

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
July 14, 2010
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a regular session on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 6:00 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 Deputy Police Chief Kevin Keenan. Several members of the Gilford Police Department and Gilford Fire-Rescue were also in attendance for presentations being made to Police Officer Daniel O'Neill.

1. **Non-Public Session** – Selectman O'Brien moved to enter non-public Session at 6:01 p.m., pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (d)(c), to discuss the consideration of the acquisition 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 6:44 p.m. and seal the minutes. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

The Board re-convened in regular session at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Selectmen recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Announcements/Presentations**
 - 3.1. Chairman Hayes announced that the Summer Town Forum will be held on Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.
 - 3.2. The new SAU Offices, located at 2 Belknap Mountain Road, will hold an Open House on Saturday, August 28, 2010, commencing at 11:30 a.m. (Old Home Day). The dedication ceremony will take place at 12 noon.
 - 3.3. Chairman Hayes read aloud a Proclamation honoring the Liberty Tree and proclaimed August 14, 2010 as Liberty Tree Day.
 - 3.4. The Gilford Police Department, Gilford Fire-Rescue and Board of Selectmen honored Police Officer Daniel O'Neill for his actions on the night of June 28, 2010, when he responded to a medical call for an unresponsive person, who he was able to successfully revive. He received an Award of Exemplary Action from Gilford Fire Rescue and the Lifesaving Award from the Police Department for saving Rowland Keith. Mrs. Keith was in attendance to express her gratitude to Officer O'Neill.
4. **Review/Approval of Minutes**
 - 4.1. Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the minutes of the regular and non-public sessions of June 23, 2010. Selectman seconded. Motion carried with Selectman O'Brien abstaining.

4.2. Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the minutes of the special session of June 30, 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 June 28, 2010 through July 9, 2010. Chairman Hayes seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

<u>DOCUMENT DATE</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u>	<u>MAP/LOT #</u>
06/08/10	Change of Status - Greene	
06/14/10	Payroll Register	
06/15/10	Accounts Payable Manifest	
06/15/10	Payroll Register	
06/21/10	Abatement - Sheehy	252-016.263
06/21/10	Abatement - Town of Gilford	252-191.000
06/21/10	Abatement - Town of Gilford	208-003.000
06/21/10	Abatement - Metrocast	236-015.001
06/21/10	Abatement - Aichinger	221-007.001
06/21/10	Abatement - Touma	222-002.000
06/21/10	Payroll Register	
06/22/10	Payroll Register	
06/22/10	Accounts Payable Manifest	
06/28/10	Payroll Register	
06/28/10	Abatement Denial - Aichinger	221-007.001
06/28/10	Abatement Denial - Gerald Realty	201-024.000
06/28/10	Abatement Denial - McGinley	210-010.002
06/28/10	Abatement Denial - McGinley	210-010.003
06/28/10	Abatement Denial - McGinley	210-010.004
06/28/10	Abatement Denial - McGinley	211-011.002
06/29/10	Change of Status - Heinz	
06/29/10	Accounts Payable Manifest	
06/29/10	Payroll Register	
06/30/10	Deed Waiver - Merrifield	
06/30/10	Abatement - Mullen & Emans	213-013.005
07/01/10	Veteran's Tax Credit - O'Donnell	201-009.121
07/01/10	Veteran's Tax Credit - Dow	213-088.003
07/01/10	Deed Waiver - Martinez	203-087.000

6. Appointments

6.1. **Keith Jordan – Timberman Triathlon** – Mr. Jordan was in attendance to update the Board on the upcoming event and answer any questions they might have. He stated that this is year 10 for the event and they are looking forward to increased communication and medical support this year. Methods of communication to the general public will include signs, flyers, TV and radio announcements and message boards.

In addition, there will be additional bussing for participants and box trucks for 2,800 bikes. Selectman Benavides inquired about the ownership of the event and Mr. Jordan replied that Ironman owns the event, which allows for additional media coverage and resources, particularly with the handling of registrations. Mr. Jordan does not think that this “homegrown” feel will ever change. He also commented that

this tiny event has grown to a world class event in ten years. He thanked the Town for their constant support.

The Board thanked Mr. Jordan for his presentation.

- 6.2. John Markland – Police Department Update** – Chief Markland stated that Motorcycle Week 2010 was a relatively quiet event for the Gilford Police Department. He also provided the Board with some statistics regarding the status of the budget and call activity.

He further reported that Adam VanSteenburg will be graduating from the Police Academy on July 30th. After Officer VanSteenburg returns to Gilford, Officer Wes deSousa will be attending the next Police Academy class. The Glendale Docks have been operating smoothly, although the July 4th weekend was especially busy. Selectman Benavides advised Chief Markland that he has received very positive feedback on Clint Phelps, one of the Glendale officers, for his fairness and professionalism.

Chief Markland stated that the Police Department's website has been updated.

The Board thanked Chief Markland for his presentation.

