



SELECTBOARD AGENDA & MEETING NOTICE

September 9, 2024

***Indicates item added after the 48 hour posting
bold underlined time = invited guest or advertised hearing
(all other times are approximate)

Location: Town Hall, 2nd floor meeting room, 325 Main Road, Gill

5:30 PM Call to Order (If the meeting is being videotaped, announce that fact. If remote participation will occur, announce member & reason, & need for roll call voting)

Old Business

- Review of Minutes: 8/29/22, 9/12/22, 10/11/22, 11/21/22, 12/5/22, 12/19/22, 1/30/23, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/28, 3/30, 4/10, 4/24, 5/8, 5/22, 6/5, 6/20, 7/3, 9/11, 9/25, 11/06, 11/27, 12/4, 1/2, 2/12, 2/26, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22, 5/6, 5/21, 6/3, 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 8/12, 8/26
- Followup correspondence from 6/17/24 Chudzik dangerous dog hearing
 - 8/5/24 compliance inspection by ACO Dragon
 - 8/23/24 letter from Michael Chudzik requesting amendment to dog order to allow backyard stockade fence in lieu of separate outside pen/dog kennel/run

New Business

- Appointment – Mark Beaudry, 51 Ben Hale Rd, to the Planning Board through 6/30/27
- Sewer Abatements
 - Cathleen Demars, 10 Walnut St, \$148.72, fill swimming pool
 - Jeff Suprenant, 25 Oak St, \$17.46, fill spa
- Other business as may arise after the agenda has been posted.
- Public Service Announcements, if any
 - Community Contra Dance – Sat. 9/28, 7-10 PM at Town Hall
 - Gill Harvest Festival – Sun. 9/29, Noon – 3 PM at the Town Common
- Warrants
FY25 #05 Vendors (\$53,681.41) & Payroll (\$32,033.45) – reviewed/signed on 08/26/24
FY26 #06 – review & sign

Adjournment

Other Invitations/Meetings:

Date	Time	Event	Location
Mon 9/23	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Town Hall
Mon 10/7	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Town Hall
Mon 10/14		Columbus Day holiday	
Mon 10/21	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Town Hall

TOWN OF GILL

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 26, 2024

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM in the 2nd floor meeting room at Gill Town Hall.

Members Present: Randy Crochier, Charles Garbiel Members Absent: Greg Snedeker

Others Present: Ray Purington, Town Administrator; Kate Savage, and Tim Batchelder

Randy Crochier chaired the meeting in the absence of Greg Snedeker.

Review of Minutes: No minutes were available for review and approval.

Petition to Discontinue Mt Hermon Road as a County Road: On May 17, 2024, roughly two weeks after the topic was discussed at Gill's Annual Town Meeting (May 6, 2024), the Northfield Mount Hermon School filed with the FRCOG a county road petition to discontinue Mt. Hermon Road. The Town was notified the FRCOG's Executive Committee will hold a hearing on the petition on September 12, 2024. Additionally, the Executive Committee has asked to know the Selectboard's position on the discontinuance.

Ray presented a draft of a letter to the Executive Committee based on the discussion from the Town Meeting. The draft letter states the Selectboard is in support of the discontinuance, and lists several reasons why, including that the road only serves School-owned properties, the School intends to keep the road open for campus traffic and emergency vehicles, and the cost to maintain the road exceeds the Chapter 90 aid received for the road each year. Charles made a motion, seconded by Randy, to approve the letter and authorize Ray to sign and submit the letter on behalf of the Selectboard. The motion passed by a vote of 2 in favor and 0 opposed.

Appointments: Charles made a motion, seconded by Randy, to appoint Noah Welch-Smith as a Firefighter through June 30, 2025. The motion passed by a vote of 2 in favor and 0 opposed. Charles made a motion, seconded by Randy, to appoint Katie Simpson to the Town Forest Committee through June 30, 2025. The motion passed by a vote of 2 in favor and 0 opposed.

Savage left the meeting at 5:35 PM.

Warrant: The Selectboard reviewed and signed the FY 2025 warrant # 5 with totals of \$53,681.41 for vendors and \$32,033.45 for payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Town Administrator

Signed copy on file. Approved on 09/09/2024

Charles Garbiel, Selectboard Clerk



FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL ANIMAL CONTROL

10 Sandy Lane
Turners Falls, Ma 01376
(413) 768-0983 – kdragon@fcso-ma.us

Dog Order Inspection Sheet
MGL 140§157

Municipality: Gill Inspection Date: 8/5/2024 Case Number: _____
Address: 32 Walnut St Building Type: Residential - Duplex
Responsible party: Michael Chudzick Phone: _____
Animal Name: Rothger Breed: GSD Age: AP Sex: M Color: _____
Dog License: _____ Rabies vax: _____ DVM: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Ordered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ordered	Dog is currently licensed and vaccinated against rabies	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ordered <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ordered	Dog confined to premises: Inside Dog has secure location within residence to be confined when not outside. MGL 140§157 (c) (ii)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant
	Dog be confined to the premises: Outside Pen or dog run shall have a secure roof and, if such enclosure has no floor secured to the sides thereof, the sides shall be embedded into the ground for not less than 2 feet; and provided further, that within the confines of such pen or dog run, a dog house or proper shelter from the elements shall be provided to protect the dog MGL 140§157 (c) (ii)	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant Containment Type: _____ <u>YARD IS FENCED - ADDRESS HE IS APPEALING PER 24 S/B</u> Floor Type: _____ Sides embedded? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Secured to floor? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Secure Roof <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ordered <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ordered	The dog shall be securely and humanely muzzled and restrained with a chain or other tethering device having a minimum tensile strength of 300 pounds and not exceeding 3 feet in length; MGL 140§157 (c) (iii)	Muzzle: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Leash: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ordered <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ordered	Proof of insurance in an amount not less than \$100,000. MGL 140§157 (c) (iv)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Issued <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Not issued Attempted <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO *Attach proof to report
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ordered <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ordered	Identifying information provided on animal MGL 140§157 (c) (v)	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant Dog License # _____ Microchip# _____ Photos taken: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> Ordered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ordered	The dog shall cause the dog to be altered so that the dog shall not be reproductively intact. MGL 140§157 (c) (vi)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant DVM Medical Waiver (DVM _____)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ordered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Ordered	Additional Town Orders *List on reverse of this form	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Not Compliant

Type of inspection Conducted: Initial Status: _____ Passed Failed
Signature of Officer: [Signature] Date: 8/5/24

TOWN OF GILL

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



June 26, 2024

Michael and Linda Chudzik
32 Walnut Street
Gill, MA 01354

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Chudzik:

This letter is to inform you that the Gill Selectboard met on June 17, 2024 at 6:30 PM under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 140, Section 157 to act upon a request from Maurice Dumas for a Dangerous Dog hearing for your dog Rothgar. You were informed of the hearing via my letter dated June 10, 2024. You attended and participated in the hearing on June 17, 2024.

During the hearing Animal Control Office (ACO) Kyle Dragon summarized the circumstances of a recent documented case in which Rothgar bit your neighbor, Linda Croteau, on her arm in her backyard on May 26, 2024. Also during the hearing several residents of the Riverside neighborhood described prior incidents involving Rothgar and other pets in the neighborhood, including an attack on another dog from January 2022. Additionally, there were stated concerns about Rothgar's disposition and your inability to control or restrain Rothgar when he is on a leash. Your objections to some of these statements were noted.

During the hearing you voluntarily stated your plan is to move out of Gill, probably to a location in New Hampshire, likely by "the end of the summer." The Selectboard understands this is your decision to make, and notes leaving town was in no way suggested or recommended by the Selectboard or any official or agent of the Town.

You also stated during the hearing you hope to have Rothgar seen by a dog behaviorist in Maine who specializes in working with German Shepherds, which is Rothgar's breed. We wish you well in this endeavor and hope for a successful outcome.

The Selectboard listened to the testimony of those in attendance, asked questions and received answers. The Selectboard confirmed neither you nor ACO Dragon had any further comments or statements, and then voted unanimously to close the hearing. After their deliberations the Selectboard voted unanimously to deem the dog Rothgar to be a Dangerous Dog and ordered the following measures:

1. The dog shall be humanely and adequately restrained. However, the dog is not to be chained, tethered or otherwise tied to an inanimate object including, but not limited to, a tree, post or building.
2. The dog shall be humanely and adequately confined to your property at 32 Walnut Street, Gill. 'Confined' shall mean securely confined indoors or confined outdoors in a securely enclosed and locked pen, kennel, or dog run area located at 32 Walnut Street, Gill.
3. A securely enclosed pen, kennel or dog run shall be constructed on your property and used to confine the dog at all times when it is outdoors and off leash. The pen, kennel or dog run must

be constructed of adequate materials to prevent escape, and must be kept in good repair. Within the pen, kennel or dog run there must be a dog house or proper shelter provided to protect the dog from the elements.

4. Any time the dog leaves your property at 32 Walnut Street, Gill, it shall be securely and humanely muzzled and restrained with a chain or other tethering device having a minimum tensile strength of 300 pounds and not exceeding 3 feet in length.
5. As the owner of the dog you shall provide to the Board of Selectmen and ACO Dragon proof of insurance in an amount not less than \$100,000 insuring you against any claim, loss, damage or injury to persons, domestic animals or property resulting from the acts, whether intentional or unintentional, of the dog or proof that reasonable efforts were made to obtain such insurance if a policy has not been issued.
6. As the owner of the dog you shall provide to the Board of Selectmen and ACO Dragon information by which the dog may be identified, throughout its lifetime including, but not limited to, photographs, videos, veterinary examination, tattooing or microchip implantations or a combination of any such methods of identification. You shall also provide to the Board of Selectmen and ACO Dragon the street address of the location where the dog is living or being kept.
7. These orders shall remain in place until lifted or amended by a vote of the Selectboard.

Orders #1 (restrained), 2 (confined), and 4 (muzzled) went into effect immediately after the vote and must be abided by at all times. Orders # 3 (construction of pen), 5 (insurance), and 6 (identification and location) must be completed within 10 days of your receipt of this letter.

If you wish to appeal the Board's decision, you have 10 days from the date of this letter to file an appeal in the Clerk Magistrate's office of the Greenfield District Court located at 43 Hope Street in Greenfield.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at 413-863-9347.

Sincerely,



Ray Purington, Town Administrator

Cc: Kyle Dragon, Regional Animal Control Officer
Chris Redmond, Police Chief

Michael Chudzick
32 Walnut St.
Gill MA

08/23/24

Town Administrator Ray Purington
325 Main Rd.
Gill, MA

I am writing in response to the recent order from the town of Gill Board of Selectmen regarding the deeming Rothgar a dangerous dog and subsequent installation of a kennel or dog run on my property at 32 Walnut St. in Gill.

I would like an amendment to this decision as I feel that my voice was not adequately heard in this matter. Due to my professional commitments as a Technical Resinous Floor Specialist for large projects, I am often required to travel extensively, sometimes for long periods of time. I am currently unable to attend a meeting until the middle of October. I am in the process of selling the property and relocating to New Hampshire. The property will be on the market in September, and we are actively pursuing listings.

I would like to bring to your attention that we have previously taken measures to address dog enclosure by investing in \$7000 worth of stockade fencing. Additionally, installing a kennel or dog run would reduce the property's value, possibly hurt our ability to sell the property.

In the interim, we will ensure that our dog, Rothgar, remains within the stockade fencing or indoors. And will keep Rothgar leashed if the need to travel outside occurs.

I kindly request your understanding and consideration of my circumstances in this matter. I appreciate your attention to this issue.

Best Regards,

Michael Chudzick

TOWN OF GILL

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST FORM (Revised 02/15/24)

If the usage figures are believed to be incorrect for the current billing cycle, an abatement form must be filled out, signed, and dated to allow the Town to respond and consider the request. **The bill must be paid before any abatement will be considered.** Sewer abatements will not be granted for the following uses: watering gardens; watering lawns; washing vehicles, buildings, driveways, etc.; no water meter reading or use.

Abatement requests must be in writing to the Sewer Commissioners within 30 days of the Bill Date. (NOTE: 30 days of the Bill Date, NOT the Due Date.)

Sewer Bill Date: Sewer Bill #:

Dear Sewer Commissioners: I am requesting abatement of my sewer bill for the noted reason(s).

- Metered water used for filling swimming pools or spas (complete chart below)
(Abatement shall not be granted if calculated amount is less than \$10.00)
- Inaccurate readings (must be confirmed by Water Commissioners)
- Excessive reading due to broken water pipes (must prove that excess water did not enter sewer system)
- Other (explain below)

Explanation: _____

Usage History:

Date	“A” Meter Reading Before (Cu. Ft.)	“B” Meter Reading After (Cu. Ft.)	“C” # of Cubic Ft (B – A)	“D” Sewer Rate (from bill) 0.3278 \$/cu. ft.	\$ Requested for Abatement (C x D)
<i>Example</i>	<i>075074</i>	<i>075162</i>	<i>88</i>	<i>0.3491</i>	<i>30.72</i>
5/22/24	69942	70365	423	0.3491	148.72
				0.3491	
				0.3491	
				0.3491	
Total requested					\$ 148.72

Continued on second page

SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST FORM, page 2

Signature C. Demars

Today's Date 8/23/24

Name Cathleen Demars

Account # (from bill) 3800

Address 10 Walnut St

Gill

Tel. 413-522-8592

Email demarscat@gmail.com

Meter location if different from above address

Submit this completed form to the Sewer Commissioners:

Mail: 325 Main Road, Gill, MA 01354

Email: administrator@gillmass.org

Do not send this form with your sewer payment. Do not send sewer payments with this form.

Please keep a copy of this form for your records.

-----Town Use Only Below This Line-----

Date received by Sewer Commissioners _____ (Town has 90 days from receipt to process abatement.)

Sewer bill is paid & no outstanding sewer charges? YES NO Tax Collector signature _____

Sewer Commission response: Approved _____ Denied _____ Date _____

Sewer Commissioners _____

TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST FORM (Revised 02/15/24)

If the usage figures are believed to be incorrect for the current billing cycle, an abatement form must be filled out, signed, and dated to allow the Town to respond and consider the request. **The bill must be paid before any abatement will be considered.** Sewer abatements will not be granted for the following uses: watering gardens; watering lawns; washing vehicles, buildings, driveways, etc.; no water meter reading or use.

Abatement requests must be in writing to the Sewer Commissioners within 30 days of the Bill Date. (NOTE: 30 days of the Bill Date, NOT the Due Date.) 7/25/24

Sewer Bill Date: 5/22/24 3/27/24 Sewer Bill #: 6450

Dear Sewer Commissioners: I am requesting abatement of my sewer bill for the noted reason(s).

- Metered water used for filling swimming pools or spas (complete chart below)
(Abatement shall not be granted if calculated amount is less than \$10.00)
- Inaccurate readings (must be confirmed by Water Commissioners)
- Excessive reading due to broken water pipes (must prove that excess water did not enter sewer system)
- Other (explain below)

Explanation: FILL SPA

Usage History:

Date	"A" Meter Reading Before (Cu. Ft.)	"B" Meter Reading After (Cu. Ft.)	"C" # of Cubic Ft (B - A)	"D" Sewer Rate (from bill) 0.3278 \$/cu. ft.	\$ Requested for Abatement (C x D)
<i>Example</i>	075074	075162	88	0.3491	30.72
<u>8/1/24</u>	<u>34458</u>	<u>34508</u>	<u>50</u>	0.3491	<u>17.46</u>
				0.3491	
				0.3491	
				0.3491	
Total requested					\$ <u>17.46</u>

Continued on second page

SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST FORM, page 2

Signature Jeffrey Suprenant

Today's Date 5/1/24

Name JEFFREY SUPRENANT

Account # (from bill) 6450

Address 25 OAK ST

GILL, MA 01354

Tel. 413-522-2385

Email _____

Meter location if different from above address DRIVE WAY SIDE

Submit this completed form to the Sewer Commissioners:

Mail: 325 Main Road, Gill, MA 01354

Email: administrator@gillmass.org

Do not send this form with your sewer payment. Do not send sewer payments with this form.

Please keep a copy of this form for your records.

-----Town Use Only Below This Line-----

Date received by Sewer Commissioners 8/1/24 (Town has 90 days from receipt to process abatement.)

Sewer bill is paid & no outstanding sewer charges? YES NO Tax Collector signature RF for TH

Sewer Commission response: Approved _____ Denied _____ Date _____

Sewer Commissioners _____

