

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
THE GORHAM TOWN BOARD
November 26, 2024 10:00 am**

The Gorham Town Board held a Special Meeting on November 26, 2024 at 10:00 am at the Gorham Town Hall.

Present; Supervisor Dale C. Stell

Councilmembers; Jake Chard, Phil Curtis, Brian Lazarus and Chrissy Watkins.

Town Officials in attendance; Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.

Guests in person and via Zoom.

The minutes are written as a summary of the main points that were made and are the official and permanent record of the actions taken by the Gorham Town Board. Remarks delivered during privilege of the floor and discussions are summarized and are not intended to be verbatim transcriptions.

The full zoom recording of the meeting is posted on the town website for viewing.

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag
2. Privilege of the Floor –
3. Business –

a. Adopt Resolution Amending Water Districts

Councilmember Curtis offered the following Resolution and called for adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Watkins the resolution was adopted. 5-0

5- Ayes – Stell, Chard, Curtis, Lazarus, Watkins

126-2024

**TOWN OF GORHAM
RESOLUTION #40-2024
ON BEHALF OF ALL TOWN OF GORHAM WATER DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Gorham has previously created Water District No. 1, Water District No. 2, Water District No. 3 and Water District No. 6 and, on behalf of such water districts, has previously set debt service charges for those properties included within each such water district and a separate tax rate for operation and maintenance charges for those properties within each such water district that receive water; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gorham, through an internal audit of its books and records, has determined that four properties within Water District No. 2 were not being charged for operation and maintenance charges, eight properties within Water District No. 3 were not being charged for

operation and maintenance charges, four properties within Water District No. 6 were not being charged for debt service and 18 properties in Water District No. 6 were not being charged for operation and maintenance charges; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board now wants to amend the tax rates for operation and maintenance charges for all Town of Gorham water districts, due to budgetary needs, and to correct these billing errors so that all properties that are required to pay for debt service and operation and maintenance charges are properly billed for such expenses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board, on behalf of all Town of Gorham water districts, hereby changes the tax rate for operation and maintenance charges to \$0.28403 per \$1,000 assessed value, effective January 1, 2025, and such rate shall apply to all properties within any Town of Gorham water district that are receiving public water; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any property within any Town of Gorham water district that should be charged for debt service for the water district in which such property is located shall be charged the applicable amount for debt service as determined by the Town of Gorham.

I, Darby L. Perrotte, Town Clerk of the Town of Gorham do certify that the Town Board of the Town of Gorham adopted the aforementioned resolution on November 26, 2024, by the following vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Dale Stell	X_____	_____
Jake Chard	X_____	_____
Phil Curtis	X_____	_____
Brian Lazarus	X_____	_____
Chrissy Watkins	X_____	_____

b. Approve Voucher for Water Department Truck –

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Lazarus, to approve the purchase of a 2024 truck from Maguire Ford for \$32,196.00. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0

5- Ayes – Stell, Chard, Curtis, Lazarus, Watkins

127-2024

c. Discuss PFAS Class Action Lawsuit –

Jerry King, Attorney with a Law Firm in Rochester, explained a Class Action lawsuit the Town of Gorham may qualify for if they can show contamination in their public water supply. The lawsuit is in regards to PFAS contamination. PFAS refers to a wide category of per and polyfluorinated substances. They are a group of chemicals that can contaminate water and pose health risks.

Attorney King supplied the Board with literature and an agreement/contract if the Town is eligible to join the lawsuit.

Discussion was held.

The Board will ask the Town Attorney to review the document before they make a decision.

4. Set the Next Meeting Date – December 18, 2024 Regular Meeting 7:00pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

5. Privilege of the Floor –

Lynn Klotz, Lake Drive resident, asked if the letter sent out from the 'Desk of the Highway Superintendent' urging residents to vote no in the upcoming special election was paid for or approved by the Town and how was it distributed.

Councilmembers didn't know about the letter Zach had available at St. Georgio's.

Supervisor Stell stated just before those were distributed, Zach came into the Town Hall to pick up 2 reams of paper.

Also questioned if the signboard on private property was issued a permit from Code Enforcement Officer.

Councilmembers will ask the Code Enforcement Officer.

6. Adjournment – with no further business, on the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Lazarus, the meeting was adjourned at 10:31am.

The motion carried unanimously. 5-0

5 - Ayes – Stell, Chard, Curtis, Lazarus, Watkins

128-2024

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte
Town Clerk