

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION
GORHAM TOWN BOARD
OCTOBER 19, 2011**

The Gorham Town Board held a workshop meeting Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall, Gorham, NY. Present were Supervisor Calabrese, Councilmembers, Adam-Anderson, Lightfoote, Hermenet and Glitch, Code Enforcement Officer Freida, John Frank and Town Clerk Hollenbeck.

1. Call to order/Pledge to the Flag
2. Items for discussion:

a. County Road #1 - Master Plan (proposed park). Supervisor Calabrese provided copies of the Town of Gorham Route 364 Park Master Plan to Board members. This is a conceptual plan for the 9 acres owned by the Town on County Road #1/Route 364. This is one of the very first steps in developing this parcel. When the Town Board is ready, they can use this document to apply for grant funding to develop the park. Supervisor Calabrese hopes that the parking area and landscaping can be done in the not too distant future. It is anticipated that our Town Highway Staff and Ontario County can perform some of this work at a much reduced cost. If the Town Board will accept this plan, Supervisor Calabrese will send a copy of the plan and a letter to those who were on the committee to develop the concept, thanking them for their assistance and showing them what they created. Accepting this plan does not obligate the Town to begin working on development of this park, but it is an important part of the process should the Town desire to apply for grant funding.

On the motion by Councilmember Adam-Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Lightfoote, the Town of Gorham Route 364 Park Master Plan is accepted. Motion carried unanimously. (5-0). **091-2011**

b. Proposed regulation pertaining to hydraulic fracturing. A draft local law entitled: Amending the Town of Gorham Zoning Local Law with the Addition of Regulations Pertaining to Horizontal and Directional Gas Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing, was given to Board members for review and discussion.

It has been said that it may be better to ban hydrofracking in a portion of the town and have regulations allowing it in other parts of the town. If the Town outright bans this practice in the entire Town, it is thought that we may have a very difficult time upholding our law.

Talked about banning hydrofracking within the Canandaigua Lake Watershed. A map with the watershed line highlighted was discussed. Everyone agrees that protection of our drinking water is of utmost importance. Also talked about sending a letter to DEC, Governor, Congress, etc. etc. requesting that the

Canandaigua Lake Watershed be protected just as the New York City and City of Syracuse Watersheds have been protected. All agreed that a letter should be sent.

Talked about industrial impacts, traffic, road use, setbacks from houses, roads, wells, and barns; water testing before drilling requirements; lighting, storm water management plan, bonding requirements etc.

After some discussion, it was agreed that it may be best to proceed with regulations rather than outright banning the hydrofracking practice. The document will be worked on further and will also work on a "Road Use and Repair Agreement". We will plan for a public informational meeting in the near future, to be held at the Fire Department.

c. Crosswalks – Perkins Funeral Home: Mr. Perkins has asked if a crosswalk could be installed between the funeral home and the church parking lot across the street. Ontario County Public Works came out and surveyed the situation and indicated that it would be acceptable to have a marked crosswalk as long as the proper signage is installed. Supervisor Calabrese is waiting for a diagram and specs regarding signage for this proposed crosswalk.

d. Budget-Sales Tax/Tax Cap - The Town of Gorham 2012 Budget was recently adopted. As long as sales tax revenues keep pace, we should be all right. Regarding the tax cap, most municipalities are putting procedures in place to be able to override the cap if necessary. He suggests that Gorham do this at its Organizational Meeting each year so that we will be prepared.

3. Adjournment: On the motion by Councilmember Hermet the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hollenbeck
Town Clerk