

APPROVED

**Board of Selectmen
8-15-11
Minutes**

6:00 pm – Selectman Guarino called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Guarino, Selectmen Rachel Hatch and Ralph Lavin, Town Administrator Tim Warren and Clerk Lois Dionne.

Many residents were also in attendance.

After attendance, everyone stood for the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Chairman Guarino explained that the meeting tonight was to allow residents the opportunity to discuss the recommendation of the recycling committee for the Selectmen to initiate mandatory recycling for Gilmanton. The recycling committee had been formed at the request of the Selectmen to try to come up with a way to get more people in Gilmanton to recycle.

Andrew Stockwell, Chairman of the Recycling Committee, explained that the committee had spent the past year getting information on what would be the best way for Gilmanton to go as far as their recycling. They had explored letting things stay as they are, single-stream recycling, pay-as-you-throw and mandatory recycling. Andrew said the committee had conducted a survey around town meeting time. The first choice was to let things remain as they are currently; the second choice was mandatory recycling. He said that was how they based their decision, and it is something the Selectmen can implement now without having to go through town meeting.

Rick Moorehead felt that rather than having the Selectmen implement mandatory recycling, there should be a warrant article, and let the residents vote at Town Meeting.

Israel Willard stated the committee might have recommended single-stream recycling because it would be more convenient, but the facility was not built to handle it, so the Town would pay more to truck it away.

Barry Howland stated that there are no rules or regulations in place for mandatory recycling. He stated that the word “mandatory” scares him. Mr. Howland felt that too many people ignore the signs that are at the recycling center now, so asked how they

would be able to enforce mandatory recycling. He stressed the need for rules and a method to enforce them before a decision is made.

Chairman Guarino stated that the Selectmen have been having discussions, and if they decided to go with mandatory recycling, it would not be enacted until they have rules and regulations in place.

Art Kempton was concerned about the amount of trash on side roads now, and felt there would be a lot more little dump piles if we go with mandatory recycling. He felt more education is the key. Mr. Kempton works part-time at the recycling center, and stated that employees already get verbal abuse when they try to correct people.

Laine Rosato stated that when citizens see people not recycling, and mention it, people get nasty to them.

Brett Currier stated that single-stream would be easy; although less money would come back to the Town, it would cost us less. He said mandatory would be more costly because we would need more employees at the center.

Johnna McKenna, recycling committee member, stated that the committee had started by having a survey at the recycling center to try to get a feeling of what residents felt about recycling. They tried to be active at public events, and one of their goals was to try to get a recommendation for the Selectmen before last town meeting, but they didn't feel they were ready because there were so many different options to explore. They spoke with towns that have recycling programs, met with the Co-op; RCAP did an analysis of the center. She said they found out one thing can't work for all towns, but most towns did not see more roadside trash when programs were initiated. Johnna said the committee had done a survey before town meeting, and only 150 people responded to the survey. Ninety percent of the people who took the survey said they recycle, so they didn't hear what people who don't recycle want.

Lauri Baldwin, recycling committee member, stated that the committee had published their meetings; the meetings were open to the public, but no one ever showed up at their meetings. She said the facility is not set up to handle single stream recycling, so it wouldn't be cost effective to try that.

Lauri felt we should at least try mandatory recycling; if we don't like it, communicate at town meeting. She said RCAP would help support any decision we make and would help establish policies, but we have to educate the public.

Bob Burdett stated that people have to know the procedures before making a decision.

Lew Henry stated that single-stream is a way to handle recyclables, but doesn't increase recycling.

Mike Griffin felt we aren't prepared to vote on that with the way the building and road are set up. There is already a safety issue. He felt it should be brought to town meeting with solid costs for remedies, and not just tell people it is going to happen.

Justin Leavitt, recycling manager, stated that the Selectmen have no intention of deciding to go immediately to mandatory recycling. There are already steps in progress for guidelines. Different issues and traffic patterns are being looked at. There would be guidelines in place before mandatory recycling would be put in place, if it gets put in place.

Art Poslusny believes in recycling, but he is vehemently opposed to someone going through his garbage telling him what he can and can't recycle. He felt we would need more people at the facility, and is opposed to mandatory recycling. It should be put to vote at town meeting.

Monk Munsey felt we already have too many rules and regulations, and don't need more; he recycles voluntarily, but doesn't want to be told he has to.

Laine Rosato said people have been saying they will do better, but it is not happening; 80% are not recycling. We need to work together for the betterment of the town.

Fritz Hughes stated that the 80% that aren't recycling are educated; they just don't want to do it.

Steve Bedard commended the recycling committee on their hard work the past year trying to come up with a solution. He said most towns who go to mandatory recycling do so with the vote of the residents, and didn't think it would be a good idea for the Selectmen to simply implement mandatory recycling. He said a report from CMA Engineers report shows that between \$25,000.00 and \$30,000.00 could be saved each year by using single-stream recycling. The savings is on tipping fees and we wouldn't need a lot of employees at the recycling center, but voters should be given the option.

Barbara Swanson, recycling committee member, stated that single-stream is not good for Gilmanton. She felt it is everyone's responsibility to see that trash does not get left on the side of the road; everyone needs to "step up to the plate" and be responsible.

