

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
THE GORHAM TOWN BOARD  
MARCH 18, 2026**

The Gorham Town Board held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday March 18, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall in Gorham, NY.

Present; Supervisor Dale C. Stell.

Councilmembers; Phil Curtis, Chrissy Watkins, Chase Brown.

Town Officials in attendance; Chief Operator Water & Wastewater Districts Nate Bay, Highway Superintendent Brandon Ayers, Code Enforcement Officer Jim Morse, Assessor Enza Mineo and Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.

Residents and guests in person and via zoom.

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*The minutes are written as a summary of the main points that were made and are the official and permanent record of the actions taken by the Gorham Town Board. Remarks delivered during privilege of the floor and discussions are summarized and are not intended to be verbatim transcriptions.*

*The full zoom recording of the meeting is posted on the town website for viewing and for listening to privilege of the floor comments*

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1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag
2. Privilege of the Floor –

*The monthly report from Stanley Hall Gorham Ambulance was submitted.*

*The full zoom recording of the meeting is posted on the town website for viewing and to listen to privilege of the floor comments, also available on tape at the Town Clerk's Office*

3. Approval of Minutes - 02/18/2026 Regular Meeting Minutes  
03/14/2026 Special Meeting Minutes

On the motion by Councilmember Watkins, seconded by Councilmember Curtis, both meeting minutes were approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4- Ayes – Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**028-2026**

4. Reports of Town Officials -
  - A. Chief Operator Water/Wastewater Plants – written report on file.
  - B. Highway Superintendent – written report on file.
  - C. Zoning/Building Officer – written report on file.
  - D. Assessor –written report on file.
  - E. Town Clerk – written report on file.
  - f. Town Supervisor – written report on file.

On the motion by Councilmember Watkins, seconded by Councilmember Brown, the Reports of Town Officials were approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. 4-0  
4- Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**029-2026**

5. Audit of Bills -

Approval of Vouchers

On the motion by Councilmember Curtis, seconded by Councilmember Brown, the abstract of bills in the amount of \$495,501.95 was approved for payment. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**030-2026**

6. Business –

a. Adopt Resolution for Zoning /Code Enforcement Truck Purchase

Councilmember Brown offered the following resolution and called for adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Watkins, the resolution was adopted unanimously. 4-0

4 Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**031-2026**

**TOWN OF GORHAM  
RESOLUTION #5-2026  
PURCHASE 2026 FORD F150 XLT**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Gorham Code Enforcement and Zoning Enforcement Officer has voiced his concern over numerous mechanical issues that he has had with the 2023 GMC Canyon he currently drives

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Gorham Supervisor has been made aware of these concerns

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Gorham Code Enforcement/ Zoning Enforcement Officer has obtained a Quote from Van Bortel Ford under the Onondaga County State bid

**WHEREAS**, The B8010.2, B8020.2, and B230 budget accounts have been assigned to replace said equipment at such times they see fit and have a cumulative balance of \$32,569.08

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Town of Gorham Town Board authorizes the purchase of a 2026 Ford F150 XLT 4x4 w/6.5' box from Van Bortel Ford at a cost not to exceed \$14,400.90 including the trade in allowance of \$31,000 for the 2023 GMC Canyon.

I, Darby L. Perrotte, Town Clerk of the Town of Gorham, do hereby certify that the resolution was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Gorham on March 18th, 2026 by the following vote:

	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<u><b>Nay</b></u>
Dale Stell	X_____	_____
Chrissy Watkins	X_____	_____
Chase Brown	X_____	_____
Phil Curtis	X_____	_____

b. Adopt Resolution Appointing Alternate BAR Member

Councilmember Brown offered the following resolution and called for adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Watkins, the resolution was adopted unanimously. 4-0  
 4 Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**032-2026**

**TOWN OF GORHAM  
 RESOLUTION # 6-2026  
 APPOINTING BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW ALTERNATE**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 523 (1)(b) of the Real Property Tax Law the Town of Gorham Board of Assessment Review shall consist of five members appointed by the legislative body of the local government; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Deborah North has expressed interest in serving on the Town of Gorham Board of Assessment Review as an alternate; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Mrs. North is hereby appointed to a term commencing 10/1/2025 through 9/30/2026.

