

APPROVED

**Board of Selectmen
23 January 2012
Minutes**

6:03 pm - Chairman Don Guarino called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Guarino, Selectman Ralph Lavin, Town Administrator Tim Warren and Clerk Lois Dionne. Selectman Hatch was not in attendance due to illness.

Approval of Minutes – MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to approve the minutes of January 19, 2012 as amended. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

FYIs & Other Business

School Budget – Selectman Lavin, Selectmen’s Rep to budget committee, noted that the town budget had to be to the budget committee a month in advance to give them time to review it, and wondered why they got the school budget only one week in advance. He also noted all the town department heads worked to keep their budgets low, and many had actually reduced them by a couple hundred dollars, but there is an incredible increase in the school department budget request.

Ballot Machine – Selectman Lavin stated that on Election Day, they were here until 2:30 am because the ballot counter didn’t match the number of ballots. He asked if that was something that should be checked into. Tim replied that it was “just a fluke”; it has never happened before. The machine had neglected to count one ballot.

Warrant Articles – Selectman Lavin questioned why the ordinance changes were first on the list. He was told that in accordance with the RSA, all the zoning ordinance changes have to be voted on by ballot on Election Day, so they come first on the warrant.

Ambulance – Selectman Lavin stated that he had voted to approve the article for the new ambulance, but has since been thinking about it, and has changed his mind. He said he would like to get a new ambulance, but felt the money is not there; we could pay for it the first year with no increase in our taxes, but was concerned about the next few years.

There was discussion that the money that comes in from ambulance runs would cover the cost of payments, but the money goes back into the general fund. The same thing goes for recycling department and police department incomes.

Food Pantry – Selectman Lavin stated that since the food pantry receives no funding from the Town, they asked if the highway department could sand their driveway. They have it plowed, but it isn't sanded. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the person who plows the driveway should also sand it. If the Town got involved, it would present a liability to the Town.

Sand – Selectman Lavin said it had been alleged that sand from the highway department has been given to some private contractors, and the contractors are making money on it. Tim assured him that the Town does not give sand to private contractors.

Raffle – Selectman Lavin said his wife had come in today and asked to get a raffle permit to raffle a cord of wood to raise money for their daughter who is going to be an ambassador in the "People to People Program"; they are going to Greece, Italy and France, but was denied the permit. He asked if there was anything that could be done to allow this type of thing to be done. He was told that according to the RSA, raffle permits can only be issued to non-profit organizations, and the legislature is the only one who could change that.

Budget Committee Report

Fire Dept. -Selectman Lavin stated that he had been very impressed with the way Chief Hempel had presented the fire department budget. Questions had come up about the need for the bays in the fire department to be heated and the chief's salary in regards to when the 2.8% raise had gone into effect.

Ambulance Fees – Selectman Lavin said a resident had been upset because they had to use an ambulance, and their insurance company paid most of the cost, but the resident was billed the remainder. The resident felt because of the amount of taxes they pay, there should have been no charge to the individual. There was a brief discussion, and it was stated that if an individual sent a letter to the Town informing us that they could not afford to pay the remainder, they would not be billed.

Town Report Bids – A couple weeks ago bids had been received to print the 2011 Town Report. The low bidder's quote had been for a lighter weight paper than the others. Tim was asked to find out what the price would be for the heavier weight paper. Tim said the bidder informed him the price would be the same using the heavier paper.

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to award the bid to print the 2011 Annual Town Report to The Country Press for the price of \$1,700.66. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Town Report – There was a brief discussion about pictures for the cover of the Town Report and to whom the report should be dedicated.

Lights in Village District – Tim Warren said that Steve Latici had talked to him about the lights in the village district. He said that since the Town had some lights turned back on in the Iron Works, the Corners Village District has been being billed for the lights. Tim reviewed the bills, and there are seven lights that don't belong to the Village District. The Town will pay for the lights, but the expense will have to be added to the budget.

Letters – Tim read letters (copies attached) from Doug Isleib and Brenda McBride into the minutes. Mr. Isleib's letters were in response to articles in the minutes regarding alcohol use at Crystal Lake Park and the Town appropriation to the snowmobile club. Mrs. McBride's letter was regarding Ralph Goodwin using a screen on his dump truck.

The Landfill Monitoring Report has been received. A copy is in the Selectmen's office.

Vacation – Tim reminded the Board that he would be starting vacation Wednesday, so presented them with copies for their review of what will be presented at the budget committee Wednesday night.

7:00 pm – Public Input - Brett Currier was present, but had no public input.

Personnel Policy - The Selectmen continued review and update of the Personnel Policy.

