

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
GORHAM TOWN BOARD
October 12, 2016**

The Gorham Town Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday October 12, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Gorham Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Lightfoote, Councilmembers; Glitch, Case and Chard. Code Enforcement Officer Freida, Assessor Mineo, and Town Clerk Perrotte. Councilmember Malcolm, Chief Operator Coston and Highway Superintendent Ayers were necessarily absent. Other guests in attendance; Will McCoy, Ruth Freier, Jo Ann Shepard, members of the Gorham Cemetery Association; Bob and Arlene Clarke, Sandy Hershey, Daniel and MaryAnn Bradley.

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag:

2. Privilege of the Floor –

a. Jo Ann Shepard addressed the Board with information on services offered by The Partnership for Ontario County. The Partnership for Ontario County is an organization that supports programs and initiatives based on community needs. Some of the programs Mrs. Shepard spoke about were the Ontario County Youth Court, Child Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes and Family Support Centers. Mrs. Shepard is the coordinator for the Family Support Center. She spoke about the services they offer to students and families in the Marcus Whitman School District along with Canandaigua City, Phelps Clifton Springs and Geneva School Districts. The program is designed to improve access to support services, such as counseling, for students and families of at-risk children in grades K-12. All services provided by the Family Support Center are free and confidential. Mrs. Shepard left brochures and information for us to have available at the Town Hall.

b. Ruth Freier Director, Gorham Free Library - Ms. Freier said the funding request has stayed level for 2017. She has been the new Director for approximately three weeks. Ms. Freier is hoping to keep all the current programs along with trying to find good staff and branch out to connect better with the school district to get more students involved with the Library. Ms. Freier said their funding request for 2017 will stay the same as 2016.

3. Approval of Minutes – 9/14/16 and 9/28/16 Meetings. On the motion by Councilmember Case, seconded by Councilmember Chard, the 9/14/16 and 9/28/16 minutes were approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

071-2016

4. Audit of Bills:

Abstract #10	A 258-284	\$15,992.05
	B 260-278	1,532.19
	SL 261-266	655.89
	DB 154-168	13,648.02
	SS 63-72	3,564.30
	SW1 171-190	8,744.10
	HD 38	3,800.00
	HO 39	294.00

On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Case, the bills were approved for payment. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

072-2016

5. Reports of Town Officials -

- a. Water/Wastewater Plants - written report on file.
- b. Highway Superintendent – written report on file.
- c. Zoning – written report on file. Mr. Freida said, regarding the Septic Law there are still some minor changes going on. Changes have been submitted to the Town Lawyer for review. The Zoning Law changes have also been submitted to the Lawyer along with the Solar Exemption Opt-Out for his review.
- d. Assessor – written report on file.
- e. Town Clerk – written report on file.
- f. Supervisor – no report on file.

On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Chard, the reports of Town Officials were approved. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

073-2016

6. Business:

- a. Gorham Cemetery Association - Mr. Bob (Butch) Clarke, the recently elected President of the Association, said “looking into the finances of the Association our funding is pretty close to the bone.” The Association is looking for funding from the Town of Gorham. Mr. Clarke has requested, from the State, permission to raise lot prices and burial fees but, if they are not selling any lots it’s not doing them any good. The Association has not sold a lot yet this year. There is the availability of the Town to help out. Therefore they are requesting \$10,000.00. Mr. Clarke said he sent a letter, a formal request, to the Town of Gorham seeking \$10,000.00. Supervisor Lightfoote and Councilmembers asked Mr. Clarke for a budget from the Association. Mr. Clarke said under the previous President, who passed away earlier this year, he could not find one. He assured

the Board that for 2017 there will be a budget. The Treasurer for the association, Sandy Hershey, gave a list of income and expenses. Mr. Clarke said "from the list you can see our operating expenses are more than our revenues." Mr. Clarke said they would be grateful for any amount the town can send their way.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the association is looking for a one time donation and then to be added into future funding with a line item in the Town's yearly budget. Mr. Clarke said if the Town of Gorham could commit to a yearly figure for funding they could plan on that money every year in their budget rather than guessing if they would get any.

Supervisor Lightfoote said we're on the same team, in the same community.

Mr. Clarke said "the cemetery is well kept and we want to keep it that way."

Mr. Clarke said they have formed a committee for grounds and equipment. Along with their typical yearly expenses they plan to have a reserve fund just for grounds and equipment.