Brett Currier was against the Selectmen deciding without the vote of the people; it is a taxpayer issue.

Dana Larsen who is on the recycling committee in Hanson, MA and owns a cottage in Gilmanton, felt Justin does an excellent job at the recycling center. He said he tells everyone at their recycling meetings what a good job is being done in Gilmanton, and invites everyone to come up and stay at his cottage, and go to the dump to see how it is

done, and try to duplicate it in Hanson. Mr. Larson feels the current system is working; it just needs fine-tuning.

Candace Willard asked that the Selectmen not “drop the ball” because the recycling committee had put a lot of time on it, and brought the selectmen good information.

Mark Sawyer felt that older people would fight the system; the young people are brought up to recycle.

Brenda Currier felt we are ill prepared to jump into mandatory recycling. She cited the traffic plans, what the cost would be, and asked if there is money in the budget to cover it. She felt maybe single-stream is the way to go, but agreed it should be voted on at Town Meeting.

Dana Larsen referred to the remark that old people don’t recycle He said during World War II people recycled toward a common goal; there was a reason for it. He said education is the key.

Art Kempton felt people were against the word mandatory because they don’t want to be told what they have to do. He felt highly recommended might come across better.

Barbara Swanson said if that would work, she would be for it.

Christie Lorendeau noted that it had been said there would be no increase in staff, but asked if the police would be involved in highly encouraging recycling.

Chairman Guarino said nothing has been budgeted for a police officer at the facility.

Sarah Nichols of RCAP Solutions, who had done an analysis of the facility, agreed that education is the key to increasing recycling. Convenience and incentive are also factors to be considered. She said their report had stated that mandatory recycling should be considered only if pay-per-throw is not an option. She said that with pay-per-throw, you don’t pay for what your neighbor is not recycling. People can decide whether they want to recycle, or pay to throw it away. She agreed that Gilmanton is not set up to handle single-stream recycling.

Brian Forst stated that mandatory recycling didn’t sound friendly, and asked exactly what it entailed. He said there are some things that couldn’t be recycled at the facility. We are supposed to recycle everything with the exception of hazardous waste.

Chairman Guarino stated that with the facility the way it is, residents would be required to recycle the items we can recycle.

Brian said if mandatory recycling were initiated, even though his family recycles, and his employees are taught to recycle, he would have to hire a dumpster for his business because his business generates some things that can't be recycled such as a container that had contained grease, but couldn't be cleaned up enough to recycle, or cardboard that might have a little grease on it, so it shouldn't be recycled. He asked if someone would go through his trash to see if he had recycled it properly.

Justin said they don't plan to go through everyone's trash, but if they hear something land in the compactor that sounds like it shouldn't be there, they would open the bags. He said with mandatory recycling, everything that can be recycled must be recycled.

Brian said recycling is something we have to accept and agreed that the younger generation would accept it better because they have grown up with it.

Israel Willard said the committee had spoken with Pittsfield, Chichester, and Epsom, who have mandatory recycling, and none of them have had any problems.

Brett Currier asked if we are in crisis mode, or if we could have three options at town meeting; pay-as-you-throw, single-stream or mandatory recycling, and let the voters choose. If they don't select one, then the Selectmen should choose.

Thomas Scribner felt the public hadn't been educated enough to make a decision, and felt the Selectmen and the committee should get information to the people, and let them have the vote.

Brenda Currier agreed that the people should be given the choice at town meeting.

Lauri Baldwin asked how they could educate the people when no one had shown up at their meetings in the fourteen months they had been researching the issue.

Tom Scribner suggested that there be someone at the landfill whenever they are open handing out information.

Johnna McKenna said they are open to any suggestions to help educate the people. They have been trying. She felt it is great that RCAP is available to help.

Monk Munsey agreed that mandatory recycling would mean there would be a lot of little dumps all over town.

7:10 pm – Chairman Guarino closed the public input, and the Selectmen moved downstairs to the conference room.

7:15 pm - Meeting reconvened.

FYIs & Other Business

Auction – Town-Owned Property – The Selectmen authorized Tim Warren to sign Purchase and Sales Agreements at the Auction on behalf of the Town.

Contra Dances – There has been a request for the contra dances to be held upstairs in the Academy Building again for the next year. Tim asked if they would be required to purchase liability insurance. They will need to purchase the insurance.

Local Government Center will hold a Local Official's Workshop on September 10th.

Request for fuel bids for the 2011-2012 season went out today. They have to be in by September 2nd at 12:30 pm. The Selectmen will meet at 1:00 on September 2nd to review the bids.

Sexual Harassment Class – Tim said LGC has scheduled a sexual harassment for all employees on Tuesday, October 18th from 9:30 to 11:30 am. The fire department has already had one.

Chainsaw Safety Class – Tim said LGC is also working on setting up a chainsaw safety class.

Commendation – Last week Tim informed the board that a letter of commendation for Officer Stacie Fiske would be forthcoming. He received the letter during the week (copy attached).

