



APPROVED

Board of Selectmen Town of Gilmanton, New Hampshire

Meeting

October 14, 2014

6:00 pm. – Gilmanton Academy

Present: Chairman Brett Currier, Selectmen Donald Guarino and Stephen McCormack, Town Administrator Arthur Capello.

6:00 pm Chairman Currier opened the meeting, took attendance of those present and voting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Appointment of Ballot Inspectors – Arthur Capello stated that because of a change in the law, current Ballot Inspectors had to be reappointed until July of 2015.

MOTION: On a Motion by Selectman Guarino and seconded by Selectman McCormack, the following Ballot Inspectors were reappointed to comply with the change in the law:

Kathleen Brooks	Michael Hatch
Elena Ball	Bethany Lavin
Brenda Currier	Julie Perkins
Rick Gagne	John Richardson
Joanne Gianni	Andrea Schaffnit
Frank Gianni	Leonard Schaffnit
	Brenda Sens

It was voted unanimously at 6:04 pm (3-0, Chairman Currier – yes, Selectman Guarino – yes, and Selectman McCormack – yes).

Warrant Articles for 2015 – Arthur Capello with SB2 it is that time again to begin thinking about upcoming Warrant Articles. Arthur Capello said that there are several Warrant Articles that have been discussed already,

1. Roads Committee has recommended a possible Warrant Article for money for ditching.
2. Document Restoration
3. SCBA for Fire Department
4. SUV for Police Department
5. Assessing (requested by George Hildum, Town Assessor) to begin replenishing \$27,000/year in Capital Reserve over the next four years for fiscal update/revaluation in 2019.
6. Dump Truck for the Highway Department to be replaced out of Capital Reserve.

1 **Road Agent** – Chairman Currier discussed the way the Road Agent is hired, should it be
2 addressed this year as a non-binding article stating that it would take effect at the end of the
3 Elected Road Agents term, to see where people stand or wait until after this election. Selectman
4 Guarino said he feels it is premature to vote, it would appear as a vote of no-confidence.
5 Chairman Currier said that we need to check into it further so we can proceed. Chairman
6 Currier feels that it should be put out to a vote so it could be binding in three years from now if
7 the people want it to happen.
8

9 **Solicitation Policy** – The Selectmen discussed the new proposed Solicitation Policy. Chairman
10 Currier said he does not want a permit process. He does not want people to feel guilty and/or
11 obligated to put money into a boot. Chairman Currier said he is not the only person who wants
12 this to stop, there are many people in this Town that don't want it. Selectman McCormack said
13 that since this topic has come out in the minutes he has had calls that do not agree with stopping
14 the solicitation. Selectman McCormack said that he does agree that people should not be in the
15 roadways.
16

17 Chairman Currier said that he does not care if it is the Fire Department, Police Department or
18 The Boy Scouts, if they set up at the Safety Building etc. they can do it any day of the week.
19 Chairman Currier said we do not need more permits. The Gilmanton Fireman's Association is
20 not affiliated with the Gilmanton Fire Department. We do not regularly get money from them,
21 nor do we know where the money goes, or are we privy to where it goes.
22

23 Selectman Guarino said he has heard that it makes the Town look like they do not fund the Fire
24 Department properly. That is a misrepresentation, because we do fund the Fire Department
25 properly.
26

27 **Solicitation Ordinance for Public Hearing** as follows:

28 No organization shall be allowed to solicit funds in the right of way of any road in the Town of
29 Gilmanton.
30

31 A public hearing will be scheduled for 6:00 pm on the 28th of October, 2014.
32

33 **Auction Properties** – Auctioning of Town Properties that did not sell at the last auction will be
34 auctioned off again on November 15, 2014, 10:00 am. The bidders that did not follow through
35 with procedure at the last auction will not be allowed to bid again. The bidders that were
36 registered to bid will be notified by mail and St. Jean Auctioneer will also advertise as they did
37 before.
38

39 **2015 Holiday Schedule** – Arthur Capello said he met with the Office Staff and the consensus
40 was to have Columbus Day off and to work Martin Luther King Day. Chairman Currier said
41 who else does this effect? Arthur Capello said Highway Department as well.
42

43 **MOTION:** On a Motion by Selectman Guarino and seconded by Selectman McCormack it was
44 voted unanimously to approve the 2015 Holiday Schedule for the Town of Gilmanton. (3-0).
45

46 **Computer Policy** – The Selectmen reviewed the proposed Computer Policy and made some
47 adjustments.
48

7:00 pm Chairman Currier opened Public-Input.