Councilmember Glitch asked if the association takes donations. Mrs. Hershey said yes they do. This year when the Association President passed away contributions could be made to the Cemetery Association in his memory. That is typically when they receive donations.

Supervisor Lightfoote said they will discuss funding at the next Board meeting when all Councilmembers are present.

b. Ontario County Snow Contract – Supervisor Lightfoote said the yearly contract with Ontario County for snow removal is \$5,500.00.

On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Case, Supervisor Lightfoote is authorized to sign the 2017 County Snow Contract. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

074-2016

c. Budget Transfers – On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Case, the following budget transfer was approved. \$40,000.00 from DB5142.1 to DB5110.1. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

075-2016

d. County Rd 1 Park, Phase 1 - Board members agreed to start the County Rd 1 Park project. Phase 1 would include the driveway, a parking area and an open air pavilion. Supervisor Lightfoote asked for authorization for Clark Patterson Lee to work up the document for Phase 1 to enable the Town to get bids. Councilmember Glitch suggested the Town do the initial steps themselves rather than hiring a firm to draw up a pretty picture and charge us for it. Councilmember Glitch said it is easy to hire a contractor to do the site work needed for Phase 1. The Board agreed. Supervisor Lightfoote said he needs approval from the County for the curb cuts; the Town has the preliminary plan which is enough to move forward with to obtain bids.

e. Budget Review – Gorham Free Library. The budget amount for 2017 for the Library will remain the same as 2016. Since the Library is asking for the same amount of funding Councilmembers agreed to take the two percent anticipated increase for the Library funding and give it to the Partnership for Ontario County.

On the motion by Supervisor Lightfoote, seconded by Councilmember Glitch, to allocate \$825.00 to The Partnership for Ontario County Family Support Center. Motion carried unanimously (3-0) with Councilmember Chard abstaining because he is on the Board of Directors for the Partnership for Ontario County.

076-2016

7. Other:

a. Supervisor Lightfoote said he spoke with a representative from the auction company in regards to the highway equipment replacement schedule. The surplus equipment is auctioned off when the town replaces a piece of equipment. The auction company recommends a seven year interval for replacing equipment. Gorham has been using a ten year system. They found that we are losing value because the depreciation is greater and repair cost start to creep up on a ten year old piece of equipment as opposed to a seven year old piece of equipment. Supervisor Lightfoote said “when you look at the cost for replacement, the 7 year mark is where the Town realizes the most value.” Supervisor Lightfoote is looking at moving up the replacement schedule, at the very least, for the plow trucks that take a significant beating. With the Highway Superintendent’s plan to retire Supervisor Lightfoote is doing the leg work looking at the replacement costs for 2017 and beyond.

b. The Water Department is looking for a new building to store their equipment. As it is right now their equipment sits outside all year. The Water Department would like to put a storage building at the County Road 1 Park property. The east end of that property is in close proximity to the Water Department on Route 364. Supervisor Lightfoote would like to get quotes for a pole barn.

c. Supervisor Lightfoote is getting quotes on a large computer monitor system for use at the Town Hall during meetings. He thinks all the Boards would find it useful to have that type of technology available.

8. Executive Session – On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Chard, the Board entered into executive session at 9:23pm to discuss pending litigation Michael D. Cregg v Town of Gorham and Dougherty v Town of Gorham. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

No action was taken in executive session.

On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Case, the Board returned to regular session at 9:36pm. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

9. Privilege of the Floor: Mr. Will McCoy said "regarding the funding for The Partnership for Ontario County, it is useful to characterize it as 'seed money' to expand what they are doing in our community. 'Seed money' rather than 'this is going to be a continuing deal.' I just throw that out because I'm not sure you want to be in the business of supporting non-profits here and there. To get something that sounds worthwhile off the ground which it seems like it is, any amount helps." Mr. McCoy said he is always grateful for the small town depth of discussion we have in Gorham. He said he is impressed with the deliberations that go on here. The depth of thinking on these issues is very good. He said "these thoughts coming in and the depth of discussion is just excellent it gives me a nice warm feeling to know this goes on in this Town, I am very grateful for that." Supervisor Lightfoote and the Councilmembers thanked Mr. McCoy for his comments. The Board agreed everyone is here for the right reason it's to do the best job we can.

10. Set next meeting date – the next regular meeting and public hearing will be held on November 9, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

11. Adjournment: With no further business, on the motion by Councilmember Case, seconded by Councilmember Glitch, the meeting was adjourned at 9:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darby Perrotte
Town Clerk