

**MINUTES
WORKSHOP SESSION
THE GORHAM TOWN BOARD
November 25, 2020 1:00pm**

The Gorham Town Board held a Workshop Session on November 25, 2020 at 1:00 pm.

Present were Supervisor Fred Lightfoote, Councilmembers; Brian S. Case, Richard Malcolm and Jake Chard. Highway Superintendent Zach Eddinger and Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.

Clerk Brenda Jones joined via video conference.

Councilmember William Glitch was necessarily absent.

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag. Supervisor Lightfoote called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the flag.
2. Privilege of the Floor –none requested
3. Business -

1. Transfer Station Fees –

Supervisor Lightfoote said “We’ve been talking for years about having to do something up there, which we still have to, we can start with the fees. I didn’t have time to try and figure out exactly what it is costing us to actually have and operate the Transfer Station. We know it’s significant. What we used to try and do was to have the cost of the permits cover half of the cost of operation of the Transfer Station. We have to look at improving our revenue stream as far as operating.”

The Board and Highway Superintendent Eddinger discussed variable ways to make the Transfer Station more efficient for everyone. They discussed security measures to keep cost down regarding illegal dumping that takes place. They discussed implementing a higher fee to be able to charge one price as opposed to charging for construction debris and electronics, TV’s and refrigerants like the system that is currently in place. They discussed charging residents through a property tax levy for the Transfer Station. They discussed closing the Transfer Station completely. They discussed charging commercial contractor’s one flat fee per year. They discussed the cost of the brush pile and what that is costing the Town to have a contractor come in for grinding.

Supervisor Lightfoote said “Please look into it enough so that you can figure out the potential benefits and pitfalls that are associated with it and some idea of cost.”

2. Docks and Moorings Issue –

Supervisor Lightfoote said there is a boathouse on the lake that is of concern as a docks and mooring issue.

The contractor who built the boathouse obtained a building permit for three hundred ninety square feet. The boathouse is one hundred nineteen square feet over the maximum square footage allowed.

Supervisor Lightfoote said he would like to set up a meeting with the owner so he can show the Board that it is a boathouse. It has been argued whether it's a boathouse or man cave with living space. The boathouse has a special hoist that can be considered part of the dock's square footage.

The Board agreed to meet, along with Code Enforcement Officer Morse, at the property in the near future.

3. Potential Conservation Subdivision Issue –

Supervisor Lightfoote said the property is located south of East Lake View. The size of the property to be developed has to have a certain amount of open space according to Town of Gorham Zoning Laws. With the proposal that was submitted, so far, it is a regular subdivision. A conservation subdivision would allow for smaller size lots grouped closer together.

Supervisor Lightfoote said it comes down to the Town Board to act on this. There has been informal discussion at the past two Town Board meetings. The potential owner has not submitted a formal plan. The Board discussed water and sewer infrastructure and some other critical elements regarding subdivision regulations.

Supervisor Lightfoote asked the Board to look over the map and small plan that was submitted so they can discuss it further at the next Town Board Meeting.

10. Adjournment – with no further business on the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Case, the meeting was adjourned at 2:47pm. Motion carried unanimously. (3-0)

090-2020

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte
Town Clerk