

TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 5, 2018 AT TOWN OFFICES

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT: Bernadette Costa, Jill Brewer, Eric Meth

TOWN OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Holly Burbank, Jenny Monahan, Peter Grote, Dawn Steele.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm

WORK SESSION DISCUSSION:

Holly Burbank asked the Board if the requests for funding for turnout gear for the Life Squad and Fire Department can be on two separate warrant articles. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed that it was fine to have separate articles for the requests.

There was discussion regarding the Northern Pass warrant articles that were being considered. Chairman Meth said the Town may not need all the Northern Pass related articles at this time (since the SEC denied the NP application on 2/1) and the appeal process would at least delay construction for this year. All three of the NP articles being considered were removed, but there will still be funds in the 2018 Proposed Budget for NP legal defense.

Selectman Costa referenced an article in the 2016 warrant relating to the LED streetlights. The resulting discussion led to the streetlight line in the 2018 Proposed Budget being increased by \$4000 to cover the loan costs.

Regarding GASB 45 (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) compliance discussed at the 1/31 meeting, Bernadette Costa said she had done some research and places that have fewer than 100 plan members may be able to do an "alternative measurement method". Holly Burbank said she will look into it.

The Board signed Chief Cashin's amended contract.

Holly said she had spoken with Library Trustee Melinda Richmond regarding the Library Maintenance Fund. The Library Trustees would like to use the funds for sidewalk repairs.

Jill Brewer motioned to expend \$5,057 from the Library Maintenance Fund for the Library's sidewalk repairs. Bernadette Costa seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

The Board briefly discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) submitted by the Library, ultimately deciding that they would like to meet with the Library Trustees after Town Meeting has passed to clarify some aspects of the MOU.

Holly advised the Board that Chris from Garnet Hill had stopped at the Town Hall and spoke with Scott Leslie about having access to the Transfer Station on Thursdays to bring Garnet Hill's cardboard

recyclables. Chris said he does not have room to store the cardboard as it accumulates quickly from the shipments to the Garnet Hill store. It's looking like Garnet Hill will be able to come to the Transfer Station on Thursdays with their cardboard but Chris will need to walk in to get the gate unlocked.

SIGN/APPROVE:

The Board reviewed the January 29th and 31st meeting minutes and approved as amended.

The February 8, 2018 Transaction List was reviewed and signed.

The Board approved a building permit for 297 Main Street – Map 14 Lot 125.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Town Administrator Update: None.

Correspondence: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conservation Commission: None.

CIP Committee: None.

Energy Commission: Eric Meth said that he noticed that a streetlight in front of Garnet Hill was not updated to LED.

Planning Board: Eric said he shared the letter from the Town of Lisbon regarding the impending solar energy installation with the Planning Board and they did not have any concerns.

Northern Pass: The Board discussed their relief with the Site Evaluation Committee's 02/01 denial of the Northern Pass application. Eric Meth shared some emails from local citizens that expressed their relief in the SEC decision and gratitude for the collective efforts of people and municipalities. Jill Brewer thanked Eric and the NP Committee for their work on the town's behalf. Eric Meth also mentioned SB530 and HB1358 as they relate to Northern Pass.

Other Updates: Jill Brewer said she is in contact with the NH DOT regarding bicycle safety improvements on Route 116.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Mary Grote commented that the Town still needs to be prepared to maintain defense against the Northern Pass project.

With no further discussion, the Board adjourned at 5:07pm on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary