

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 30, 2012

Submitted by stoddard on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 5:59pm.

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES January 30, 2012

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendees included Arnie Stymest, Chair of Board of Selectmen, Louis GrandPre' Selectman, John Halter, Selectman, Sam Bradley, Maria Gavin, Harry Power and Patricia Putnam, Administrative Assistant. Several attended the meeting as on lookers.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

1. Harry Power reported that he has denied a building permit to Rodney Williams due to set backs from property lines. The matter has been referred to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.
2. George Davenport referred to his letter to the Selectmen concerning the occupancy of the Gould House without a site plan review. He was informed that the Town does not have to follow Site Plan Review but must follow building codes. George said he feels that there is an inequity that some people are not treated as others are. He called on the Board of Selectmen to withdraw their approval of the Gould House for any meeting, office or storage until all the structural and life safety issues have been incorporated, as everyone else has to meet. Arnie Stymest said some of the issues have been taken care of. Sam Bradley said the town has to differentiate Site Plan Review and Zoning but must address safety issues.
3. Richard Gariepy, of the Building Committee, feels his committee needs to concentrate on the Town Hall even though it presents difficulty with nothing to compare to. Issues are set aside, during meetings, because their attention is always drawn to the Gould House. That is why the board drafted a letter to the Selectmen as a formal notice to request the end of further input of financial or

voluntary hours for the Gould House until all regulations and safety issues are met. No volunteer, private or public labor or funds should occur. Further, the Selectmen should hold an informational meeting after all requirements are met. He also announced that Sandy Holland has resigned from the Building Committee and requested any interested party to contact Daniel Eaton for possible appointment and swearing in by an approved person.

4. Arnie Stymest announce that due to Chief LaMothe's threat of a lawsuit on harassment, he asked Sam Bradley to attend the meeting. He noted that Chief LaMothe refused to attend this meeting. He went on to say that the old Forestry Truck was repairable for a reasonable amount of money but the Fire Department chose to call for a new truck at \$82,000., that was too big to store in the fire station, after it arrived,

Arnie Stymest also referred to the requirement for physicals on all fire fighters and he has discovered that simple physicals are being performed instead of DOT physicals and that some fire fighters have not gone for them.

Sam Bradley quoted RSA 154:1, which calls for reorganization of every fire department in the State of New Hampshire. A 1993 law passed by the State regulated this reorganization. He sighted several ways that the Town could conform to the law, including appointment or election of the Fire Chief and then the Fire Chief recommends the fire fighters that the Selectmen appoint. [Further research revealed that the Fire Department was reorganized in 1994 and reported as such in the 1995 town report.]

Arnie Stymest noted that the Town Clerk's office hasn't been inspected, has no handicap accessibility, handicapped public toilet or Town Clerk Signs. The library was allowed to operate even though there was a very dangerous condition with the floor furnace and the Mill village Store was allowed to operate their grill for many months without a fire suppression system, even though the Highland Lake Marina grill was shut down for the lack of the fire suppression system. Arnie continued to point out problems with houses having garbage piling up on decks, miscellaneous wood and other items stored on another house's porch causing a fire trap situation.

Arnie Stymest also said he was disappointed with the Building Committee's

decision to abandon the Gould House uses for now. Richard Gariepy explained, for the third time, that the Building Committee did not recommend the Gould House be closed but that no further investment of volunteer labor or money takes place until the entire list of requirements and costs of compliance are understood.

It was decided to have John Halter sit down with the Fire Chief and try to iron out what her concerns are with the Gould House.

Amy Rokoszak spoke about the escalating taxes, lack of use of town facilities and the attempt, by the Building Committee, to call for repeated studies, when the former Building Committee has gotten these studies. She also said she is disappointed with the Board of Selectmen for not maintaining the buildings the town already has. She referred to her taxes and said the town cannot afford to have continuing increases in the tax rate. She called for the Selectmen to institute a practice to start maintaining these buildings.

Dick Briere addressed the former Building Committee's work toward a usable Gould House. In September 2008 the town voted to purchase the building and in November 2009 the Building Committee had Architect Monahon attend their meeting. December 10, 2009 Mr. Monahon presented his report, indicating that he felt the Gould House is a good fit for the town.

