

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
THE GORHAM TOWN BOARD  
January 15, 2025 7:00pm**

The Gorham Town Board held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday January 15, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall in Gorham, NY.

Present; Supervisor Dale C. Stell. Councilmembers, Jake Chard, Phil Curtis and Chrissy Watkins.

Councilmember Brian Lazarus was necessarily absent.

Town Officials in attendance; Deputy Chief Operator Water & Wastewater Districts Nate Bay, Highway Superintendent Zach Eddinger, Code Enforcement Officer Jim Morse, Assessor Enza Mineo, Tax Collector Adrienne Smith 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.*

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1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag
2. Privilege of the Floor –
3. Approval of Minutes – 12/18/24 Regular Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Stell stated the December meeting minutes need to be amended to add additional year end budget transfers.

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Curtis, to amend the 12/18/24 meeting minutes to add all year end budget transfers.

On the motion by Councilmember seconded by Councilmember the amended minutes were approved. Both motions carried unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes – Stell, Chard, Curtis, Watkins

Secondly the water fund did not receive all of the revenue that was budgeted in 2024.

771,000.00 758,000 in revenue expenses were over because of 20,000 for water meters and unexpected 10,000 repairs to the water tank. Over 27,600.

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Watkins to increase the water budget \$45,000 for 2024 from the water fund balance.

On the motion by Councilmember Curtis, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, the amended meeting minutes are approved. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4. Reports of Town Officials -

- A. Chief Operator Water/Wastewater Plants – written report on file.
- B. Highway Superintendent – written report on file. Highway Superintendent Eddinger asked that the Deputy Highway Superintendent be supplied with a town pick-up truck to drive home to help monitor the roads this winter.  
Discussion was held.

Councilmembers agreed to allow the Highway Deputy to drive a town pick-up truck to and from home to help monitor winter road conditions for the remainder of this winter season.

Councilmember Curtis requested that the Highway supply a key for the Water Department to access the loader for gravel when there are water main breaks. Highway Superintendent Eddinger agreed.

- C. Zoning/Building Officer – written report on file.
- D. Assessor –written report on file.
- E. Tax Collector - written report on file.
- F. Town Clerk – written report on file.
- G. Town Supervisor – written report on file.

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

4 - Ayes - Stell, Chard, Curtis, Watkins

5. Audit of Bills -

Approval of Vouchers  
 Abstract #13 totaling \$77,085.43  
 Abstract #1 totaling \$93,803.89

On the motion by Councilmember Curtis, seconded by Councilmember Watkins the abstract of bills was approved for payment. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 -Ayes - Stell, Chard, Curtis, Watkins

6. Business –

- a. Adopt Resolution calling for a Public Hearing for Local Law 1-2025 –

Discussion was held among the Town Board and Town residents. The Board and residents agreed to hold off on passing the tax cap override until budget time in the fall. The resolution was tabled.

- b. Adopt Resolution Increasing Water/Wastewater Employee Pay Rates

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

4 - Ayes - Stell, Chard, Curtis, Watkins

**011-2025**

**TOWN OF GORHAM  
RESOLUTION #1-2025  
APPROVING INCREASE IN THE BASE PAY  
For Water/Wastewater District Employees**

**Whereas,** The Gorham Town Board wishes to retain dependable and experienced employees; and

**Whereas,** an assessment of salaries for similar positions in similar size municipalities identified significant disparity in the Town of Gorham salaries and average compensation for Water and Wastewater Districts employees; and

**Whereas,** Town Board members determined that a salary adjustment for Water/Wastewater District employees is appropriate, and;

**Whereas,** The Town Board of the Town of Gorham directs the following pay scale;

Starting Pay    \$33.00/per hour - no experience, no license  
                          \$34.00/per hour - 1-3 years experience, no license  
                          \$36.00/per hour – 3 plus years experience

Add \$4.00/per hour for Water or Wastewater License.  
Add \$3.00/per hour for the second license.

**Whereas,** experience is defined as having worked in a Water or Wastewater facility, watermain installation and repair or other pertinent experience; and

**Whereas,** the Town Supervisor and Department Head, together, will use their discretion with regard to experience; and

**Now therefore be it resolved,** the increase will begin on the first pay period in the year 2025.

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 January 15, 2025 by the following vote:

	<b><u>Aye</u></b>	<b><u>Nay</u></b>
Dale C. Stell	X_____	_____
Jake Chard	X_____	_____
Phil Curtis	X_____	_____
Brian Lazarus	absent	_____
Chrissy Watkins	X_____	_____

c. Adopt Resolution to Re-Appoint Assessor Mineo –

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

4 - Ayes - Stell, Chard, Curtis, Watkins

**012-2025**

**TOWN OF GORHAM  
RESOLUTION #2-2025  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF ASSESSOR**

**WHEREAS,** The Town Board of Gorham had previously appointed Enza Mineo to a term of 6 years as Assessor, with the 6-year term ending on 9/30/2025; and

**WHEREAS,** Enza Mineo has admirably performed her job responsibilities as Gorham Town Assessor during her term of office; and

**WHEREAS,** it is deemed in the best interest of the Town of Gorham to reappoint Enza Mineo to the position of Gorham Assessor.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025, that Enza Mineo be and hereby is reappointed to the position of Assessor of the Town of Gorham for a term of 6-years 10/1/2025 – 9/30/2031.

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 January 15, 2025 by the following vote:

	<b><u>Aye</u></b>	<b><u>Nay</u></b>
Dale C. Stell	X_____	_____
Jake Chard	X_____	_____
Phil Curtis	X_____	_____
Brian Lazarus	absent	_____
Chrissy Watkins	X_____	_____

d. Appoint New Water/Wastewater Employee –

On the motion by Councilmember Curtis, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, to appoint Kevin Stape to the position of Water/Wastewater Operator with starting pay at \$40.00 per hour. Motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes - Stell, Chard, Curtis, Watkins

**013-2025**

e. Appoint Water/Wastewater Operator –

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Curtis, provisional appointment of Nathan Bay as Town of Gorham Water/Wastewater Chief Operator with 90 day probationary period. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes – Stell, Chard, Curtis, Watkins

**014-2025**

7. Set Next Meeting Date – The next meeting will be held on Wednesday February 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

8. Privilege of the Floor –

Sally Napolitano, Lake Drive resident, asked a question about the out of district water rates pertaining to large consumption users.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding discounts and price breaks for large consumers.

Supervisor Stell will ask the Town Lawyer concerning the legalities of offering discounted water rates.

Councilmembers agreed to keep the rates that were adopted at the 12/15/2024 meeting but take a closer look at who qualifies as a large consumption user and, if needed, amend the rates at a future date.

9. Adjournment – with no further business, on the motion by Councilmember Watkins, seconded by Councilmember Curtis, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes – Stell, Chard, Curtis, Watkins

**015-2025**

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte  
Town Clerk