Bingham Road – Tim said there had been discussion on the paving of Bingham Road. We have been holding a cash bond until the paving is completed. Tim had spoken with Wolcott Construction about the cost. Harry Thomasian spoke with and gave a deposit to Hudson Paving to have the road paved. Tim said Mr. Thomasian is concerned about whether the town would release the funds once the road is paved because fifty percent of the houses have not been built in the development; a prior road agent had told him it had to be 50% completed before any monies would be released. Mr. Thomasian has asked for a letter from the Selectmen stating that if the road is paved and approved by the road agent that the Town would release the funds.

There was a brief discussion as to whether there had been a stipulation in the original subdivision approval that 50% of the building would have to be completed before refund of the monies. Tim was asked to check to see if there had been any stipulations by the planning board.

Parking Lot – Public Safety Building – Tim asked if Don had heard anything about the parking lot at the public safety building. Don Replied that he had received a note from the construction company. The contractor had looked at the perimeter drain; it looked like it was operating properly. He felt the frost had been so great that it went into

the lowest layer of material into the unsuitable material. Don said he had spoken with Mr. Hurst, and they discussed elevation of the outer edge of the perimeter. There was a brief discussion of the situation. Chairman Guarino will shoot the elevation to see if it is where it is supposed to be on the original plan before proceeding. Don will forward any emails between him and the construction company to Tim.

CDFA Loan – Last week there had been concern by the energy committee that the changes to the RFP for the windows for the Academy Building might disqualify us for the loan. The Selectmen have been discussing restoration rather than sealing the windows because of the historic aspect.

Tim said he had emailed the Cassandra Bradley, the representative we are working with through CDFA, and asked if the CDFA funds could be used for restoring, not just weatherizing the windows. She replied that they fund both; the decision is the Town's. Selectman Hatch stated that she had learned that historically, when CDFA loans entail historic buildings that are registered, both entities work in concert. She has a call to Peter Michaud, Chairman of the historic resource division. Rachel said when the application was made, it had not been conveyed that it was a historic building.

There was considerable discussion because one of the proposals was for sealing the windows, and did not include all the windows in the building, while the other was for restoring all the windows, and if sealing the windows would be only a stop-gap measure whereas restoring them would last for a long period of time. Steve Bedard and John Dickey are also checking into whether we would qualify for an LCHIP grant for restoration of the windows; they attended the preliminary LCHIP meeting on Friday. Don is going to ask the contractor who gave the price for sealing the windows to submit a quote for restoring all the windows to have at next week's meeting.

Iron Works Town Hall – Selectman Hatch said she had met with Tim Warren, John Dickey and Brenda McBride at the Iron Works Town Hall. Mike Dutile had also met them to check the energy efficiency of the heating system. Rachel said they had reviewed the shrubbery and trees with Brenda McBride of the Women's Club, who had planted the shrubbery. She said they all agreed that there are a couple of trees that need to come down, and the shrubbery needs to be trimmed and shaped so they are under the bottom of the windowsills.

Tim will get estimates to get the trees cut down and landscaping done.

Selectman Hatch said Mr. Ogni had volunteered to revamp wiring in the building. She said the downstairs bathroom has been removed; the handicap sink that had been there would go into the men's room upstairs that will be converted to a handicap bathroom. The alarm system is also being worked on. Rachel said the Historic Society is doing a great job renovating; they are also addressing the mold issue.

SAU Payments – Chairman Guarino said it had been brought to Tim’s attention that when He and Selectman Lavin agreed to send a letter to the school along with the payment schedule recommended by our accountant, and defer the August payment until we hear from them telling us the schedule will or won’t work for the school, there probably should have been a formal motion.

There was a very brief discussion.

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to defer the August payment to the SAU, and go to the Town’s payment schedule until we hear back from the school, as stated in the August 8th Selectmen’s meeting. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Selectman Hatch had recused herself from the issue.

8:07 pm – Selectman Lavin 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 Hatch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Selectmen discussed a personnel issue.

8:13 pm – Selectman Hatch moved to come out of Non-Public Session. Selectman Lavin seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Work Session – The Selectmen very briefly discussed the work session regarding mandatory recycling that had been held earlier this evening. No decision was made tonight.

8:25 pm – MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Hatch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk

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AUG 11 2011
BY: _____

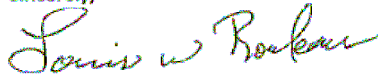
Louis & Judy Rouleau
101 Meeting House Rd.
Gilmanton, NH 03237

August 9, 2011

Gilmanton Selectman:

My wife and I, recently moved to Gilmanton from Bedford, NH. We have never had any need to interact with a police officer. In seeing police either directing traffic or patrolling the streets, I always came away feeling the badge made them feel important. Then I encounter one of your officers, Stacie Fiske. She happened to come to our house looking for a neighbor and my wife conveyed that we witnessed her at the 4th of July parade where she was directing traffic. She had such a warm smile and greeting for everyone that crossed the road. We watched her for at least ½ hour as she made everyone feel like they were the only ones there. Everyone was treated with such respect. She represents Gilmanton very well. Please tell her thank you from us.

Sincerely,



Louis Rouleau

