

**GOFFSTOWN SELECT BOARD**  
**MINUTES TO MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

In attendance were Chairman Peter Georgantas, Vice Chairman Mark Lemay, Selectman Jim Craig, Selectman Joshua Douglas, and Selectman Richard Manzo.

Also present were Town Administrator Derek Horne, Assistant Town Administrator Danielle Basora, Fire Chief Benjamin Sellecki, DPW Director Adam Jacobs, Information Systems Director Brian Rae, Executive Councilor John Stephen (District 4), NHDES Assistant Commissioner Adam Crepeau, NHDES Dam Bureau Chief Engineer Corey Clark, and John O'Neil.

**Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Georgantas called the Select Board Regular Meeting to order on Monday, February 9, 2026, at 6:00 PM. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Acceptance/Correction of Minutes**

**01/27/26 Public and Non-Public Minutes**

*Motion: Vice Chairman Lemay moved to accept the minutes of January 27, 2026, public and non-public minutes with corrections if needed. Selectman Craig seconded the motion. No changes were made. VOTE: 5-0-0. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Announcements**

No announcements were made.

**Public Comment**

Andrew Cadorette (22 West Union Street), member of the Goffstown River Advisory Committee, spoke as a resident. He acknowledged that the dam will be removed and emphasized that the focus should now be on how Goffstown responds. He noted the dam is a visual and cultural centerpiece of the village and contributes to the community and economy. He encouraged the Select Board to dedicate appropriate resources and work with state partners to ensure the dam's removal doesn't result in a loss to Goffstown's character.

Barbara Schult (11 Honeysuckle Lane) expressed support for the ARM grant and stated confidence in Corey Clark's attention to community concerns. She looked forward to the restoration of the river ecosystem and raised a question about liability for potential damage should the dam fail before the state's work begins.

Dia Stolnitz (14 Mill Street) thanked the Select Board for including the dam removal on the agenda and expressed appreciation to Councilor Steven and Corey Clark for their involvement. As a long-term resident whose home is an 1883 gristmill along the river and on top of Hadley Falls Dam, she noted she had been assured her mill house would be safe during the removal process. She asked how the town could help, what input should be sought, and who else they should collaborate with to ensure the best outcome for Goffstown.

**Meeting with Executive Councilor John Stephen**  
**Removal of Hadley Falls Dam**

The Chairman introduced Corey Clark, Chief Engineer at the Dam Bureau, Department of Environmental Services (DES), to present the proposed plans for the removal of Hadley Falls Dam, which would be followed by a discussion featuring Executive Councilor John Stephen.

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Mr. Clark presented a comprehensive overview of the Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) program, highlighting its role as an in-lieu fee mitigation initiative financed by developers impacting wetlands, thereby necessitating a counterbalance for such effects. He noted that approximately \$4.5 million in ARM funding is currently accessible for the Merrimack River corridor, designated specifically for the restoration, enhancement, establishment, and preservation of wetland complexes.

The historical context revealed that ownership of Hadley Falls Dam was transferred to the state of New Hampshire from Goffstown in 1968. This dam, constructed over a century ago, facilitated hydropower generation from the 1980s until 2007. In 2020, based on an assessment by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, concerns regarding the dam's stability were identified, leading to a 2023 decision to relinquish its license and pursue removal. Despite initial setbacks in securing removal grants, the approval of ARM funding has now rejuvenated the possibilities for proceeding with this pivotal project.

As outlined, the planned removal will proceed in a phased manner, with construction anticipated to commence in 2027. This comprehensive plan includes the dam's removal, extensive river and wetland restoration, sediment management, and the construction of concrete walls to protect adjacent infrastructures. It was confirmed that the contaminated sediments identified would not pose a human health risk, and the state shall retain flowage rights post-dam removal.

Adam Crepeau, Assistant Commissioner at DES, reiterated the department's commitment to addressing community concerns while acknowledging the constraints associated with ARM fund applications. He provided insight into the state's ongoing efforts to address high-hazard dam conditions across New Hampshire. Executive Councilor John Stephen underscored his commitment to prioritize the town within this project framework and ensure its thorough execution. He assured that state agencies would maintain effective collaboration with town officials, accompanied by continuous Council oversight throughout each implementation stage. Additionally, Ben Wilson, Director of the Division of Historical Resources, affirmed involvement in preserving the site's historical significance.

Responding to Board inquiries, Mr. Clark confirmed that Glen Lake water levels would remain unaffected, affirmed collaboration with the town on beautification efforts post-removal, and alongside Mr. Crepeau, assured sources for potential additional funding amid cost overruns. He detailed an expected construction commencement in 2027 and confirmed the implementation of a phased approach to evaluate site conditions. John O'Neil, an engineering consultant associated with Councilor Stephen, suggested a segmented strategy to mitigate uncertainties and potentially incorporate a water feature into the redesign. Offering examples of analogous successful dam removal projects in New Hampshire, Mr. Clark assured a comprehensive approach to this project. The Select Board expressed their gratitude to the presenters for their collaboration with the town through the course of this significant undertaking.

#### **Public Hearing (NH RSA 41:9-a)**

##### **Ambulance and Parks & Rec Fees**

The Chairman opened the public hearing regarding the establishment of fees under RSA 41:9-a for ambulance and parks and recreation fee changes. With no public comments, the hearing was closed.

