

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
THE GORHAM TOWN BOARD
June 9, 2021 7:00pm**

The Gorham Town Board held a Regular Meeting on June 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Gorham Town Hall. Present were; Town Supervisor Fred Lightfoote, Councilmembers; William Glitch, Brian S. Case and Jake Chard. Chief Operator Water/Wastewater Districts Greg Coston, Code Enforcement Officer Jim Morse, Billing Clerk Brenda Jones and Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.

Highway Superintendent Zach Eddinger joined via phone conference.

Councilmember Richard Malcolm and Assessor Enza Mineo were necessarily absent.

Other Guests in attendance; Town of Gorham Conservation Board Chairman Brett Johnson and his Granddaughter Cheyanne, members of the Gorham Historical Society and Tim Long.

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

Dennis Hogan, Town of Gorham Historian, spoke on behalf of the Gorham Historical Society.

Mr. Hogan started by thanking the Town of Gorham for being so supportive. He said they are honored by the support over the years.

Mr. Hogan said the Historical Society is in need of display space for all of their artifacts. They need back office space, storage for things that are not being displayed and a place for volunteers to work. They have two items that they cannot display right now because of their size. One being a circa 1900's Curtain advertising twenty businesses operating in Gorham in the early 1900's. The curtain was donated by the Odd Fellows. The other is a circa 1880's Studebaker Water Wagon also donated to the Historical Society.

The Town of Gorham owns the building that houses the Gorham Free Library. The Gorham Historical Society is housed on the lower floor of that building. The Town has been in the engineering and grant application process to put an addition on the building. The Library and the Historical Society have run out of space in the current building. Currently a house next to the Library/Historical building in Gorham has been put on the market. It is referred to as the Johnson House. The Historical Society is hopeful that the Town could possibly purchase the house for the Historical Society to use instead of putting an addition on the Library.

The Historical Society put together a list of pro's and con's between purchasing the Johnson House and putting a new addition on the Library Building.

First, the Town of Gorham Historical Society GREATLY appreciates the support it has received from the town. Thank You.

If there were to be a change in facilities, these are our concerns:

- Display space
- Backoffice space - storage and workarea
- Ability to display the ca. 1900 IOOF curtain - 10' x 20'
- Ability to display the ca. 1880 Studebaker water wagon

Current dimensions:

- Display, 544 sq ft
- Backoffice, 192 sq ft (storage augmented by room at town hall)
- No ability to display curtain or water wagon

Dimensions of proposed addition:

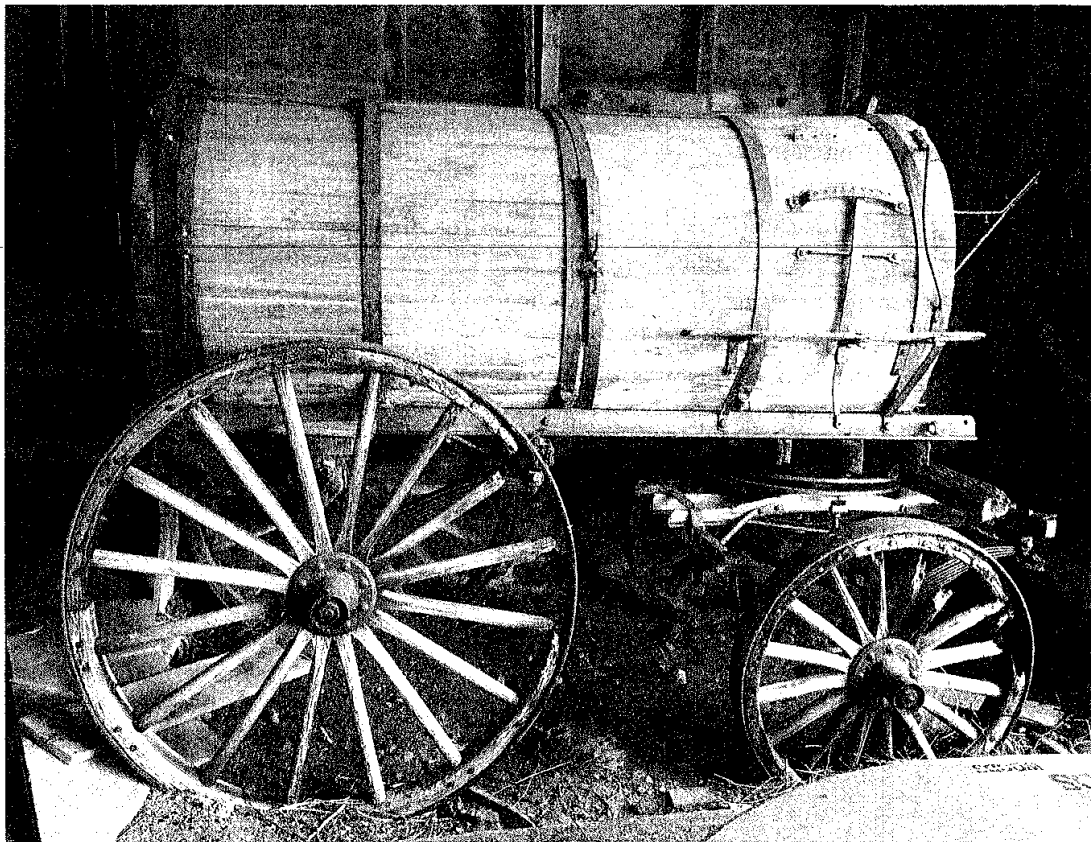
- Display, 1033 sq ft (old - 14 x 36 plus new - 23 x 23)
778 sq ft after water wagon display (15 x 17)
- Backoffice, 150 sq ft
- No ability to display curtain (8' ceiling would require part of ads not visible)
- Ability to display the water wagon

