



APPROVED

Board of Selectmen Town of Gilmanton, New Hampshire

Work Session

November 18, 2015

6:00 pm. – Gilmanton Academy

Present: Chairman Donald Guarino, Selectman Michael Jean, Vice Chairman Rachel Frechette Hatch, Town Administrator Paul Branscombe and Administrative Assistant Stephanie Fogg.

6:00 pm Chairman Guarino opened the meeting, took attendance of those present and voting (Selectman Jean, Selectman Hatch and Chairman Guarino) and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bridges RFQ's – Chairman Guarino said that the process of awarding the Bridge RFQ's was not done properly and after speaking to Town Counsel, he would say the process has been compromised. The bid needs to be opened up again to the complete process, although it is a request for qualifications only. I am assuming that you were all fine with Hoyle Tanner via your e-mails and voted to decide on Hoyle Tanner. Chairman Guarino spoke with Attorney Laura Spector Morgan, she said to correct it would be to start over again. Re-invite the firms that originally submitted their qualifications. Chairman Guarino said he is asking to go with Attorney Spector Morgan's suggestion and start the process again. My concern was the way we went about it.

Paul Branscombe said this is not a bid, it is an RFQ. We are looking at RFQ's not pricing.

Michael Jean said how is that going to change anything?

Chairman Guarino, said take the people that you sent the letters to and tell them you are taking a second look at them. It is not unusual to speak about the firms in non-public if needed. Chairman Guarino said I am sharing with you what counsel said to do, I am not going to vote on this RFQ tonight.

Paul Branscombe said Tim Warren and Arthur Capello both spoke with Hoyle and Tanner regarding the upcoming bridges, and that is why we began speaking with them again. Hoyle and Tanner has assisted us with everything. Paul said counsel is only an opinion, it is not law. The Board can make the decision about what they want to do. Hoyle and Tanner did the bridge in 2005 in Gilmanton. We are awarding an engineering contract. Paul Branscombe said we are going to negotiate with the firm if the cost of what they produce is adequate. They submit plans, designs and costs and if the cost is not where it needs to be you can go with another firm.

Chairman Guarino said that Attorney Spector Morgan said you need to start over.

1 Paul Branscombe said he will write to everyone and say we are revisiting them, go through the
2 books and pick two or three to interview if you wish. If you choose they can be invited in.
3 Chairman Guarino said that will be good, Paul will take care of it.
4

5 By consensus the Selectmen will revisit the RFQ's and decide at the next meeting November 30,
6 2015.
7

8 Second meeting in December will be 14, 2015. (Board of Selectmen Meeting, December 14,
9 2015 and December 28, 2015).
10

11 **Taxes 2014 and 2015 –**

12 Chairman Guarino said regarding the Department of Revenue Administration, hypothetically, if
13 the total budget with all warrant articles were increased by \$500,000 in 2015, and you put
14 \$500,000 to the “buy down” your tax, the tax increase would be zero. Chairman Guarino spoke
15 with Marie, and she found that the revenue for 2014 were inaccurate. Paul said let me draw your
16 attention to the revenue's for the Motor Vehicle Registration Department, estimated at \$369,544
17 when we have already picked up year to date \$602,000. Marie did the research after Chairman
18 Guarino requested information. Because of Munismart and it's inaccuracies, Paul and Marie
19 have been unable to use some of the information, because of what has happened before.
20

21 Chairman Guarino said that he tried to call DRA, they give you the opportunity to adjust your
22 estimated revenue, just before this tax bill. They call and say would you like to adjust your
23 estimated revenue? Did that conversation every happen? Paul said you will have to ask Marie.
24 Paul said because this is not right nothing on the revenue side is right. She can't find the
25 numbers Don, and I would like to just interject here, Marie is having a hard time, because of this,
26 she may leave us; because she is tired of doing research because of Arthur Capello's errors.
27 Arthur Capello put the numbers in there. Chairman Guarino said I thought you would say that,
28 so I called Arthur and that is not right. Paul said then who put the numbers in there? He said that
29 the numbers that were submitted at the half year point must have come from Debra Cornett.
30 Chairman Guarino said to Arthur, I am not going to listen to any one telling me that you screwed
31 up on this. He said that this looks like half year numbers to me. Why wouldn't we go with the
32 2014 numbers if we wanted the estimated revenue. We should have corrected this, this is your
33 fault Paul. Selectman Hatch said no it is not. Paul said how is it my fault? Chairman Guarino
34 said you are running the show. Paul said I came here on July 27, 2015, this all took place way
35 before then.
36

37 Selectman Hatch said you are assassinating your top hand man. You are out of control. Paul
38 Branscombe said I did not get a call from DRA. Chairman Guarino said I came upon this
39 because I have been asking the questions, and I am not the Town Administrator.
40

41 Selectman Hatch said to Chairman Guarino you are out of order! You do not want to take the hit
42 because it is on your Board. Chairman Guarino said, are you kidding me? Paul said it is all to
43 do with the taxes.
44

45 **Town Pound -**

46 Chairman Guarino said that the vote on the Town Pound was done incorrectly, he made a
47 mistake and it needs to be voted on now.
48

1 Selectman Hatch said make the motion and I will second it.

2
3 **MOTION:** On a Motion by Michael Jean to make Selectman Hatch Chairman of the Board of
4 Selectman.

5
6 Selectman Hatch said that I thought he was going to make a motion regarding the Town Pound?

7
8 Selectman Jean said we hire good people. Selectman Hatch said we do hire good people, and we
9 are going to lose good people. Selectman Jean said that is why I just made that motion. I just
10 made a motion, it's on the floor.

11
12 Motion seconded by Selectman Hatch.

13
14 **MOTION:** On a Motion by Michael Jean and seconded by Selectman Hatch it was voted to
15 make Selectman Rachel Hatch the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. (2-0-1, Chairman
16 Guarino – abstain, Selectman Hatch – yes, Selectman Jean – yes)

17
18 **MOTION:** On a Motion by Michael Jean and seconded by Chairman Hatch it was voted
19 unanimously to choose Option C as provided by the Gilmanton Planning Board's
20 recommendation for the Gilmanton Town Pound. (3-0)

21
22 **Adjournment:** On a Motion by Selectman Jean and seconded by Chairman Hatch, it was voted
23 unanimously to adjourn at 6:52 pm (3-0).

24
25
26 Respectfully Submitted,

27
28
29 _____
30 Stephanie S. Fogg
31 Administrative Assistant

32
33
34 **Approved by the Board of Selectmen**

35
36 _____
37 Chairman Donald J. Guarino

38
39 _____
40 Selectman Michael J. Jean

41
42 _____
43 Selectman Rachel M. Frechette Hatch