***Motion: Selectman Craig moved to amend the town's master fee schedule as proposed. Selectman Douglas seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0. The motion passed unanimously.***

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#### DPW Director

##### **Single Stream Recycling Contract Renewal**

DPW Director Adam Jacobs presented information about the town's single stream recycling contract, which is currently with Casella and up for renewal in April. He outlined several options:

- Renew with Casella
- Continue with Casella month-to-month without locking into a contract
- Go through a sealed bid process
- Switch to landfilling recyclables (not recommended due to cost and public perception issues)

Mr. Jacobs noted there are only two companies in the area that provide single stream processing: Waste Management and Casella. He explained the pricing structure where the town either shares profits when commodity prices exceed a threshold or pays the difference when they fall below it.

Based on preliminary information, Waste Management's proposal could potentially save the town approximately \$11,000 in the first year. Additional savings would come from reduced fuel costs as their facility is closer than Casella's. Waste Management offered a 5-year agreement with a fixed 3.5% annual increase on the threshold processing fee.

Director Jacobs recommended notifying Casella they would not renew and negotiate with Waste Management for a multi-year contract.

***Motion: Selectman Craig moved to waive the sealed bid process, notify Casella that the town does not intend to renew in April, and authorize the DPW Director to negotiate an agreement with Waste Management for approval at a future meeting. Selectman Douglas seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0. The motion passed unanimously.***

Director Jacobs also provided an update on the replacement of a town F-550 truck damaged in an accident. Prime Insurance has offered \$92,342 for the chassis, plus they will pay the approximately \$53,400 needed to refit the existing equipment onto a new chassis. Director Jacobs indicated he would investigate state bid pricing on a 2025 model to expedite the replacement process.

#### Town Administrator's Report

##### **Consent Agenda**

Town Administrator Horne presented the consent agenda:

- Employee Status Reports
  - GTV – Per Diem PEG Technician – New Hire
  - FIRE – Per Diem FFII/EMT – New Hire
  - FIRE – FT FF/AMET – Successful completion of probationary period
  - FIRE – Deputy Fire Chief – New Hire
- Proclamation
- 2025 Audit Select Board Questionnaire

***Motion: Vice Chairman Lemay moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Selectman Douglas seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0. The motion passed unanimously.***

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#### **Microsoft Licensing**

Information Systems Director Brian Rae presented a proposal to move from monthly Office 365 licensing with Systems Engineering to annual Microsoft 365 licensing with Dell Technologies under the state of New Hampshire contract. The change would provide improved security features, more SharePoint storage, and cost savings. The price would be locked in for three years, and the contract includes a municipal non-appropriation clause.

Director Rae explained that the new licensing would provide better cybersecurity features and eliminate the need for separate server CAL licensing. When questioned about desktop applications, he noted that some users have browser-only licenses while others have the full desktop version based on their needs.

***Motion: Selectman Douglas moved to approve moving from monthly Office 365 licensing with Systems Engineering to annual Microsoft 365 licensing with Dell Technologies under the state of New Hampshire contract and authorized the Town Administrator to sign the enterprise enrollment agreement. Selectman Manzo seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0. The motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Proposed IT Workplace Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy 2026**

Town Administrator Horne presented a revised AI policy, now titled "IT Workplace Use of Artificial Intelligence Policy." The revisions addressed the Board's previous requests for an approved list of AI tools, defined log retention policy, and clarification that the policy is intended solely for work-related activities.

***Motion: Selectman Douglas moved to approve the Workplace Use of Artificial Intelligence Policy as presented. Selectman Craig seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0. The motion passed unanimously.***

#### **DRAFT Voters' Guide**

Town Administrator Horne presented a draft of the town's voter's guide, which included information on zoning articles, the operating budget, and other town articles. The school had recently sent their information to be incorporated into the final pages. The Board identified a few minor corrections, including a typo and an incorrect article number.

***Motion: Selectman Douglas moved to approve the voters' guide with necessary changes related to spelling, grammar, and correct article numbers. Selectman Manzo seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0. The motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Select Board Discussion**

##### **New Business:**

None.

##### **Old Business:**

None

##### **Action Matrix:**

The Board briefly reviewed the status of DPW vehicles currently out of service, including updates on when they were expected to be repaired and returned to service.

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**Public Comment**

No additional public comments were made.

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

*7:53 p.m. Motion: Vice Chairman Lemay moved to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) for hiring purposes. Selectman Douglas seconded. ROLL CALL VOTE: Vice Chairman Lemay-aye; Chairman Georgantas-aye; Selectman Craig-aye; Selectman Douglas-aye; and Selectman Manzo-aye. VOTE: 5-0-0. Motion carried unanimously.*

*8:07 p.m. Motion: Vice Chairman Lemay made a motion to exit non-public session. Selectman Douglas seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0-0. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Motion: Vice Chairman Lemay moved to seal the minutes of non-public session. Selectman Douglas seconded. ROLL CALL VOTE: Vice Chairman Lemay-aye; Chairman Georgantas-aye; Selectman Craig-aye; Selectman Douglas-aye; and Selectman Manzo-aye. VOTE: 5-0-0. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Motion: Vice Chairman made a motion to authorize the Police Chief to make a conditional offer of promotion for Police Sergeant based upon the results of the promotional process. VOTE: 5-0-0. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Adjournment**

*8:07 Motion: Selectman Manzo made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Douglas seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0. The motion carried unanimously.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek M Horne, Town Administrator (prepared with assistance of AI, ClerkMinutes.com)

*These minutes are subject to approval by the Select Board.*