how “Owners Unknown” parcels are handled.

Town Administrator Juris stated that David Andrade has made recommendations on which properties he feels that the Town should not accept. Accordingly, he indicated that the following properties should not be accepted by the Board:

224-046.034	Heidi Lilley
201-011.005	Michael McCormick
213-013.005	Robert Mullen
201-009.126	James & Robert Ronan
210-007.010	Unknown
201-013.009	Paul & Janice Young

Alice Boucher moved to accept deeds on all properties listed for the levy

year 2003, with the exception of the six (6) properties listed above. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

9.2 Date Reminders:

August 10, 2006 – DES Hearing
August 14, 2006 – FPC Meeting
August 16, 2006 – Summer Town Forum

Town Administrator Juris indicated that John Cameron has agreed to server as Moderator at the Summer Town Forum.

▪ **Other Matters**

Town Administrator Juris stated that the Town has come through the storms of the past few weeks quite well. He requested permission from the Board to have DPW notify any residents who are connected into the Town's drainage system that they will have thirty (30) days to be disconnected from the system. The Board agreed.

The Laconia Kiwanis Club has approached Town Administrator Juris regarding a fundraising event they would like to hold for the public to be able to view a "corpse" flower, which should be blooming between August 20 – 27, 2006. Mr. Juris explained that Gilford Town Ordinance requires that a public hearing be held for all special events with more than 100 people and with such short notice, it will be difficult to accomplish this.

Discussion ensued on the interpretation of the Ordinance, whether it means 100 people total or 100 people at one time. Chairman Doten stated that he is unhappy with the amount of notice that the Town received and feels that they should have come in earlier.

Town Administrator Juris stated that the proposed site for the flower viewing is in a residential area. Chairman Doten stated that he feels that the Police Department should be involved in the event. Chairman Doten then asked Captain Keenan to provide some input.

Captain Keenan stated that this is a very rare event and he feels that the Police Department can handle the detail. He did, however, express concern if the event were to coincide with the Timberman Triathlon. Town Administrator also stated that this event could conflict with Old Home Day, making it impossible to utilize the high school for parking.

Town Administrator Juris stated that the Kiwanis Club will be meeting tomorrow (8/10) on this matter and will be looking for an alternative parking site. If the Kiwanis Club does not request a special event permit, Town Administrator Juris stated that a letter should be sent to them stating that they cannot exceed 100 people at one time.

Selectman Doten recommended that the next Board of Selectmen's meeting will be held on August 30, 2006 instead of August 23, 2006.

9.3 Non-Public Session – RSA 91-A:3 II (a) (c)

The Board of Selectmen on a roll call vote entered Non-Public Session at 4:10 p.m. Present were Selectmen Dennis Doten, Alice Boucher and Connie Grant, Town Administrator Evans Juris, Assistant Town Administrator Debra Shackett and Administrative Secretary Sandra Bailey. Also present were Sheldon Morgan and Richard Stuart.

While in Non-Public Session, the Board of Selectmen discussed a personnel issue. While in Non-Public Session, no action was taken.

The Board exited Non-Public Session at 4:27 p.m. Alice Boucher left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

11.0 NEXT MEETING – August 30, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT – With no further business before Board, the Board of Selectmen's August 9, 2006 meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra J. Bailey
Administrative Secretary