I Darby L. Perrotte, Town Clerk of the Town of Gorham, do hereby certify that the aforementioned resolution was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Gorham on March 18, 2026 by the following vote:

	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<u><b>Nay</b></u>
Dale C. Stell	X_____	_____
Phil Curtis	X_____	_____
Chase Brown	X_____	_____
Chrissy Watkins	X_____	_____

c. Adopt Resolution Filling Town Board Vacancy

Councilmember offered the following resolution and called for adoption. Seconded by Councilmember the resolution was adopted unanimously. 4-0

**TOWN OF GORHAM  
RESOLUTION #7-2026  
FILLING VACANCY IN OFFICE OF TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER**

**WHEREAS**, Jake Chard resigned his elective office as Town of Gorham Town Council Member effective February 5, 2026, and thereby, pursuant to NYS Public Officers Law §30 1.b., a vacancy was created in the office of Town Council Member that he had previously held; and

**WHEREAS**, Jake Chard’s term extended through December 31, 2027; and

**WHEREAS**, Town Law § 64 5 authorizes the Town Board, or a majority of the members thereof, to appoint a qualified person to fill a vacancy whenever a vacancy shall exist in any town office; and

**WHEREAS**, Town Law § 64 5 further provides that if the Town Board does so authorize the filling of a vacancy, and “[i]f the appointment be made to fill a vacancy in an elective office, the person so appointed shall hold office until the commencement of the calendar year next succeeding the first annual election at which the vacancy may be filled”; and

**WHEREAS**, the next annual election is to be held on November 3, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has held interviews of individuals interested in filling the vacant Town Council Member position.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as follows:

1. That the Town Board finds that Christopher Bay, one of the individuals the Town Board interviewed for this vacant position, is at least eighteen years of age, is a citizen of the United States, a resident of New York State, and is a resident and elector of the Town of Gorham and, therefore, meets the eligibility requirements of Town Law § 23 1. and Public Officers Law § 3 1. for a person to hold the position of Town Council Member; and further
2. That pursuant to the authority granted to the Town Board by Town Law § 64 5, the Town Board hereby appoints Christopher Bay to fill the vacant position of Town Council Member to serve immediately, upon filing the required oath of office, and through December 31, 2026.

I, Darby L. Perrotte, Town Clerk of the Town of Gorham do hereby certify that the aforementioned resolution was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Gorham on March 18, 2026 by the following vote:

	<u><b>Aye</b></u>	<u><b>Nay</b></u>
Dale Stell	X_____	_____
Phil Curtis	X_____	_____
Chase Brown	X_____	_____

Chrissy Watkins

X\_\_\_\_\_

d. Appoint Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics

On the motion by Councilmember Watkins, seconded by Councilmember Brown to appoint Tessah Ciardi as Deputy Registrar. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**034-2026**

e. Approve spending for an Updated Employee Handbook

On the motion by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, to approve spending up to \$4,395.00 for an updated Employee Handbook and \$1,995.00 for a 1-year subscription to add all State/Federal updates and support services with HR Works. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**035-2026**

f. Budget Transfer –

On the motion by Councilmember Watkins, seconded by Councilmember Brown to transfer \$10,000.00 from A5132.2 to A8510.4 for Community Beautification which includes Welcome to Gorham signs, flowerpots, banners & flags. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**036-2026**

g. Approve Sale of Surplus Town Equipment/Items

On the motion by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, to approve the sale of certain surplus equipment. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**037-2026**

h. Approve New Gate at the Highway Facility

On the motion by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, to approve a new automatic gate at the highway facility not to exceed \$15,500.00. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 Ayes - Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**038-2026**

7. Set Next Meeting Date – The next meeting will be held on Wednesday April 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

8. Privilege of the Floor –

*The full zoom recording of the meeting is posted on the town website for viewing and to listen to privilege of the floor comments, also available on tape at the Town Clerk's Office*

9. Adjournment – with no further business, on the motion by Councilmember Watkins, seconded by Councilmember Curtis, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4- Ayes – Stell, Curtis, Watkins, Brown

**039-2026**

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte  
Town Clerk