Education Funding: Mr. Haas, referring to a letter by Selectman Bruce Johnson of Webster, NH (see attached to minutes in office) agrees with Mr. Johnson that property taxation for school funding is unconstitutional. Selectman Guarino said that it could come forward by petition warrant article with 25 signatures for a vote by the Town's people if Mr. Haas or someone would like to bring it forward.

Mr. Haas stated that there is a tax warrant that is sent out by the Department of Revenue, that has to be consented to by the executive counselors. Mr. Haas stated that Volume 55 of the NH Courts page 503 -505, 1875 Brentwood School #2 Case says "If the poor man or poor child behaves himself honestly and uprightly, the State owes him the services of the school master and taxes the property of its more favored children in order to pay their debt.", which is an exemplification of the law of Christian charity to help out the poor people. Article 5, bill of rights, yes you don't force someone else to pay for someone else's child to go to school. You lend to the poor at zero interest expecting nothing back. Mr. Haas would like to have something like this set up here, where he could donate/or lend to help the poor where a child could choose to go to a private or government school.

Selectman Guarino said again that the Petition Warrant Article would have to come before the Town to vote. Selectman McCormack said that there was a Supreme Court Decision relevant to education funding earlier. Mr. Haas will look up that court case.

Chairman Currier closed Public Input.

Computer Policy continued.....

Selectman McCormack asked Arthur Capello if he was going to meet with Department Heads when he handed the Computer Policy out. Arthur said he will be meeting with the Department Heads soon and will go over the policy with them.

MOTION: On a Motion by Selectman Guarino and seconded by Selectman McCormack it was voted unanimously to approve the new Computer Policy with amendments. (3-0)

Metrocast – The Selectmen decided to table the discussion regarding Metrocast and to have Arthur Capello contact other vendors before a decision will be made.

Budget - There will be a joint meeting with the Budget Committee October 28 at 7:00 pm. Presenting before the Selectmen and Budget Committee will be the Town Clerk/Tax Collector Debra Cornett and Chief of Police Joe Collins.

Fire Department Hiring - Arthur Capello informed the Board that the Fire Chief had two new applicants at this time. Chief Hempel will be setting up interviews next week.

Selectmen's Office Reorganization –

Arthur Capello stated that there will be change in personnel as of January 1, 2015, and the Selectmen will need to discuss how to fill those positions. Selectman McCormack said they

specifically want to talk about the current organization and what it will potentially look like due to changes in the staff.

Selectman McCormack said that the tax payers should know that because of a pending retirement and upcoming budget that we are looking at how the office is presently staffed and can we make changes to improve that office to service the citizens of the Town. Chairman Currier said that if it can be reorganized in a certain way, the potential would be there to open five days a week to the public. Selectman McCormack said to do that they need to look at the positions and the reorganization of the office. Chairman Currier said that they should go into non-public to discuss current employees positions, increasing, or people coming in to help, peoples names and positions will be discussed. To be on the safe side the Board should go into non-public session to discuss this. Selectman McCormack said he agrees they should go into non-public session.

(A)Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II (b):

MOTION: On a Motion by Selectman Guarino, and seconded by Selectman McCormack it was voted unanimously to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II (b).(3-0 Voice Vote – Chairman Currier-yes, Selectman Guarino– yes, Selectman McCormack– yes).

The meeting room was closed to the public. Present during the Non-Public Session were Chairman Currier, Selectmen Guarino and McCormack. Town Administrator Arthur Capello.

Discussion ensued and decisions were made regarding the office reorganization.

MOTION: On a Motion by Selectman Guarino and seconded by Selectman McCormack it was voted unanimously to come out of Non-Public Session. (3-0 Voice Vote – Chairman Currier - yes, Selectman Guarino – yes, Selectman McCormack – yes).

The meeting room was opened to the public. The Board noted the Non-Public Session minutes were not sealed.

Adjournment: On a motion by Selectmen Guarino, seconded by Selectman McCormack it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:30 pm. (3-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie S. Fogg
Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Board of Selectmen

Chairman Brett A. Currier

Selectman Donald J. Guarino

Selectman Stephen J. McCormack