



TOWN OF FRANCONIA

INCORPORATED 1764

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY AUGUST 21, 2017 AT 8:00 AM AT TOWN OFFICES

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Chris Gautreau Admin Asst.

INVITED GUESTS: N/A

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

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:04 am by Chairman Meth.

ITEMS FOR BOS REVIEW/APPROVAL/DENIAL/DISPOSITION:

MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 31, AND AUGUST 14, 2017. The Board reviewed the meeting minutes with Chairman Meth motioning to approve the amended July 31, 2017 minutes with Selectman Brewer seconded with all in favor, and a motion by Chairman Meth to approve the August 14, 2017 minutes with Selectman Brewer seconded, with all voting in favor.

ABATEMENT- MAP 5/LOT 5 & MAP 19/ LOT 10/SUBLOT 9. Mr. Woodward from Avitar Assessing reviewed and reconciled the inside dimensions as it relates to square footage for Map 5 Lot 5. The Board resigned the amended abatement.

The Board reviewed the Daly abatement application, i.e., Map 19/Lot 10/ Sublot 9. A representative from Avitar met at the property with Selectman Costa and the owner. Aspects such as distance and how it relates to valuation was discussed. Two important metrics when describing view are: near view and far view. The consensus was that an adjustment was appropriate for this property. The Board then signed the abatement request for the Daly property.

BUILDING PERMITS- MAP 12 /LOT88, MAP 8/ LOT1-28, MAP 19/ LOT 10-9. The Board reviewed the three building permits presented and signed each.

- 3) SELECTMAN METH – NORTHERN PASS TESTIMONY- SEPTEMBER: Chairman Meth had nothing to report today.
 - 4) BILL BRIGGS CELEBRATION: Selectman Meth communicated that a celebration for Pastor Briggs will take place at The Community Church on August 27, 2017 at the 10:30 Mass. A brunch will be served at noontime following the service.
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COMMITTEE REPORTING:

CONSERVATION COMMISSION: Selectman Brewer had nothing to report from the commission, and stated that they will be meeting next week.

CIP COMMITTEE: The Board discussed capital equipment items that may be on the agenda for replacement in 2018. Selectman Costa had some questions in regards to highway vehicles, and questioned the outcome of the waterproofing done at the library.

Selectman Costa will be absent at the next meeting due to a prior commitment, and Mr. Meth will be attending in her absence.

ENERGY COMMISSION: Chairman Meth discussed the street light project and the bridge loan that The Energy Commission has been inquiring about. Eric advised that we don't want to miss out on the next round of rebate money for next year. He also commented on the time and effort that the commission has put in to make this project a success.

PLANNING BOARD: The Planning board will be meeting tomorrow, Tuesday August 22, 2017. They will be discussing pertinent ideas regarding attracting new business to the village area of Franconia.

NORTHERN PASS: Chairman Meth discussed some informational pieces pertaining to the Northern Pass Project. Eric advised that the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) has a dual role that is completely separate from each. As a member of the committee, they will decide whether a new energy facility will be permitted, and secondly as a state agency with permitting authority, and as it relates to the proposed project that may impact transportation assets. A DOT member of committee is not part of the staff conducting the review, but falls under the auspices of The Site Evaluation Committee.

Chairman Meth also read a letter from an anonymous person regarding micro-tunnels under The Gale River Bridge. The writer suggests that a huge excavation and dredging operation would occur with the structures that are proposed to be located under the bridge. These are pre-cast structures called micro-tunnels that the electric cables will be fed through. To get them in place requires horizontal drilling and possibly blasting through the ledge under and around the river.

PUBLIC INITIATIVES/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

THERE WERE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS AT TODAY'S MEETING.

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

The Board brainstormed on ways to attract new business to the village area, especially with the recent closings of Wendle’s Deli, and The Village Ski Shop which will soon be vacant. Amongst the ideas generated was having The Chamber of Commerce as well as North Country Council involved. Selectman Brewer introduced pictures of the unique parking arrangement that piqued her interest at a country store while on vacation. It was clear that an arrangement such as this would be extremely beneficial to mitigate the parking congestion around the Franconia Village Store.

Chairman Meth discussed an e-mail from an unidentified woman regarding plans to come to the Franconia area for a family reunion. Her e-mail centered around the opioid epidemic that has had a negative impact on the state as a whole. She was concerned for the safety of the children that would be attending the reunion. With that being said, her family relocated the reunion to Florida.

Chairman Meth took exception to this and the business that was lost by initiating contact with Representative Kuster, and Senators Shaheen and Hassan.

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

* Selectman Costa made a motion to enter a non-public session @ 9:22AM for legal and personnel issues as per RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) (c) (e). Chairman Meth seconded the motion with all in favor.

*The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 9:42 am.

* Selectman Costa made a motion to seal the Non-Public minutes with Chairman Meth seconded, with all voting in favor at 9:42 am.

*With a unanimous voice vote, The Board adjourned the meeting @ 9:45 am.

Prepared and respectfully submitted by:

Mr. Christopher J. Gautreau

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Administrative Assistant