



TOWN OF FRANCONIA

INCORPORATED 1764

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING

JULY 31, 2017 AT 8:00 O'CLOCK AM AT TOWN OFFICES

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mr. Eric Meth, Chairman, Ms. Jill Brewer. **ABSENT:** Ms. Bernie Costa.

OTHERS PRESENT: Holly Burbank Town Administrator, Chris Gautreau Admin Asst.

INVITED GUESTS: N/A

GENERAL PUBLIC: Mr. Peter Grote, Ms. Mary Grote, Justin Roshak.

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:05 AM by MR. ERIC METH- BOS CHAIRMAN

ITEMS FOR BOS REVIEW/APPROVAL/DENIAL/DISPOSITION:

- 1) MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 24, 2017: Chairman Meth made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, with Selectman Brewer seconded the motion, with all in favor.
- 2) BUILDING PERMIT-MAP15/ LOT3: Holly presented a building permit for Map 15/ Lot 3. The Board reviewed and signed.
- 3) DEMOLITION PERMIT MAP 12/ LOT1: Holly presented a demolition permit for Map 12/ Lot 1 which was signed by The Board. Holly noted that the building has already been demolished prior to obtaining the required permit.
- 4) SHORELAND PERMIT APPLICATION; The Shoreland Permit was presented to The Board by Holly and was signed by all members. This permit is required as part of the construction plan for The Dow Pavilion Building. Holly read part of the conditions from the Shoreland Application into the minutes. The Board reviewed the maps in conjunction with the application as well. It was noted the Ms. Kim Cowles has sent two letters to the abutters of the construction project.

- 5) **PLANNING BOARD APPOINTMENT:** Chairmen Meth noted the Ms. Elizabeth Horan is very interested in joining The Planning Board as a new member. The required paperwork was submitted to The Board for review and signed.
- 6) **APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT (FEDERAL & STATE FOREST LAND):** Holly introduced Form PA-16, Application for Reimbursement to Towns and Cities in which Federal and State Land is Situated-2017. This is pursuant to RSA 227-H. The Board unanimously signed the application.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

RE:

NOTHING SCHEDULED

ACTION(S)

TOPICS FOR REVIEW/UPDATE/ DISCUSSION

- 1) **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR HOLLY BURBANK:** Holly had nothing to report this week other than the presentations previously made.
- 2) **POLE LICENSE AGREEMENT:** Holly spoke to a letter from Mr. Gary Roberge in regards to The Telephone Pole Assessment Law with The Telephone Company. Holly explained the contents of The Pole License Agreement and there was a discussion around the specifics, and that some clarification was needed. Chairman Meth questioned whether this agreement is related to the tax board issue. Mr. Peter Grote advised that the tax board ruling is specific to Eversource and is a separate issue with regards to The Pole License Agreement. Holly will look into this further and noted that she will give Gary a call. Holly also advised that the town has until September 2017 to update the agreement. It was concurred that the agreement is subject to further discussion(s). Mr. Grote noted that other towns are also involved with this and they might be able to offer some introspect.

COMMITTEE REPORTING

CONSERVATION COMMISSION: Selectman Brewer reported that The Conservation Commission met last week with Mr. Mark Ober in regards to the beaver dam near Fransted Campground. Mr. Ober advised to leave the dam as is, for if a recently discussed drainage pipe were to be laid under the dam, it could structurally compromise the integrity of the dam, albeit the problem could persist. A weak point would be introduced if a drainage pipe were installed which could be counterproductive.

CULVERTS: Jill also mentioned the Wells Road culvert. The Commission asked that the new culvert due for replacement be wildlife and fish friendly. Culverts tend to restrict fish by their design, and the hopes that this would not occur was stressed.

CROCKER PROPERTY: Jill discussed this property as a new property that ACT has acquired. Jill went on to comment on the 64 acre property and signified that it is in a beautiful area and near Copper Cannon. The walking trails in the area are magnificent, she noted.

