

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
February 24, 2010
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a regular session on Wednesday, February 24, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., at the Gilford Town Hall, 47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, NH. Selectmen present were Gus Benavides, Kevin Hayes and John O'Brien. Also were Town Administrator Scott Dunn and Executive Secretary Sandra Bailey.

Staff members in attendance included Finance Director Geoff Ruggles, Police Chief John Markland, Planning and Land Use Director John Ayer, Fire Chief James Hayes and DPW Operations Manager Dustin Muzzey.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Selectmen recited the Pledge of Allegiance, after which Chairman Benavides asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of former Selectman J. Kinney O'Rourke, who recently passed away.
2. **Announcements**
 - 2.1. Chairman Benavides announced that effective February 22, 2010, the Town has posted all of its Town roads to a maximum weight limit of 10 tons during the spring thaw.
 - 2.2. Chairman Benavides reminded Gilford voters that Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Gilford Middle School Gymnasium.
3. **Review/Approval of Minutes**
 - 3.1. Selectman Hayes moved to approve the minutes of the regular and non-public sessions of February 10, 2010. Selectman O'Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.
4. **Consent Agenda**
 - 4.1. Selectman Hayes moved to approve the Consent Agenda for the period February 8, 2010 through February 19, 2010. Selectman O'Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

<u>DOCUMENT DATE</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u>	<u>MAP/LOT #</u>
12/01/09	Change of Status - Ainsworth	
12/05/09	Change of Status - Stuart	
12/14/09	Change of Status - Silva	
01/14/10	Change of Status - Cutter	
01/28/10	Payroll Register	
01/29/10	Change of Status - Willett	
02/01/10	Payroll Register	
02/03/10	Accounts Payable Manifest	
02/05/10	Veteran's Tax Credit - Snow	215-008.000
02/05/10	Sewer Abatement - Hildreth	226-085.000
02/05/10	Accounts Payable Manifest	
02/07/10	Change of Status - McGinley	
02/08/10	Payroll Register	
02/09/10	Accounts Payable Manifest	

02/10/10	Notice of Lien - Vlk	201-009.074
02/10/10	Letter to Boston Culinary	
02/10/10	Revised MOU Gilford Community Church	
02/10/10	Perambulation with Alton	
02/12/10	Tax Collector's Warrant - Sewer Rents	
02/16/10	Veteran's & Elderly Tax Credit	204-059.000
02/16/10	Veteran's Tax Credit - Hamilton	203-055.000
02/17/10	Notice of Lien - Stone	224-046.044
02/17/10	Abatement - Duffy	224-081.603

5. Appointments

5.1. John Markland – Police Department Update – Chief Markland was in attendance to provide his quarterly update to the Board. He reported that they have approximately the same number of calls this year as they did during the same time period in 2009.

Chief Markland also advised the Board that his detectives solved the Beans and Greens robbery case. In addition, Sgt. O'Connor has recently completed supervisor training out of state and Sgt. Kelley is currently being trained in internal investigations.

In closing, Chief Markland advised the Board that his officers have performed random monitoring of vehicle speeds on Potter Hill Road and found no severe violations.

Brief discussion ensued regarding possible issues with the Town's 911 system.

5.2. Geoff Ruggles – Financial Update – Finance Director Ruggles briefly reviewed the January 2010 financial update. He stated that revenues are very close to where they were last year at this time. Expenditures are up slightly, but still below average. Cash flow remains strong.

Selectman Hayes questioned the fluctuation in the projected cash flow in December 2010. Finance Director Ruggles explained that this is due to an increase in the regular allocation to the School District and waiting for the second issue tax money to come in.

6. Old Business

6.1. Life and Disability Insurance Plans – Finance Director Ruggles reported that the Local Government Center's business practices do not allow them the ability to make rate adjustments on life and disability insurance plans, based on lower rates that may be quoted by competitors.

Selectman Hayes moved to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with Davis and Towle for the Town's employee life and disability insurances. Selectman O'Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

6.2. 5K Walk/Run Event – Gilford Middle School Eighth Grade Class – Chief Markland reported that he has no new information on this event, so it was tabled to

the next meeting.

- 6.3. A Policy Regulating Off-Site Commercial Signs in Public Rights-of-Way** – Chairman Benavides reported that Draft #7 of this policy takes into account the comments received at the recent public hearing. Selectman Hayes questioned the streets listed in Appendix B and expressed concern that certain roads are not listed. Following brief discussion, Town Administrator Dunn advised him that the updating and maintenance of the street listing will be ongoing. For the purposes of clarification, Chairman Benavides stated that this policy only applies to Town-owned rights-of-way, not private landowners.

