

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
GORHAM TOWN BOARD
MARCH 14, 2018**

The Gorham Town Board held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday March 14, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Gorham Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Fred Lightfoote, Councilmembers; William Glitch, Brian S. Case and Richard Malcolm. Water/Wastewater Chief Operator Greg Coston, Highway Superintendent Zach Eddinger, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Gordy Freida, Assessor Enza Mineo and Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.

Other guests in attendance; Steve Corridi, David and Joanne Burley, Zack O'Dell John VanAucker and his daughter Alyssa VanAuker she is attending to fulfill her requirement for Participation in Government Class at Marcus Whitman High School.

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag
2. Privilege of the Floor:
3. Approval of Minutes – On the motion by Councilmember Malcolm, seconded by Councilmember Glitch, the 2/8/18 and 2/14/18 meeting minutes were approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

029-2018

4. Audit of Bills:

Abstract # 3

A	49-72	\$38,883.45
B	50,69	198.18
SL	53,61	691.16
DB	30-60	395,168.58
SS	11-18	1,091.79
SW1	29-49	23,022.53
TA	21-24	417,153.00

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

030-2018

5. Reports of Town Officials:

- a. Water/Wastewater Plants – written report on file.
- b. Highway Superintendent - written report on file.
- c. Zoning – written report on file
- d. Assessor – written report on file.
- e. Town Clerk - written report on file.
- f. Supervisor – written report on file.

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

031-2018

6. Business:

- a. Appoint new members to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Case, to appoint David Burley to the Town of Gorham Zoning Board of Appeals. Effective immediately. Term ends December 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

032-2018

On the motion by Councilmember Malcolm, seconded by Councilmember Case, to appoint Steve Corridi to the Town of Gorham Zoning Board of Appeals. Effective immediately. Term ends December 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

033-2018

b. Zack O'Dell from Finger Lakes Land Trust - The Town of Gorham is participating with several different parties regarding the Purchase of Development Rights Program.

Supervisor Lightfoote said "There are approximately 180 acres of land that Town residents, by a previous questionnaire that was sent out, feel very highly about preserving. Preserving a more rural setting in Gorham rather than houses every twenty feet. When this property came up for sale the Town Board purchased the Development Rights. A neighboring farmer, who has been renting the land, is purchasing the land."

Zack O'Dell talked about the Finger Lakes Land Trust and how they work with Towns to preserve land.

He said "The Finger Lakes Land Trust is out of Ithaca NY. We work in twelve counties that encapsulate the eleven Finger Lakes. That's a lot of towns that I engage with in twelve counties and this is unusual. A lot of Towns will try to address Farmland or Open Space Conservation in a variety of ways. They depend on the

State and Federal programs that are highly competitive. Often times the character that they're trying to maintain disappears. The pressures of subdivision and development sort of overtakes. As with anyone who has worked land for a long time, their retirement is in that land so you really understand why that temptation to sell, in that way, eventually wins out. It's nice to work with farmers and Towns who are both eager to see farmland stay farmland. I'm at this meeting to talk about additional funding. The purchase of development rights with the Land Trust will be the Conservation Easement. There are other components to insure the farmland is managed in a sustainable way. Managed in a way that protects the water quality. It allows for the Town to understand and feel confident that we are an extra pair of eyes. It is a perpetual agreement the land stays on the tax roll. The town can preserve its land and still retain the tax income. There is a process the Land Trust goes through to put the easement in place. Reports, surveys, pictures...etc. to monitor every year on an annual basis. We put an endowment together to generate enough interest to pay for someone to go out to the property on an annual basis. Basically the Land Trust, at least once a year, will be there and monitor that property to make sure the terms of the agreement are upheld. Whether it's the current landowner or whether it's sold. We have parcels that have been sold three or four times but we are there and every year we take on that responsibility. Money into our endowment fund to pay for that is really important to us."

Mr. O'Dell has been talking with Supervisor Lightfoote about their costs. The Land Trust fund raises to cover costs. They call upon those they know in a fundraising effort. The total cost for this particular project is fifteen thousand dollars. Mr. O'Dell said they have a private funder who is willing to pay half of that cost. They have to raise the rest so the first stop is in Gorham.

Councilmember Glitch asked how many paid positions there are at Finger Lakes Land Trust.

Mr. O'Dell said there are fourteen paid positions.

Councilmember Glitch said "I get a little nervous when you say 'sustainably' because it's a buzz word. That makes me nervous because of the way it's used by other organizations. Can you give me what your interpretation of 'sustainably' is."

Mr. O'Dell said "from our perspective that really is run by 'State Best Management Practices'. Basically the agricultural management process that is run through Soil and Water and the Best Management Practices that the State has. Those are the practices that we support. That includes things like; having a manure management plan, having the correct drainage in place, keeping cows out of a stream, to fight against things that are negative to the soil quality, to water quality and basically to see farming done the way the State has proposed it is good. That's what we mean by sustainable."

Supervisor Lightfoote said looking at the paperwork supplied by Mr. O'Dell regarding additional funding the Board will take time to review, consider and discuss it next month.

c. Surplus Highway trucks –

Supervisor Lightfoote said Highway Superintendent Eddinger has two trucks that were recently delivered, replacing two that are now surplus to the Town's needs, and he is looking to buy a pickup that will be replacing the one that will soon be surplus to the Town's needs. What we need is a resolution to dispose of the three trucks.

Councilmember Glitch offered the following resolution and called for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Case and was approved by unanimous vote. (4-0)

034-2018

**TOWN OF GORHAM TOWN BOARD
BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 008-2018**

WHEREAS, Highway Superintendent, Zach Eddinger, advised the Town Board his intent to sell surplus Highway Department vehicles pursuant to New York State Highway Law 142(5) and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has proposed to sell the vehicles at auction and has proposed to contract with Auction International, Inc., an international online auction service with experience selling surplus municipal vehicles and equipment and which does not charge sellers commission and although no reserve is set, the Town, as seller, has the right to reject all bids; and

WHEREAS, there are three trucks Highway Superintendent Eddinger identified to sell as surplus vehicles as follows:

2005 ten wheeler
2007 six wheeler
2008 pickup truck

Now therefore be it;

RESOLVED, the Highway Superintendent, Zach Eddinger, is authorized to sell the surplus Town Highway Department vehicles in accordance with Highway Law 142(5) with Auctions International, Inc. and to execute the "Online Auction Contract – Agreement for Sale of Government Assets" by Online Auction International, Inc. in substantially the same form as annexed hereto; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Highway Superintendent and Town Supervisor are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents, including Department of Motor Vehicle forms and Bills of Sale necessary to transfer the above vehicles to the successful bidder.

I, Darby Perrotte, Town Clerk of the Town of Gorham do hereby certify that the aforementioned resolution was adopted by the Town of Gorham on March 14, 2018 by unanimous vote.

d. Councilmember Case offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption. Councilmember Malcolm seconded the motion that carried unanimously. (4-0)

035-2018

Highway 284 Agreement – Agreement to spend Highway Funds. Superintendent Eddinger has completed the form that includes the sum of \$350,000.00 to be used for primary work and general repairs on 71 miles of town highways. The aforementioned agreement is accepted by the Board.

e. Lighting at the Highway Department – Highway Superintendent informed the Board they are in need of new lighting at the Highway Facility. He would like to replace the current lights with LED. The Highway Salt Barn and Cold Storage were recently updated but the original shop was not. There are twenty four fixtures to be replaced. Superintendent Eddinger obtained a quote from Sloth Electric for the work. He has the authority to spend up to \$6,000.00 without prior approval he was just informing the Board of his intent to upgrade.

Highway Superintendent Eddinger provided quotes for new pickup trucks. Councilmembers asked for more detailed quotes on the vehicles along with the State bid figures. It is also suggested the Highway Superintendent and the Chief Water Operator work together to obtain the best deal possible for the new trucks that are needed.

f. GPS for Highway trucks - Highway Superintendent Eddinger obtained quotes for a GPS System for the Highway Department trucks. \$661.00 is the one time charge to put the boxes in the trucks then it's \$113.00 per month for all seven trucks. It will help keep track of their salt and sand, how many times they are on a county or town road and to keep track of accidents or claims against the Town. GPS allows the drivers to set a variable rate for sanders which allows for savings on salt/sand.

On the motion by Councilmember Malcolm, seconded by Councilmember Glitch, to approve installation of GPS Systems for the Highway trucks. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

036-2018

Councilmember Glitch suggested sending a letter of support to Seneca County in opposition to the Incinerator. Supervisor Lightfoote said he will get more information on it for the Board for the next meeting.

g. Executive Session – On the motion by Councilmember Glitch, seconded by Councilmember Case, the Board entered into executive session at 8:45pm to discuss a personnel issue.

On the motion by Supervisor Lightfoote, seconded by Councilmember Glitch, the Board returned to regular session at 9:10pm.

No action was taken in executive session. Motions carried unanimously. (4-0)

037-2018

7. Set Next Meeting Date – the next regular meeting of the Gorham Town Board and a public hearing regarding Local Law #3, 2018 will be held on April 11, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

8. Adjournment - With no further business, on the motion by Councilmember Malcolm, seconded by Councilmember Glitch, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darby Perrotte
Town Clerk