CIP COMMITTEE: Chairman Meth commented on the recent meeting of The CIP Committee. Eric noted that with two new members and together with Holly and Chris's help that the committee is in good hands going forward. Eric also commended Ms. Foss for all of her efforts for the volume of work she has undertaken along with her contributions to The Capital Improvement Committee. Eric was very enthusiastic with the streamlining process that will take place using the new inventory sheets that were presented by Holly at the meeting.

ENERGYCOMMISSION: Chairman Meth did not have much to report, but reiterated on his disappointment that the Street Light Project had been postponed. Eric also noted that we will be proactive to get on the Eversource list for 2018.

NORTHERN PASS: Chairman Meth discussed the planned SEC visit to Franconia on July 28, 2017. The committee came to Franconia two hours early which was very distressing to the concerned citizens that planned to be there. Chairman Meth said he couldn't express his level of disappointment however, he stated that it was a great turnout by the kids at The Tamarak Tennis Camp as they stood tall with hand-made signs, leaflets, and posters for the site visit. Jill stated that she will retrieve pictures taken at the camp to post.

Ms. Grote voiced her frustrations of having the signage around Rte.116 in opposition to the project, removed that day by The New Hampshire Department of Transportation. NHDOT's reply was that the signs were too close to the road, and posed a safety and visual hazard to the permanent highway signs and markings.

PLANNING BOARD: There was no meeting this past week Chairman Meth noted. He mentioned that he was enthusiastic to have Elizabeth Horan as a new board member.

PUBLIC INITIATIVES/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Ms. Grote questioned ownership of The Dow Pavilion with regards to maintenance and liability. Holly stated that the building will be given to the town after it is built and will require very little maintenance. Our current insurance carrier will assume liability. Chairman Meth stated that he has had a brief conversation with Kim Cowles, and she advised that a percentage of the contributions will be allocated to the maintenance line item for The Pavilion.

OTHER WORK/ COMMUNICATION(S)/ ACTION(S)

- 1) Chairman Meth questioned whether the town has a back-up water supply and if so, whether it is in conjunction with The Ham Branch? Holly stated that the commissioners should know, and she will follow up on with them.
- 2) Selectman Brewer discussed Elysa Annesar, a graduate of Profile High School, whom is very interested in volunteering her time to the town. Civic minded and with a focus on governmental affairs, she is in her first year at Tufts University and would welcome an opportunity to help out i.e., filing, grant writing, organizing, etc.
- 3) Jill also noted that Margo Connors of Sugar Hill would like to have the three select boards of Franconia, Sugar Hill, and Easton, get together as a group to discuss the decline of business in Franconia. Holly responded that all three boards would get together in the fall to discuss the Tri-Town Transfer Station Agreement and The Lafayette Recreation Agreement, and that might be an ideal opportunity to discuss Franconia's businesses. Chairman Meth briefly commented

that the business vacancies in town were of concern and would be on the agenda at the next Planning Board Meeting.

ITEMS TO REVISIT:

AirBnB's	Cisterns & Fire Ponds (3/28/16)
Buildings Plan	Updating Pole License Agreement
Road Plan	F150 vs F550 (highway)
Sidewalk Plan	Purchasing & Bidding Policy
Tri-Town Recreation Agreement	Purchase of Presby Building
FD Generator in Trailer	Antique Fire Truck Storage

* Chairman Meth made a motion to enter a non-public session @ 8:48 am for legal issues as per RSA 91-A: 3, II. Selectman Brewer seconded the motion with all in favor.

*The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 9:06 AM.

*Chairman Meth made a motion to seal the Non-Public minutes with Selectman Brewer seconded, and all voting in favor at 09:06 AM.

*With a unanimous voice vote, The Board adjourned the meeting @ 09:07 am.

Prepared and respectfully submitted by:

Mr. Christopher J. Gautreau

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Administrative Assistant
