

TOWN OF GORHAM
CONSERVATION BOARD
MINUTES
August 5, 2020

The Town of Gorham Conservation Board met on Wednesday August 5, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Gorham Town Hall.

Present were; Conservation Board Chairman, Brett Johnson.
Conservation Board Members; Keith Eddinger and Lynn Klotz.
Town Supervisor Fred Lightfoote.

Town Board Liaison Brian S. Case, Town Board Councilmember Rick Malcolm and Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.
Councilmembers Matt Bay and Meg Brewin were necessarily absent.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor – none requested

Approval of Minutes - On the motion by Councilmember Klotz, seconded by Councilmember Eddinger, the 2/5/2020 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Business:

Chairman Johnson said the only new business he has is letting the Board know he has been in touch with Marcus Whitman School Superintendent Dr. Chris Brown. With schools trying to re-open it was important for Chairman Johnson to chat with Dr. Brown regarding a possible tie-in with the school if solid food waste and vermiculture ever comes to completion. Chairman Johnson thinks it's important that the school and the Conservation Board have an open line of communication.

a. Parcel Ranking Status

Chairman Johnson discussed the parcel ranking status of the Conservation Board. The Board's mission is to protect open space. Chairman Johnson said we sit in limbo and there is nothing to act on.

Chairman Johnson said "While parcel ranking is our number one mission, it's not happening, not today. Our other projects such as aeration and solid food waste can be enhanced."

b. Pilot Aeration Program

Chairman Johnson and Councilmember Klotz spoke about continuing the aeration project. Between Covid-19 and dry weather they agreed to use this as a documentation year. Councilmember Klotz will take photos of the area that was aerated last fall and continue on in the same fashion this year with documentation.

Councilmember Klotz said she was trying to locate a soil testing penetrometer which can test for soil compaction.

Supervisor Lightfoote said he would look into it, he knows someone who may let her borrow one.

Board Members discussed performing another aeration in the spring.

c. Food Waste Collection

Chairman Johnson said he would like to purchase fifty food waste recycling buckets to hand out to volunteers. Councilmembers suggested setting up at the Transfer Station to hand out the buckets to any resident that is interested in recycling their food waste.

Supervisor Lightfoote said we have to continue on course with food waste recycling because of the impending closure of the landfill. He will approach Highway Superintendent Eddinger about installing a trench on Town property to start the program.

Councilmember Klotz suggested a brief instruction flyer to hand out with the bucket.

Chairman Johnson will bring a sample bucket to the next Town Board Meeting.

The Conservation Board anticipates having the trench, buckets, volunteers, and all the information they need, ready to start the program by this coming fall.

The next meeting of the Gorham Conservation Board will be held on Wednesday September 2nd, 2020 at 7:00pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte