

TOWN OF GORHAM  
CONSERVATION BOARD  
MINUTES  
June 6, 2018

The Town of Gorham Conservation Board met on Wednesday June 6, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Gorham Town Hall. Present were; Conservation Board members Brett Johnson, Keith Eddinger and Matt Bay. Town Board Councilmember Brian S. Case, Town Supervisor Frederick Lightfoote and Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Supervisor Lightfoote thanked everyone for attending.

Supervisor Lightfoote said Mr. Brett Johnson, a member of the Conservation Board, has voiced interest in being the Chairperson for the Board. Mr. Johnson will be appointed to that position at the next Town Board meeting.

Mr. Johnson provided an agenda and rules of order that he thought would be a good guideline to follow.

Mr. Johnson said “It will be wonderful to have a unique group of free thinkers.”

Supervisor Lightfoote thanked Mr. Johnson for his willingness to serve.

The first item on the agenda is in regards to Organic Waste.

Ontario County is updating its Solid Waste Management Plan.

There are many educational opportunities for Townships. Casella has provided a certain amount of money to each Township and Towns are expected to participate in reducing the solid waste stream.

Jeremy Clingerman, Marcus Whitman School Superintendent, has approached the Town Board asking to partner with them on an organic recycling program.

Supervisor Lightfoote said Mr. Clingerman suggested a program that utilizes vermiculture (worms) to convert organic waste into a soil amendment, a product similar to peat moss. Typically there is an open

trench to dump organic waste into. It is not sensible to have an open trench on school grounds for obvious safety reasons.

Mr. Clingerman talked to Supervisor Lightfoote about partnering with the Town because the Town has land that might be a good option for the trench.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the school district is already using compostable trays and utensils in the cafeterias. He will discuss it with the Town Board to determine if it is something the Town can do.

The County is expanding educational programs in partnership with the Cooperative Extension regarding solid waste stream reduction.

Supervisor Lightfoote said it would be a good idea for Conservation Board members to take advantage of the programs that are offered.

Councilmember Eddinger asked if the County has a committee to lead the way on this.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the County Planning Department has staff that is in charge of the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Mr. Eddinger said “We could invite them to one of our meetings, give us a menu, maybe give us some ideas on what other Towns are doing and what’s available to us.”

Supervisor Lightfoote said “Yes that is a good idea. They could even tour our transfer station facility, take a good look at it to see what is there to help us from that perspective.”

Next on the agenda, Detention Ponds.

Supervisor Lightfoote said we have a purchase offer on three acres of land at the corner of Lake to Lake Road and County Road 1. The Town is utilizing grant funding to install a detention pond. The detention pond is to manage storm water. It protects against flooding, downstream erosion and runoff. It is a way to address the damage associated with the storms we have had over the past few years.

There is a Resolution to be voted on at the next Town Board meeting to expend funds for the property purchase.

The next item on the agenda is regarding the Purchase of Development Rights on properties in Gorham.

At the next Town Board meeting there will be finalization of the Purchase of Development Rights on the Christofferson property on Jones Road.

The Conservation Board will look at the Purchase of Development Rights to maintain open space in the Town.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the Town of Gorham will start the process of updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The Town's Comprehensive Plan is somewhat of a road map for the Town to follow. It gains input from the community to help the Board understand what the concerns and desires are from the people in Town.

Supervisor Lightfoote said he will provide each Board member with a copy of the most recent Comprehensive Plan so they can familiarize themselves with it to move forward on the update.

The next meeting for the Town of Gorham Conservation Board will be on Wednesday August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby Perrotte