There is also a requirement, from the Fire Chief, to have no storage on the 2nd floor until stress tests make sure that the floors can hold the weight. About the Library books stored there, the deadline of February 10, 2012 is coming up fast the Library has not found any storage facility to put them in.

There was an appeal to the Board of Selectmen not to act on the Building Committee's call to close the Gould House.

Arlene DiCorcia said the Town Hall has received several improvements, including the furnace replacement which removed the kitty litter filled can to catch oil leaks from the old one and that many boxes of stored documents and records have been gone through, even though they were filled with mouse feces, which are hazardous to the health.

Bob Fee said that Swanzey's Fire Department, referred to by Sam Bradley, in his review of fire departments' reorganization, is much larger. He cautioned all to go gingerly with the updates for the Fire Department because the town needs all the fire fighters it has that are willing to serve.

Carol Clark noted that many volunteers and trained fire fighters are leaving the Fire

Department due to dissention within the "ranks". She said this makes her sad and called for future planning to bring people together and make a plan to follow to get the neglected buildings and departments to get back into mutually respected form. Richard Gariepy was glad to hear about past documents addressing issues that are on the list of requirements needed to allow going forth to use the Gould House. Mary Lou Stymest announced that she loves old buildings and called on "Louis GrandPre" to set aside his feelings and tour the Gould House for the now updated ADA compatible entrance and bathroom, as many volunteers and private donations were used for renovations.

John Halter noted that there are about 90 days left to Town Meeting and with the rift in town and @ town meeting voters will not get any affirmative vote to fund items. There needs to be an agreed upon list of priorities and a plan made to get started on the needs.

Mike Oldershaw called to meet with the Fire Chief and go through the Gould House to see what is needed and what has already been accomplished.

The Selectmen decided to invite the Fire Chief and Fire Marshall back for a walk through to learn of any other issues. The walk through will be noticed on the web site.

Paul Krampfert said the library books could be piled, neatly, in the empty room. Pat Bassett asked if there was a way that the deadline could be extended a couple weeks.

Louis GrandPre' said he would talk to the Fire Chief to see if she would push off the deadline till after February 10th.

TO BE SIGNED/APPROVED

1. A/R Manifest
2. Elderly Exemption
3. Minutes of January 9, 2012
4. Minutes of January 23, 2012

All items were signed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Memo from Jim Coffey / RSA 674:54 concerning the town's exemption from Site Plan Review regulations
2. Fire Chief's letter from January 9, 2012 for reference with Richard Gariepy's

appointment

3. Letter from George Davenport.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Letter to SWRPC supporting a Brownfield's Grant Nomination for the assessment of outdated piping and fuel tanks at the Mill Village Country Store - was signed.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email from Steve Tarbox that the Fire Department repairs are complete (He inspected 1/30/2012)
2. Email from Dan Scully indicating that February 9th would work for a meeting with the Building Committee.
3. Town of Gilsum Public Notice concerning an application from AT&T to site a wireless communication tower in their town.
All read and no action taken.

OTHER ITEMS

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Putnam, Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

Arnold Stymest

John Halter

Louis GrandPre'

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
AGENDA
January 30, 2012

APPOINTMENTS

- 7:00 Harry Power
- 7:15 George Davenport *
- 7:30 Richard Gariepy, Building Committee **
- 7:45 Chief Lamothe

TO BE SIGNED/APPROVED

- 1. Accounts Payable Manifest
- 2. Elderly Exemption (Financial data was verified and returned to applicant. JC)
- 3. Minutes of January 9, 2012
- 4. Minutes of January 23, 2012

OLD BUSINESS

Memo from Jim Coffey / RSA 674:54

** Fire Chief's letter from January 9, 2012, for reference with Richard Gariepy appointment.

* Letter from Mr. George Davenport

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Letter to SWRPC supporting a Brownfield's Grant Nomination for the assessment of outdated piping and fuel tanks at the Mill Village Country Store

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

- 1. Email from Steve Tarbox that the Fire Station repairs are complete.
- 2. Email from Dan Scully that February 9, would work for a meeting with the Building Committee.
- 3. Town of Gilsum Public Notice
- 4. Other items

OTHER ITEMS

None