Dimensions of Johnson house:

- Display, 1203 sq ft (first floor)
978 sq ft (if kitchen is not used for display)
- Backoffice, 696 sq ft (second floor)
- Ability to display curtain (8' 7" ceiling allows all ads to display, requires removing a non-load bearing wall between front room & "play room")
- Ability to display water wagon (and many other items) in the barn

Respectfully,

Town of Gorham Historical Society



Several other members of the Historical Society, including the newest youngest member, expressed enthusiasm for purchasing the Johnson House for the Historical Society's use.

Supervisor Lightfoote asked Board members their thoughts. The Board discussed the expense of purchasing and renovating the Johnson house to make it compliant as a public building.

Councilmember Chard asked Mr. Hogan if there are any grants for Historical Societies.

Mr. Hogan said yes but they are competitive. They are for Capital Improvement and Educational purposes only.

The Town Board held discussion in regards to purchasing the Johnson House for the Historical Society to use. Mr. Hogan said the Historical Society could contribute \$25,000.00, for the purchase, over a ten year period.

If the town were to purchase the Johnson House there would be no need for an addition on the Library building.

The Board discussed and agreed it is too expensive for maintenance and upkeep on another old building. Although the new addition to the library is expensive, there wouldn't be the unforeseen repairs that pop up with an old building.

Tim Long – 3784 Meadowview Drive, has a garage on his property that needs to be moved. The garage was moved from another property and is currently on top of the county sewer line and needs to be moved. The area Mr. Long wants to move the garage to would be on top of the town water line. Mr. Long would like the water line moved.

Mr. Long said "What is the law? the town code, that says you can put a water line across my backyard without permission. How does that work?"

Supervisor Lightfoote said "I would have to get you the exact language and the exact section of law and I can get you that. We had two or three different discussions with our lawyer regarding that. I really did roll it around to see if there is something we could come up with to allow you to keep the building on your lot."

Supervisor Lightfoote said the sewer and gas is a separate easement from the water. The Town hasn't found anything, nor has Mr. Long, regarding an easement for the water main.

Supervisor Lightfoote explained that even when there is not an easement recorded there are a variety of laws, municipal codes and even common law precedents that prevent property owners from interfering with public water.

Mr. Long said "It doesn't seem fair, it doesn't seem right and it's a simple solution, just move it. I'm willing to contribute to it, losing this garage would just crush me."

Code Enforcement Officer James Morse said "If we are going to go through all the expense to move the water line, the ZBA would have to grant variances to move the garage over there. There's other moving parts to this. We talked about further setbacks and stuff like that, obviously, it would fit the character of the neighborhood because everything is in that same row. I hate to see you put a value into this, to move it, for the ZBA to say no."

Mr. Long said "I'm not asking for anything extraordinary or out of the character of the neighborhood to move the garage to a different area. Just so you know, the garage is sitting there because that was a temporary spot. It's not what I intended and the stuff that's in the garage is not junk. It's garden equipment, boating equipment, there's new lights for the garage, there's siding for the garage."

Councilmember Glitch said "We've had other situations where people want to do something and they can't do it until they own it or until some other problem is fixed. Would it be

worthwhile to find out if he can get the variance to move this before we go through all this (moving the water line) and find out that he can't."

Code Officer Morse said "The problem with that, the ZBA has not been acting on anything until a survey has been done. It says in our code it has to be a surveyed drawing that shows the setbacks for the line. It can't be super imposed, they haven't been accepting them anymore. I hate to see you go through that, get your variances and the cost comes in too high to move the water line."

Mr. Long said "I'd be willing to get the survey done and provide that for you."

Code Officer Morse suggested Mr. Long attend the next ZBA meeting and talk with the Board about his situation. He said they do a privilege of the floor similar to this meeting.

Officer Morse said "Next Thursday night we have one application. You can kind of discuss it with them, explain your hardship, explain that you don't want to spend all this money on this application and a survey and all that. Just kind of feel them out, see if they have any concerns. That might be an idea, they wouldn't be able to give you a decision, they wouldn't do any of that but kind of put it on the forefront say the Town's going to get estimates to move the line, is this going to be a possibility. Have photographs of that line of garages in that row, showing this fits right in with everybody else's. Right now, it sticks out."

