

**GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR AND
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND LAND USE BUDGET REVIEWS
SEPTEMBER 25, 2006
3:00 P.M.**

The Board of Selectmen convened in a special session on Monday, September 25, 2006 at 3:00 p.m., at the Gilford Town Hall, 47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, NH. Selectmen present were Chairman Dennis Doten and Connie Grant. Also present were Town Administrator Evans E. Juris, Assistant Town Administrator Debra Shackett, Administrative Secretary Sandra J. Bailey, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Denise Morrissette, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Jennifer Mooney, Planning Director John Ayer and Conservation Commission Chairman John Goodhue.

The Selectmen recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Budget Review

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Denise Morrissette and Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Jennifer Mooney were in attendance to present their proposed 2007 budget. Denise Morrissette began the presentation by addressing the changes proposed by the Administration. She asked the Board to reconsider their proposed decrease in the Membership and Dues line, specifically to address the Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector's certification. She further stated that many meetings included in this line item are mandatory attendance.

Brief discussion ensued on the matter of the Town receiving money from boat registrations. Denise Morrissette stated that she would like to be able to take some of the revenue from boat registrations and be able to earmark it for the betterment of the lake.

The next item discussed was the proposed shelving for the vault. An information packet was provided for the Board from Brown's River Records Preservation Services, regarding the Aurora Mobile shelving units. Selectman Grant inquired if another quote had been received. Denise Morrissette replied that because this is such a specialized product, there are not many vendors who provide this type of shelving. She did state that she would try to obtain another quote for the Board to use as a basis for comparison.

Returning to the matter of Membership and Dues, TC/TC Morrissette informed the Board that if a particular class is cut from the budget, she can request a scholarship. She further stated that if cuts are left to her discretion, she cannot justify asking for a scholarship.

Dennis Doten moved to increase the Administration's Membership and Dues line by \$310.00, resulting in a final budget figure for Election, Registration and Vital Statistics of \$209,215.00. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

Connie Grant then moved to reduce the Education – Election/Registration line item from \$300.00 to \$200.00. Dennis Doten seconded. Motion carried.

Connie Grant moved to recommend a final total of \$209,115 under Election, Registration and Vital Statistics. Dennis Doten seconded. Motion carried.

Conservation Commission Budget Review

John Ayer and John Goodhue provided an overview of the Conservation Commission's budget. John Ayer stated that the services provided under Meetings and Dues are very beneficial to the Commission. The matter of Scholarships was also briefly discussed.

More discussion ensued regarding Groundwater Protection. The Administration decreased this line item from \$3,000.00 to \$500.00. John Goodhue stated that the \$2500.00 was requested by the Gilford Drinking Water Protection Committee for water sampling and he is not familiar with exactly what it entails.

Under Invasive Species Management, \$10,000 has been included in the 2007 budget. Extensive discussion ensued on this matter, which addresses hand picking the milfoil. John Goodhue clarified that this was placed in the budget as a result of the Smith Cove Milfoil Removal Hearings, where the Board suggested that the Conservation Commission could assume this project. He feels that the Town does have an obligation to contribute financially for the betterment of the lake. Chairman Doten agreed with this and further stated that he is opposed to using chemicals in the lake.

Selectman Grant stated that the \$10,000 is too little money for the project. Town Administrator Juris recommended that the Conservation Commission have much more information available for the Budget Committee on this program. Dennis Doten suggested earmarking boat registration fees for milfoil removal. He feels that it would ease anxiety with taxpayers and justify receiving the boat revenue, rather than having it go directly to the State. Town Administrator Juris again encouraged the Conservation Commission to be able to provide solid data for the Budget Committee. Chairman Doten feels that marinas and yacht clubs should also support this financially.

Connie Grant moved to recommend \$11,300 under Conservation Commission. Dennis Doten seconded. Motion carried.

Department of Planning and Land Use Budget Review

John Ayer presented a brief explanation of Technical Services. He further stated that while residential building has decreased, commercial development is on the increase. This led into an explanation of how this affects the Department's workload.

As far as the Master Plan update, John Ayer stated that the Planning Board needs to spend this money in a meaningful way. The possibility of having Cartographics create a map of recreational areas was considered. More discussion ensued on the Master Plan and its connection to the Capital Improvement Program. Town Administrator Juris informed Board members that Selectman Boucher felt that the Master Plan line item should be reduced to \$100.00.

Assistant Town Administrator Shackett stated that Selectman Boucher would like to reduce the line item under Supplies to \$300.00, since no justification was provided for the \$500.00 originally requested.

Connie Grant moved to recommend \$215,713.00 under Planning and Zoning, decreasing the Master Plan line item from \$1,000.00 to \$100.00. Dennis Doten seconded. Motion carried.

With no further business before the Board, the Board of Selectmen's September 25, 2006 meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra J. Bailey
Administrative Secretary