

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
THE GORHAM TOWN BOARD  
March 19, 2025 7:00pm**

The Gorham Town Board held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday March 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall in Gorham, NY.

Present; Supervisor Dale C. Stell. Councilmembers, Jake Chard, Phil Curtis, Brian Lazarus and Chrissy Watkins.

Town Officials in attendance; Chief Operator Water & Wastewater Districts Nate Bay, Highway Superintendent Zach Eddinger, Code Enforcement Officer Jim Morse, Assessor Enza Mineo, and Town Clerk Darby Perrotte.

Tax Collector Adrienne Smith joined via zoom.

Code Enforcement Officer Jim Morse was necessarily absent.

Residents and 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 –

Amanda Gibeau, Director of Operations from Stanley Hall Gorham Ambulance, updated the Board about upcoming events the Ambulance will be hosting, new equipment the Ambulance has ordered and talked about first aid kits, tourniquets, AED, CPR and first aid training for town employees.

3. Approval of Minutes – 02/19/25 Regular Meeting Minutes  
03/05/25 Special Meeting Minutes

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Curtis, the Minutes (2) were approved as submitted. The motion carried unanimously. 5-0

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

**024-2025**

4. Reports of Town Officials -

A. Chief Operator Water/Wastewater Plants – written report on file.

B. Highway Superintendent – written report on file. Highway Superintendent presented the Board with quotes for new pick-up trucks. Discussion was held.

Supervisor Stell said the Board will look at the quotes and consider the purchases over the next couple months. Highway Superintendent Eddinger asked the Board to consider hiring a couple part-time employees for the summer for mowing and other projects. Highway Superintendent Eddinger has a couple of people in mind for the job.

Discussion was held.

Supervisor Stell asked for a list of projects Highway has planned for this year.

Supervisor Stell stated the County has a program that might pay the salaries for this type of employee.

C. Zoning/Building Officer – written report on file.

D. Assessor –written report on file.

E. Tax Collector - written report on file.

F. Town Clerk – written report on file.

G. Town Supervisor – Supervisor Stell explained the reason the town is considering a moratorium on farm markets to further define what a farm market is in an agricultural district. He also mentioned the Town of Potter voted yes to appoint their highway superintendent and their town clerk.

On the motion by Councilmember Lazarus, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, the Reports of Town Officials were approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0

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

**025-2025**

5. Audit of Bills -

Approval of Vouchers  
Abstract #3

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Watkins.

Councilmember Lazarus questioned a bill for topsoil for the Maple Ave Drainage Project. He questioned the procedure of the Maple Ave Drainage Project and the Supervisor's \$6,000.00 spending limit regarding the project.

Supervisor Stell stated the project was discussed and approved several months ago.

The abstract of bills totaling \$539,754.56, was approved for payment. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0

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

**026-2025**

6. Business –

a. Adopt Resolution Authorizing Scheduling of Public Hearing for a Local Law  
"Establishing a Moratorium on Farm Markets"

Councilmember Chard offered the following resolution and called for adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Lazarus the resolution was adopted unanimously. 5-0

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

**027-2025**

**RESOLUTION # 4-2025  
AUTHORIZING SCHEDULING OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A  
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW ENTITLED  
"A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON FARM MARKETS"**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Gorham, after due deliberation, finds it in the best interests of the Town to schedule a public hearing to solicit public comment upon a proposed Local Law entitled "A Local Law Establishing a Moratorium on Farm Markets"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Gorham has reviewed the draft of the aforementioned proposed Local Law attached hereto as Exhibit "1" and deems it in the best interests of the Town of Gorham to proceed in accordance with the Code of the Town of Gorham and the Laws of the State of New York in adopting said Local Law; and

**WHEREAS**, this action by the Town Board is a "Type II" action under the regulations promulgated by authority contained in the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), which appear in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5 (36) ("adoption of a moratorium on land development or construction"), thereby requiring no further action by the Town Board.

**NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to schedule a public hearing to be held on April 16, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gorham Town Hall, 4736 South Street, Town of Gorham, New York; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk be and hereby is, authorized to forward to the official newspaper of the Town a Notice of Public Hearing in the form substantially the same as that attached hereto as Exhibit "2"; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to post a copy of the aforesaid Notice of Public Hearing and a copy of the proposed Local Law on the Town of Gorham sign board and to take any and all other necessary actions to properly bring the aforementioned Local Law before the Town Board of the Town of Gorham for its consideration.

I, Darby L. Perrotte, Town Clerk of the Town of Gorham do hereby certify that the aforementioned resolution was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Gorham on March 19, 2025 by the following vote:

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

b. Authorize Supervisor to sign Easement for Deep Run HOA

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Curtis, approval for Supervisor Stell to sign the permanent easement. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0

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

**028-2025**

c. Appoint Lynn Klotz from Alternate to Full-Time Planning Board Member

On the motion by Councilmember Curtis, seconded by Councilmember Lazarus, to appoint Lynn Klotz as full-time Planning Board Member to fulfill the term of Mike Kestler. Term effective immediately and runs through 12/31/2026. The motion carried unanimously. 5-0

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

**029-2025**

d. 284 Agreement –

Highway form 284 – agreement to spend highway funds. Superintendent Eddinger has completed the form that includes a sum of \$745,250.05 to be used for primary work and general repairs on 141.52 miles of town highways. Discussion was held.

On the motion by Councilmember Curtis, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, to accept the 2025 284 Agreement. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0

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

**030-2025**

7. Set Next Meeting Date – The next regular meeting and public hearing will be held on Wednesday April 16, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

8. Privilege of the Floor –

Ben Smith, Kearney Road resident, stated he looked up the meeting minutes regarding the Maple Ave Drainage Project. The project was discussed in August 2024 and also discussed in November 2024.

Alan Nolt, Phelps Road resident questioned the need for an electrical inspection on an ag building. Supervisor Stell asked Mr. Nolt to reach out to Code Enforcement Officer Morse.

John Newswanger, Yautzy Road resident, asked if a moratorium would halt a current project. Supervisor Stell said he will ask the Planning Board Chairman for clarity about it.

Discussion was held regarding the difference between farm stand and farm market and the potential 6-month moratorium on new farm markets.

Lynn Klotz, Lake Drive resident, asked Highway Superintendent Eddinger if, in his project list, will it include cleaning out ditches in the Crystal Beach area.

Highway Superintendent Eddinger said yes.

9. Executive Session –

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, the Board entered into executive session at 8:16 pm to discuss matters relating to proposed, pending or current litigation & the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation relating to appointments, promotion, demotion, discipline or removal.

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Lazarus the Board returned to regular session at 9:14 pm. No action was taken in executive session. Both motions carried unanimously.

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

**031-2025**

On the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, to appoint Nate Bay as Chief Operator of Water & Wastewater Districts at an annual salary of \$115,000.00. Effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0

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

**032-2025**

9. Adjournment – with no further business, on the motion by Councilmember Chard, seconded by Councilmember Lazarus, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm. The motion carried unanimously. 5-0

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

**033-2025**

Respectfully Submitted,

Darby L. Perrotte  
Town Clerk