Mr. Long said it has always been his intention to put the garage in line with all the others.

Supervisor Lightfoote said "We will put this on the agenda for next month. We have to come up with a solution that our engineers and our attorney are ok with."

3. Approval of Minutes – 5/12/2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Case, the minutes from 5/12/2021 were approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

044-2021

4. Reports of Town Officials -

A. Chief Operator Water/Wastewater Plants – written report on file.

B. Highway Superintendent – written report on file. Supervisor Lightfoote asked Highway Superintendent Eddinger to explain CHIPS funding and what's coming through this year.

Highway Superintendent Eddinger said "We gained from \$266,000.00 to \$318,000.00 in our CHIPS funding between Extreme Winter Recovery and PAVE New York. It was a good increase this year. Last Year we got our twenty percent back that we lost so we are looking very good right now in our CHIPS Funding."

C. Zoning/Building Officer – written report on file. Officer Morse suggested the Town Board create a small committee to work on the logistics for Easton Park. Supervisor Lightfoote spoke with Councilmember Case and Councilmember Chard and they agreed to serve

on the committee to move forward with quotes from contractors to complete the pavilion at the park.

- D. Assessor – written report on file.
- E. Town Clerk – written report on file.
- F. Town Supervisor – financial report on file

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

045-2021

5. Audit of Bills -

Abstract #6

A	390-471	\$19,237.71
B	391-459	2,652.47
SL	449-471	696.28
DB	395-466	59,144.51
SS	396-472	4,116.63
SW1	388-468	34,703.07
T/A	19	110.00
SW6	387	1,208.25

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

046-2021

6. Business:

- a. Approve Resolution regarding Consolidated Funding Application

Councilmember Glitch offered the following resolution and called for its adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Case the resolution was adopted unanimously. (4-0)

047-2021

**Town of Gorham
Consolidated Funding Application**

**Resolution of Support from the Town of Gorham for the
2021 New York State Consolidated Funding Application, Water Quality Improvement Project
Wastewater Treatment Disinfection Improvements**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees for the Town of Gorham, located in Ontario County, supports the submission of a 2021 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) on behalf of the Town, for the Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) program for disinfection upgrades to the wastewater treatment facility; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) provides a competitive statewide reimbursement grant program for local governments, administered to directly address documented water quality impairments; and

WHEREAS, recent modifications to the Town's State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SDPES) Discharge Permit No. NY-0022985 added an effluent disinfection requirement and included a schedule of compliance for implementing an effluent disinfection process at the Town's Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) located along Water Street Road; and

WHEREAS, findings in the Preliminary Engineering Report found ultraviolet disinfection to be the most cost effective means to implement effluent disinfection at the WWTP and recommended a capital improvements project which included the installation of ultraviolet disinfection tanks and equipment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, it is anticipated that the Town Board, on behalf of the Town, will complete the necessary actions to authorize expenditures for the proposed project, as well as authorizes Town Supervisor to execute necessary documents relative to and as required for the application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby accept that they shall provide at least 25% match of the total of any grant funding awarded, as a local match are hereby appropriated in the form of in-kind services, cash contributions and obligated from secured EFC Financing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees for the Town of Gorham, located in Ontario County, recognizes and fully supports the submission of the 2021 CFA for WQIP on behalf of the Town for improvements to the wastewater treatment plant.

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 June 9, 2021 by the following vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Frederick Lightfoote	X_____	_____

William Glitch	X_____	_____
Brian S. Case	X_____	_____
Richard Malcolm	absent	_____
Jake Chard	X_____	_____

b. Appoint members of the Gorham Conservation Board -

Town residents Georganna Greenlee and Ben Smith were present. Mrs. Greenlee and Mr. Smith addressed the Town Board and expressed interest in serving on the Conservation Board. The Town Board unanimously agreed to appoint them and thanked them for their willingness to serve the community.

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Glitch, to appoint Georganna Greenlee to serve on the Conservation Board. Term from 6/2021 through 12/2024. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

048-2021

On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Case, to appoint Ben Smith to the Gorham Conservation Board. Term from 6/2021 through 12/2024. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

049-2021

7. Executive Session - On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Chard, the Board entered into executive session at 9:05pm to discuss matters relating to acquisition, lease or sale of real property and to discuss a personnel matter.

On the motion by Supervisor Lightfoote, seconded by Councilmember Glitch, the Board returned to regular session at 9:51pm. No action was taken in executive session. Both motions carried unanimously. (4-0)

050-2121

8. Privilege of the Floor – none requested.

9. Set the next Meeting Date – The next regular Town Board Meeting will be held on July 14th, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

10. Adjournment - With no further business, on the motion by Supervisor Lightfoote, seconded by Councilmember Chard, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 pm.

051-2021

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte
Town Clerk

