

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
THE GORHAM TOWN BOARD
August 9, 2023 7:00pm**

The Gorham Town Board held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday August 9, 2023 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall in Gorham, NY.

Present were Supervisor Fred Lightfoote. Councilmembers; Brian S. Case, Jake Chard and Phil Curtis.

Town Officials in attendance; Code Enforcement Officer Jim Morse and Assessor Enza Mineo

Councilmember Brian Lazarus, Chief Operator Water/Wastewater Greg Coston, Highway Superintendent Zach Eddinger and Town Clerk Darby Perrotte were necessarily absent.

Residents/guests in attendance in person and via zoom.

The full Zoom recording of this meeting is posted on the Town of Gorham Website.

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag
2. Privilege of the Floor –

Chrissy Watkins, Lake to Lake Road resident asked if the Crystal Beach Fire Department audit was available.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the Fire Department has submitted it and the Town Board will review it before it is released for public view.

Hubert Reigler, Route 364 resident, stated his concern over flooding issues and a berm being built on neighboring property.

Code Enforcement Officer Morse clarified for Mr. Reigler that a neighbor cannot drain storm water onto someone else's property and cannot make improvements that will cause adverse effects on a neighboring property. Officer Morse recommended the work cease until formal plans are drawn up for the project.

Debbie North, County Road 18 resident, stated her concerns over changing the designation of Gorham from a second class town to a first class town. Mrs. North has concern over Supervisor Lightfoote creating a position for a Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor.

3. Approval of Minutes – 7/12/2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
7/19/2023 Special Meeting Minutes

On the motion by Councilmember Curtis, seconded by Councilmember Chard, both meeting minutes were approved as submitted. 4-0

4 – Ayes - Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Curtis

077-2023

4. Reports of Town Officials -

A. Chief Operator Water/Wastewater Plants – written report on file.

B. Highway Superintendent – written report on file.

Councilmembers had questions, discussion was held regarding the Transfer Station employees getting proper training to insure permits are checked and fees are being collected properly.

C. Zoning/Building Officer – written report on file.

D. Assessor - written report on file.

E. Town Clerk – written report on file.

F. Town Supervisor – no report on file. Supervisor Lightfoote updated the Board on what has been going on in town regarding the recent flooding.

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

4 - Ayes Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Curtis

078-2023

5. Audit of Bills -

Abstract #8

Abstract prepared by the Bookkeeper, Town Clerk and Highway Clerk
Approval of Vouchers

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Curtis, The abstract for August, totaling \$307,664.62 was approved for payment. Motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes - Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Curtis

079-2023

6. Business –

a. Resolution to approve and file the 2022 Annual Update Document.

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

4 - Ayes - Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Curtis

080-2023

**TOWN OF GORHAM
RESOLUTION #25-2023
APPROVE 2022 ANNUAL FINANCIAL DOCUMENT**

WHEREAS; the Town Board of the Town of Gorham met on August 9, 2023

WHEREAS; the Town Supervisor made available the Annual Financial Report for the Town of Gorham for the year 2022

RESOLVE; that the Annual Financial Report is a public record and is available for inspection during regular office hours of the Town Clerk at 4736 South Street, Gorham NY

RESOLVE; that the Town Board did examine this item to the best of their ability

RESOLVE; that a copy of this resolution be sent to NYS Comptroller’s Office

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 August 9, 2023 by the Following vote:

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Frederick Lightfoote | X_____ | _____ |
| Brian S. Case | X_____ | _____ |
| Jake Chard | X_____ | _____ |
| Phil Curtis | X_____ | _____ |
| Brian Lazarus | absent | _____ |

b. Notice of Award for Maple Avenue Drainage Project –

Councilmember Case made a motion to approve the Maple Ave Project Notice of Award to Rochester Pipeline in the amount of \$250,955.00, seconded by Councilmember Chard, The Board held discussion.

Dale Stell, County Road 1 resident, stated, given that the low price came in higher than the Town hoped, he asked if there is any possibility of our Highway Department doing the Maple Ave Drainage Project or even postponing the project for a year so our Highway could do the work, saving the town money.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the Highway Department does not have the time. The residents have been seriously impacted during rainstorms. The project was put off last year because the Highway couldn't get to it so he would rather not put it off for another year.

