

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018**

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT: Eric Meth, Jill Brewer, Jeffrey Blodgett.

OTHERS PRESENT: Holly Burbank, Jenny Monahan, Peter Grote, Kim Cowles, Bob Montagno, Dinny Richmond, Harriet Taylor.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brewer at 3:02 pm.

Appointments:

Bob Montagno: Bob met with the Board to share the information he volunteered to gather regarding Town septic. He has spoken with the Department of Environmental Services (DES) and learned that the Town could apply for a \$75,000 grant for the engineering, and that the State provides low interest rate loans to fund this type of project. The system would need either a leech field or a wastewater treatment facility. Holly asked the Board if there may be property that the Town owns or that is on the market in the village area that could be used for a leech field. Bob suggested a feasibility study. Selectman Blodgett thought perhaps the Town could get a study done through UNH at no cost? Bob will check on this.

Dinny Richmond and Harriet Taylor: Dinny and Harriet met with the Board to provide an update on the progress made with the clock tower. The clock is working and the interior has been cleaned, but there is an issue with the numbers not being visible at night. After consulting with several electricians, it seems this is a combination of the lighting at the base of the clock face not being powerful enough and the gold numbers not illuminating sufficiently in the light. Kim Cowles recommended some other upgrades to the clock face, and said that gold chip paint may work better in terms of reflecting the light at night while staying with the original look of the clock. There is currently \$6318 left in the Lafayette Recreation Fund that is for clock repairs and maintenance.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to move forward with replacing the light fixtures on the Dow Clock with funds from the Lafayette Recreation Fund not to exceed \$6318. Eric Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

Kim Cowles: Kim has found a different engineer for the pavilion project that that costs less and asked the Board to sign a new contract. The total engineering cost would be approximately \$7000 with a \$3500 retainer. Kim also noted that some soil testing may need to be done. This will be paid out of the pavilion donation funds.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to expend up to \$10,000 from the Lafayette Recreation Fund to do the engineering and possibly soil testing. Eric Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

To Sign/Approve:

The April 30, 2018 meeting minutes were approved as amended. The April 23, 2018 non-public session minutes were approved as written. The May 1, 2018 Informational Session meeting minutes were approved as amended.

The May 10, 2018 Transaction List was reviewed and approved.

The following Timber Tax warrants were reviewed and signed: Map 1 Lot 1/Map 9 Lot 1, Map 6 Lot 22 and Map 13 Lot 11.

A building permit for Map 14 Lot 54 was reviewed and approved.

Although already approved, the Board signed Ellie Opalinski's Elderly Exemption paperwork.

Discussion:

Holly Burbank said Avitar has a program that would help manage our building permit system and automatically update the property records. The program is \$4200 annually. The Board may revisit this at a later date.

Holly also let the Board know that Public Works Director Scott Leslie said he wanted to use the Highway Heavy Equipment Repair Fund for work on the grader. Through Karen Foss, Holly learned that there is \$7000 allotted annually to the Highway Heavy Equipment Repair Fund specifically for work on the grader.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to expend from the Highway Heavy Equipment Repair Fund for repairs to the grader. Eric Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

Holly said that HEB Engineers sent a letter of agreement in response to the Town's request to contract them for the crosswalk design at Academy and Rte. 116. The quote they provided is \$4900 and includes a field survey.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to expend \$4900 from the Highway Block Grant to move forward with HEB Engineers for the crosswalk design. Eric Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

Town Administrator Update:

Holly Burbank provided a written update to the Board which she reviewed verbally. It is attached to these minutes.

Holly let the Board know that she would be out of the office 5/8 and 5/9 to attend the Primex Annual Conference and a Broadband, Cable Franchise Agreements & Wireless Tower Permitting Meeting. Holly said that there are some questions about the Town's standing with the NCCC as we did not get a membership bill last year but did get one this year. Eric is going to speak with Chad Fillion to try to get some clarity.

Correspondence: None

Committee Reports

Conservation Commission: None

CIP Meeting: None

Energy Commission: Eric Meth said the next Energy Commission is meeting 05/22.

Planning Board: Eric Meth said the Planning Board, ZBA and Building Inspector Allan Clark have their joint meeting to discuss Mittersill issues and regulations on May 8th.

Northern Pass: Eric Meth said he had a conversation with Christine Fillmore weighing in on the International Brotherhood of Electric Worker's motion for a recusal of two SEC committee members. Northern Passes' motion for a rehearing is scheduled for a hearing/s on 5/24 and 6/4.

Chamber of Commerce: None

Public Comment:

None.

Additional Discussion: Eric Meth said he thought it might be a good idea to think about developing a slogan for the Town. There was some discussion about perhaps having a contest through the school.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:29pm on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary

**Town Administrator Update
May 7, 2018**

Training/Conferences - New

- I will be out of the office - May 8th and 9th to attend
 - Primex Annual Conference
 - Broadband, Cable Franchise Agreements & Wireless Tower Permitting Meeting.

Department of Public Works - New

- Mowing will begin this week

Better Bookkeeping

- Jan from Better Bookkeeping was here last week
 - Entered adjusting journal entries from Auditors
 - Discussed new budget set-up for Quickbooks

Town Hall Windows

- Town Hall Windows have been installed

Ongoing Projects:

- Riverwalk & Bickford Trail Easements
- July 1st Storm – FEMA Funding
- Road Acceptance Policy
- Crosswalk Design – NH Route 116 @ Academy Street
- Building & Grounds Tractor Purchase
- Grader Repair
- Fire Pond – Aspen Road
- 1st Issue Tax Warrant
- Heritage Museum Roof (Out for Bid)