8:19 pm - Break

8:22 pm – Back in Session

8:23 pm - Chairman Don Guarino moved to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(a) - Dismissal, promotion or setting compensation for public employees or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected has a right to a meeting or requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Selectman Lavin seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

The Selectmen discussed a personnel issue.

01-23-12 - BOS

APPROVED

8:44 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to come out of Non-Public Session. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

MOTION- Selectman Lavin moved to seal the minutes of the above non-public session. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk

Gilmanton Selectman 1/13/ 2012
503 Province Road, Gilmanton NH

RECEIVED
JAN 17 2012

Dear Selectmen,

BY: _____

I am responding to the request for a meeting with Chief O'Brien and Gary Lines about Alcohol use at the Crystal Lake Park.

I don't use the park on a daily basis so I don't know if there is a problem.

I have been attending the Labor Day Event since 1973. As I recall I only missed one or two of the events.

In the early days it was much bigger, had the gambling wheels, dice, ect., and lasted for two days. It was lots of fun and lasted until late at night. After the fireworks many went to sit around the huge Barn Fire that would last into the early morning hours. There was plenty of drinking but I never saw any real problems.

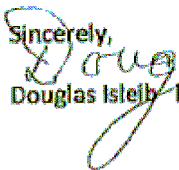
I also saw little if any police attendance.

It is much smaller now and there is no gambling or Barn Fire but many people go to visit, listen to music, play a few games and enjoy themselves.

At recent events I have seen much more police attendance but not much if any police activity. People are there to relax and have a good time.

I for one want to be able to have a few beers there.

Sincerely,


Douglas Islet PO Box 58 Gilmanton IW Nh,03837

Gilmanton Selectman 1/13/2012
503 Province Road, Gilmanton NH

RECEIVED
JAN 17 2012

Dear Selectmen,

BY:

I read in the December 19th minutes that there was a concern about the \$2,000 donation to the snowmobile club. "How does this help the town?"

I became active in the Snow Mobile club in 1998. Since then about eight bridges have been replaced on class v1 and discontinued roads. The knight Hawk Hollow Bridge was a major construction, new steel I-beams, complete planking and railings, the new bridge off of 140 over the Suncook River is another major construction that was just built last year. You can view this bridge from 140. Most of the materials are paid for with grants but all of the labor and some of the equipment are donated by club members and contractors from town. This work cost's thousands of dollars and doesn't cost the tax payers a cent.

The trails are maintained year round, bulldozing and brush removal is done during the warm season. When the club started repairing the trails in 1998, many of the bridges were rotten and unsafe. There were areas on many of the roads that were deeply rutted and washed out. Erosion was happening and running into wetlands. All of those areas have been graded and trenched and the problems have been corrected. About 18 steel gates have been constructed and installed at the entrances of trails to stop vehicle use.

As a result of this work the Town of Gilmanton has approximately 66 miles of trail system that can be used by all of its residents.

The trails are open to Snowmobiles, Horseback riding, hiking, cross country skiing, dog sledding and biking. They are not open to ATV's. The trails provide the biggest source of winter and summer recreation that Gilmanton has. They also provide access to the fire department, both in the dry months and for winter emergencies.

I think that you all will agree that the Tax Payers are getting a good deal.

I was happy to see Don Guarino's remarks about what the Snowmobile Club does for the Class V1 roads.

Sincerely,


Douglas Iselb Po box 58 Gilmanton Iron Works Nh, 03837

Tim,

I would like the Selectmen to know that an incident took place during Russ Boynton's time at the Police Department. After following Ralph Goodwin's trash truck on 140 West bound from the IW Store, then owned by Kevin and Denise, to the GPD, then located in the Old Town Hall Building, I had a piece of cardboard box fly off Goodwin's truck onto my windshield. The cardboard box fold up was for cooking oil delivered to the store. I pulled in right behind Goodwin, went into the PD with Goodwin ahead of me, and told Robin that I was there to swear to a complaint against Mr. Goodwin. Needless to say that was awkward but it got worse when Mr Goodwin started using profanity and at that point Russ Boynton entered the picture. Having said what I needed for the complaint and offering to come back so that I could sign it, I left. A short while after I returned home I got a call from Boynton with an offer which was in lieu of issuing a ticket for a fine . He asked if he could offer Goodwin the opportunity to avoid the fine and spend the money on a screen for his truck to protect the motoring public. Goodwin agreed and the screen went on. Boynton left the screen was no longer used. The issue of Ralph Goodwin's irresponsible way of hauling trash goes much further than just the unsightliness of lost loads. It has the potential to cause harm to others who use the roads and I believe the public should be protected. I think someone should find out why he is not using a screen. Dirt haulers use that type of screen. Why not Goodwin?

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Brenda K. McBride

Correction of word "WEST" bound
13KM
1/14/12