Selectman Hayes moved to approve Draft #7 of the Policy, dated February 16, 2010, as written. Selectman O'Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 6.4. Belknap County Dispatch Services** – Selectman Hayes stated that he is dismayed with the response from the County Commissioners regarding dispatch services and considers it to be a “slap in the face”. He stated that he expected they would respond that they would look into the matter further. He asked the Board to take further action to encourage the County to bill the towns that utilize their dispatch service.

Chairman Benavides read the letter aloud for the benefit of the members of the public in attendance.

7. New Business

- 7.1. Erosion Concerns – Gunstock River Bridge on Intervale Road** – Chairman Benavides read aloud a letter from Conservation Commission John Goodhue that addresses concerns with erosion on Intervale Road (Route 11-B). The Commission is concerned that the spring runoff could destroy the bridge and roadway and bring additional pollutants to the Gunstock River and Lake Winnepesaukee.

Chairman Benavides recommended that Town Administrator Dunn contact NH DOT regarding this matter. Selectman Hayes agreed, and also recommended that NH DES be involved, as well.

- 7.2. Disposition of Surplus Property – Fire Department** – Fire Chief Hayes advised the Board that this past year the Department purchased a new inflatable boat and motor and although the old boat has been disposed of, the old motor is in good condition and worth an estimated \$300-\$400. Gillan Marine of Alton has offered to consign the old motor at their showroom at no cost to the Town.

Chief Hayes also stated that if the warrant article passes for the purchase of new breathing apparatus, the Department will have 22 air packs to dispose of. Captain Balcom is currently working on obtaining prices from companies who would purchase the air packs as surplus equipment.

Chief Hayes asked the Board for authorization to move forward with these two proposals and secondly, if the Board would authorize the money obtained from selling surplus to be deposited into the Fire Training Facility donation account, rather than the general fund. He noted that the original inflatable boat and motor were purchased using donations and the breathing apparatus was purchased using Federal grant monies.

Brief discussion ensued regarding various problems associated with the current breathing apparatus, as well as the process to be used in accepting surplus funds. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize the disposition of the surplus property and upon sale, return to the Board regarding the designation of the funds.

Chief Hayes also briefly updated the Board on Emergency Management in Gilford, including training that will be forthcoming in the near future.

7.3. Pole & Petition License – Liscomb Circle – Selectman Hayes moved to approve the Pole & Petition License for Liscomb Circle as presented. Selectman O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

7.4. 2009 Audit Services Contract – Chairman Benavides reported that a contract has been submitted from Plodzick & Sanderson for the 2009 audit for \$18,000 to \$22,000. Brief discussion ensued and it was pointed out that the Town will be soliciting proposals for the 2010 audit.

Selectman Hayes moved to approve the contract proposal from Plodzick & Sanderson for the 2009 audit, as presented. Selectman O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

7.5. Abatement Requests – Interest on Second Issue 2009 Tax Bills – Selectman Hayes moved to deny abatement requests from Jean Evvard and Suzanne Hankard for interest and penalties due to lost or misplaced checks. Selectman O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

7.6. 2010 Highway Construction Contract – Chairman Benavides provided a brief overview of the proposal from Wolcott Construction for the 2010 highway maintenance contract. He stated that they are willing to extend last year’s contract with the Town and hold all prices quoted for the 2009 season into the 2010 season.

Discussion ensued regarding the four Town roads that have a base of asphalt, but still need the 1” topcoat for completion. Positive comments were also made concerning the quality of work done by Wolcott.

Selectman Hayes moved to extend the 2009 contract of Wolcott Construction through 2010, utilizing the same pricing as 2009. Selectman O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

8. Public Input – None.

9. Selectmen’s Issues – Selectman Hayes stated that he is working with Chief Hayes to address 911 issues.

Chairman Benavides introduced State Senate District 4 candidate George Hurt to the Board. Mr. Hurt presented his position on several matters affecting the citizens of Gilford.

10. Administrator’s Report – Town Administrator Dunn stated that his principal project has been working on the upgrading of the Town’s telephone system. He has also been working on the re-write of the Town’s parking regulations.

11. **Next Meeting** – Regular Meeting – March 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

12. **Adjournment** – With no further business before the Board, the Board of Selectmen's February 10, 2010 meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. O'Brien
Clerk