

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
THE GORHAM TOWN BOARD
August 24, 2022 7:00pm**

The Gorham Town Board held a Special Meeting on Wednesday August 24, 2022 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall in Gorham, NY.

Present were Supervisor Fred Lightfoote, Councilmembers; Brian S. Case, Jake Chard and Brian Lazarus.

Councilmember Phil Curtis was necessarily absent.

Town Officials in attendance; Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.

Other guests in attendance; Lynn Klotz and Sally Napolitano joined via Zoom.

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag – Supervisor Lightfoote opened the meeting and led the Pledge to the Flag.
2. Privilege of the Floor – none requested
3. Business –
 - a. Adopt Resolution calling a Public Hearing for the 2022 Comprehensive Plan Update -

Supervisor Lightfoote offered the following resolution and called for adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Case, The resolution was adopted unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes - Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Lazarus

087-2022

**TOWN OF GORHAM
RESOLUTION # 38-2022
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SCHEDULING OF A PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE PREPARATION OF AN UPDATE TO THE TOWN OF GORHAM COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN DATED NOVEMBER 2009**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Gorham is in the process of reviewing the Town of Gorham Comprehensive Plan dated November 2009 (the "Comprehensive Plan") and is also in the process of preparing an update to the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is required to hold a public hearing to solicit public comment during the preparation of any amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to schedule a public hearing on the preparation of the update to the Comprehensive Plan to be held on September 8, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the Marcus Whitman High School Auditorium located at 4100 Baldwin Road, Town of Gorham; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk, be and hereby is, authorized to forward to the official newspaper(s) of the Town a Notice of Public Hearing in the form substantially the same as that attached hereto as Exhibit "1"; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to post a copy of the legal notice on the Town of Gorham sign board and take any and all other necessary actions to properly schedule this public hearing.

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 August 24th, 2022 by the following vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Frederick Lightfoote	X_____	_____
Brian S. Case	X_____	_____
Jake Chard	X_____	_____
Phil Curtis	absent	_____
Brian Lazarus	X_____	_____

b. Budget Discussion -

Healthcare Policy Options for the 2023 Budget -

Supervisor Lightfoote said Dan Botsford, Excellus Broker for the Town, is meeting with employees to discuss details of the insurance plans offered. The Board has to approve Healthcare Plan options that will be offered to employees.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the Board has to decide on a 2023 Cost of Living increase for employees.

Another large Budget increase will be gas and fuel budgets for Highway, Water and Wastewater Departments.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the Board will need to consider increasing the tax rate in order to build 'down payments', so to speak, for the major proposed Town projects on the horizon. They will need to figure out a logical and realistic figure to add to the Town Tax Rate.

4. Privilege of the Floor –

Sally Napolitano, Lake Drive resident, said The Board should consider the Insurance as part of the cost of living increase for employees.

Mrs. Napolitano said at one point the Board was going to visit neighboring Transfer Stations to see what they were doing, see what changes they were implementing and what the Town could change so we aren't losing so much money at our Transfer Station. She wondered how those visits went and what the Board learned.

The Board has not visited any other Transfer Stations. Supervisor Lightfoote said it is because right now everyone is kind of up in the air as far as what they are going to do. He said anyone he has went to is thinking they are going to change what they are doing. Some Towns charge

by pound, some charge per bag. Changes may be made in those areas. A lot of it depends on where the landfill ends up. Whether the contract will be renewed and if not where will we have to transport our trash. Supervisor Lightfoote said it still would be valuable for the Board to visit other Transfer Stations.

Mrs. Napolitano said she has a whole list of follow up questions. She asked if there was a big uptick in receipts several months ago when they were checking to make sure residents have permits at the Transfer Station. She wonders if there is a way to enforce the rules we have in place.

Town Clerk Perrotte said there has not been a significant change in sales.

Mrs. Napolitano asked about the Water Billing Audit.

Supervisor Lightfoote said it is starting Monday. Bob Fox from EFPR is doing the audit that will cover a 5 year period.

Mrs. Napolitano asked about the Crystal Beach Fire Department Audit.

Supervisor Lightfoote said there is not much to report on it right now. The Town is working with some of the offices at Ontario County and the NYS Comptroller's Office.

Mrs. Napolitano said the 2021 AUD is not on the website. She also asked if an extension for the AUD was filed with the Comptroller's Office.

Supervisor Lightfoote said it has been filed in the Town Clerk's Office he will see to it that the Bookkeeping Office gets it on the website. The Town was given an extension for the AUD.

Mrs. Napolitano asked "If in 2023, with the amount of debt the Town will be taking on, will the Town be required to have a professional audit?"

Supervisor Lightfoote said he doesn't know if it is required but he is setting one up because it has been a few years since we've had an audit.

Mrs. Napolitano asked for a report/status numbers for the Water, Wastewater and Highway Projects. She also asked for the MRB Proposal that was mentioned at previous meetings.

Supervisor Lightfoote said he will get those to her. He will get the engineered plans for the Highway Project that Mr. Merritt asked for too.

Mrs. Napolitano suggested that if the Town is contemplating a tax increase on a possible future Highway Building, something that would be helpful and have a direct impact would be to increase the water rate. She said we do not pay enough for water and that money should be squirreled away for upcoming needs and upgrades.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the Town did a study on that not too long ago but it is time to do that once again. There is nothing indicating that we are not covering costs. There are different things involved. The Town can only utilize monies for capital projects from certain sources. You can only utilize water tax money for certain things and the Comptroller's Office will only allow you to carry so much reserve. Supervisor Lightfoote said "It's complex, this Board will have to make a decision on timing of certain projects, part of the long-term plan. Grant funding also factors into that."

Mrs. Napolitano said "I think we have one water plant that needs upgrades and it seems to be the American way to get the money directly from the people that are using it." She said there is a lot of grant money out there. She wonders if the Town is confident they have exhausted all the grant sources.

Supervisor Lightfoote said "No, in fact, the Town keeps chasing them. If you look at the Water Plant the amount we've obtained is over \$3 million. The structure of some of the grant programs has changed. Previously the Town could submit for grant funding once every 5 years.

Now, towns can submit every year. The grants are competitive in nature but the Town is prepared to submit for more grant money.”

Lynn Klotz, Lake Drive resident, said the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association has an Open House the same night as the Comp Plan Update Public Hearing. Mrs. Klotz mentioned the map that was handed out for the Update Plan. She said it is a very interesting document with millions of dollars listed in the short term plan. She likes how it is broke out in timeframe. Short-term, mid-term and long-term. She suggests the Town make this document as simple as possible for residents to understand, in terms of estimated budgets, costs, grants, bonding and how does the difference get made up. Mrs. Klotz said she would appreciate that before the Budget discussion gets under way.

Supervisor Lightfoote said “Some of that is what I wanted to have for the Board as we go through the process. I’ll do my best to have as much of that as I can but it’s going to take a while.”

Mrs. Klotz asked who won the Congressional district Election.

Claudia Tenney won the Election.

Supervisor Lightfoote thanked everyone for their comments.

5. Set the Next Meeting Date – The next Meeting and Public Hearing will be held on September 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM at pm at the Marcus Whitman High School Auditorium.

6. Adjournment – with no further business, on the motion by Councilmember Lazarus, seconded by Councilmember Chard, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 pm. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes – Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Lazarus.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte
Town Clerk

**NOTE: PUBLIC HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 WILL BE HELD AT
MARCUS WHITMAN HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
4100 BALDWIN ROAD, RUSHVILLE, NY 14544
6:30 PM**