Supervisor Lightfoote said there is enough money in reserves and fund balance. He also is looking into utilizing some of the covid relief money in order to cover the costs of the project.

Sally Napolitano, Lake Drive resident, asked, regarding the Maple Ave Drainage Project, if it is town storm sewer she understands why it would be the towns responsibility financially but she is confused if some of this improvement is being done to homeowners properties at the town's expense.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the town has vetted this through attorneys. Supervisor Lightfoote said he expected to have to initiate a town wide drainage district to take care of some of the things but, as it turns out the Highway Superintendent has the ability to decide if there is a project that is in the whole towns best interest, there is a large section that is not town infrastructure, however Zach identified it to be in the towns best interest to take care of that because it is such a problem, and more money than what the residents that will be directly impacted could hope to come up with, he has the ability to do that. Supervisor Lightfoote said the town has easements from everyone that would be involved the biggest hurdle was getting the State to agree to bore under Route 245 to put new pipe in.

Supervisor Lightfoote compared this project to the Middle Road project. He said "It is town wide money going into that project too so, it's somewhat the same argument in favor of that."

Mrs. Napolitano said it seems like two different levels of service. She wished the answer was that it was all town infrastructure, that would be clear to her.

Supervisor Lightfoote said he thinks in the end it will be town infrastructure.

Councilmember Chard stated there is no doubt the Highway Department is busy, he asked what other projects they are working on, if they could prioritize Maple Ave to save the Town \$100,000.00.

Supervisor Lightfoote said they are going to be wedging, he's not sure if its oil & stone or paving, they did some micro paving on Dewey Avenue. They will be working on Middle Road. If the highway puts the road work off to work on the drainage project, it potentially will cost more to repair the roads, the savings is seen in a long term effect.

Chrissy Watkins suggests the Highway report could potentially have what has been completed or a list of future projects the Highway will be working on.

Councilmember Chard asked how much of the covid relief the town has left.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the town has not used any of it yet. It is approved for the water plant upgrades and a wide range of things the town can do with the money but he will check to make sure.

The Board proceeded to vote, on the notice of award. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0
4 - Ayes - Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Curtis

081-2023

Councilmember Chard made a motion for \$250,000.00 of covid relief funds, that were earmarked for the Highway Barn, be used to help pay for this project. Seconded by Councilmember Curtis, the motion carried unanimously. 4-0
4 - Ayes - Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Curtis

082-2023

7. Privilege of the Floor –

Councilmember Chard asked if the ROW Program tote has been relocated. The Board discussed options and the Town will look at the agreement they have with Impact Earth.

The Board discussed Gorham “Green Days” as a successful event. Sponsors and vendors are interested in coming back next year.

Lynn Klotz, Lake Drive resident, asked questions pertaining to bills on the abstract. She stated concerns about herbicide being sprayed on Route 364 so close to the Lake and she asked about the progress at Easton Park.

Councilmember Curtis said the committee has an upcoming meeting to discuss regulations, getting bids for sewer installation. Sidewalks, eaves and gutters are on the contractors list to complete. Gas and electric installation is being scheduled. Sewer installation is out for bid. Staining is out for bid.

Sally Napolitano asked if there is an update on the Crystal Beach Audit. She asked if the town was done with EFPR.

Supervisor Lightfoote said no, the bill just hasn’t come in yet for this month.

Supervisor Lightfoote said the Board has to review the audit before it is released.

Chrissy Watkins had questions regarding some bills on the abstract.

Several residents asked questions about Easton Park.

8. Set the Next Meeting Date – A Budget Workshop Meeting will be held on August 30, 2023 at 7:00 pm. The next regular Town Board Meeting will be held on September 13, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

9. Executive Session –

On the motion by Supervisor Lightfoote, seconded by Councilmember Case, the Board entered into executive session at 8:29pm to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation or relating to promotion demotion, discipline, appointment or removal.

On the motion by Supervisor Lightfoote, seconded by Councilmember Chard, the Board returned to regular session at 9:50pm. No action was taken in executive session.

Both motions carried unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes - Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Curtis

083-2023

10. Adjournment – with no further business, on the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Case, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52pm. The motion carried unanimously. 4-0

4 - Ayes - Lightfoote, Case, Chard, Curtis

084-2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte
Town Clerk