

**MINUTES
WORK SHOP MEETING
GORHAM TOWN BOARD
MAY 25, 2011**

The Gorham Town Board held a special work shop meeting on Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 7:30 PM. Board members met at the Gorham Free Library and toured the building then continued the meeting at the Gorham Town Hall, Gorham, NY. Present were Supervisor Calabrese, Councilmembers, Adam-Anderson, Lightfoote, Hermet and Glitch, Chief Operator Water/Wastewater Plants Erb, Greg Coston and Town Clerk Hollenbeck

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag:
2. The Town Board met with Gorham Free Library Librarian Diane Hovey. She gave a tour of the building and explained how the building is used, number of programs, numbers of items checked out, computer usage, etc. For a small library, it is very well utilized by our residents. Space is always a concern as there is barely enough of it. Also talked about future needs.

The Town Board also toured the Historical Society, located in the Library building.

3. Returned to Town Hall for work session.

- a. Water budget and rate analysis for 2012. We did a water rate study back in 2005. A lot has changed since then so a new study has been done. Water rates have not been increased since 2008. At that time we raised it \$.30 per 1,000 gallons. It appears from the study that we will need to increase the rates again to about \$.40 per 1,000 gallons next year to break even and another \$.20 per 1,000 gallons the following year to keep up with the costs associated with providing water. The minimum charge per quarter will remain the same at \$32.50.

We have been pretty constant over the years in keeping the water budget increases to a minimum. The fund balance is approximately \$150,000 and should not go any lower. We have had it as high as \$250,000, but we should keep that number somewhere in between. Water consumption varies from year to year making the fund balance fluctuate.

Water rates and budget will be addressed when the Town budget is addressed later in the summer or early fall.

It has been questioned several times over the years whether Fire Departments and Churches should pay for water. There is some disagreement whether or not "everyone" should pay for water usage.

b. Bid Opening- The Water Department put out bids for a generator at the Water Plant; and upgrades at the Turner Road Booster Station. The bids were received, reviewed and discussed.

On the motion by Councilmember Adam-Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Hermenet, the bid by B&E Electric in the amount of \$30,024 was accepted. The bid by Admar in the amount of \$17,910 was accepted. The bid by Gehring Pumps in the amount of \$39,576 was accepted. Motion carried unanimously. (5-0). **043-2011**

4. Adjournment: On the motion by Councilmember Hermenet, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hollenbeck
Town Clerk