7. Public Hearing

- 7.1. Sewer Rate Increases** – Chairman Hayes explained that the Finance and Public Works Departments have completed their annual review of the sewer rate calculations and are making recommendations for increases. They are recommending that the Administrative Fee be increased from \$14.20 to \$16.92 per quarter and that the Usage Rate Fee be increased from \$4.63 to \$5.44 per 1,000 gallons used, in accordance with the rate setting formula in the Sewer Ordinance.

Chairman Hayes read aloud a letter from Gilford resident Bill Knightly, who opposes the increases and had several questions regarding the process in place for sewer billing. Finance Director Ruggles and DPW Director Sheldon Morgan were able to provide answers for Mr. Knightly's questions.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the possibility of having the meter reading and billing occur more efficiently.

Resident George Hurt inquired about the Meter Inspection Fee. Director Morgan explained that in many situations no charges are incurred for inspections.

Selectman O'Brien moved to increase the sewer rate administrative fee from \$14.20 per quarter to \$15.62; and increase the usage rate fee from \$4.63 per thousand gallons to \$5.09, capping the increases at 10% due to the existing economic climate.

Town Administrator Dunn explained his rationale for the 10% cap, with the understanding that an additional increase will be necessary in 2011 to restore the sewer fund to a balanced budget. Lengthy discussion ensued with the Board concluding that the 10% cap would only postpone the additional charges for one more year. For this reason, Selectman O'Brien withdrew his original motion and moved to increase the sewer rate administrative fee from \$14.20 per quarter to \$16.92; and increase the usage rate fee from \$4.63 per thousand gallons to \$5.44,

effective July 1, 2010. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

8. Old Business

8.1. Ernest Houle Logging Request – Town Forester Tim Nolin has expressed several concerns with the most recent proposal from Mr. Houle to log his property. Town Administrator Dunn shares these concerns and although he requested that Mr. Houle submit a new proposal in writing, he has not complied.

Selectman O'Brien moved to deny the request from Ernest Houle to use Town property to access his property in Belmont for logging. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

8.2. Single Stream Recycling – DPW Director Sheldon Morgan provided the Board with an overview of his memo dated July 2, 2010 regarding the proposed single stream recycling facility. He is before the Board tonight asking them to sign a letter of commitment to become a participating member of the proposed Cooperative Single Stream Recycling Facility and to begin delivering recyclables when the facility is available for service.

Selectman O'Brien moved to sign the letter indicating the Town of Gilford's willingness to participate. Selectman Benavides seconded.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the need to provide a financial incentive for people to recycle. Director Morgan also pointed out that the curbside trash collection by private vendors would need to be better controlled in order for recycling to be effective. A vote on the motion showed that it carried with all in favor.

9. New Business

9.1. Recreation Commission Resignation/Request for Change in Status – Selectman O'Brien moved to accept the resignation of Lisa Manz-Buckley as a regular member of the Recreation Commission and appoint her as an alternate member. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman Benavides recommending replacing Lisa Manz-Buckley with Alternate Sue King. He praised her for her many years of dedication to the Gilford Recreation Department. Selectman Benavides moved to appoint Sue King as a regular member of the Recreation Commission. Selectman O'Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

9.2. Local Emergency Operation Plan Annual Concurrence – Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the annual concurrence of the Town's emergency operations plan. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

9.3. D.A.R.E. Donations – Selectman O'Brien moved to accept the following donations for the D.A.R.E. program: Laconia Savings Bank - \$200, Gilford Middle School - \$266.05 and the Wal-Mart Foundation - \$250. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

9.4. Glendale Permit – RSKS Realty – Chairman Hayes read aloud a request from Robert F. Kokko to have a Town decal issued to him through his sole member LLC,

for a boat slip at the Gilford Yacht Club. Following discussion, Selectman O'Brien moved to deny the request. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 9.5. 2010 Heritage Festival** – Chairman Hayes briefly reviewed a letter received from Jennifer Eldridge of the Gilford 2010 Heritage Festival Committee. The Heritage Festival is a cultural and educational community event, to be held on Saturday, September 25, 2010.

Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the request from the Heritage Festival Committee to conduct their event on Saturday, September 25, 2010. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 9.6. NH Humane Society Contract for Services** – Town Administrator Dunn advised Board members that a revised contract has been received for \$9,500, which is the amount that the Town budgeted for services in 2010.

Selectman O'Brien moved to approve the annual contract with the NH Humane Society in the budgeted amount of \$9,500. Selectman Benavides seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

- 10. Public Input** – Jim Forsythe of Strafford introduced himself to the Board as a candidate for State Senate.

- 11. Selectmen's Issues** – none.

- 12. Administrator's Report** – Town Administrator Dunn reminded the Board that the Belknap County Commissioners will be attending the July 28th meeting.

The Boston Post Cane presentation will be made to Dorothy Mastine on July 28th at the Merrimack County Nursing Home.

- 13. Next Meeting** – Regular Meeting – July 28, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

- 13. Adjournment** – With no further business before the Board, the Board of Selectmen's June 23, 2010 meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gus Benavides
Clerk