

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 26, 2019 AT TOWN HALL**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Meth, Jill Brewer, Jeff Blodgett.

OTHERS PRESENT: Holly Burbank, Jenny Monahan, Dawn Steele, Lynn Terres, Jade Walker, Heidi Mack, Thad Presby, Kim Cowles, Mary Grote, Peter Grote, Chief Mac Cashin.

The meeting was called to order at 3:03pm.

APPOINTMENTS:

Kim Cowles – Facilities Use Agreement & Fees: Kim presented a review of the updated Facilities Use Agreement, as she has created an updated agreement form and fee structure which now includes rates and rules for the pavilion. After a brief discussion, Chairman Brewer made a motion to approve the Facilities Permit. Selectman Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

Jade Walker – Crossing Safety at Harvard Street Crosswalk – Jade expressed her concerns about crossing safety for kids at Harvard Street and Rte 116 due to a speeding issue on that section of road. She also mentioned concerns with school children's crossing safety on Main Street as there is a lot going on there with traffic leaving and entering the roadway. Town Administrator Burbank suggested the school may be able to provide a crossing guard for that area. Chief Cashin commented that he is aware of the speeding issue on 116 but as much as he would like to station an officer there daily there is an issue of man power. Chief said some future changes he is hoping to implement may help address the issue, including the Town possibly getting its own mobile radar device. Town Administrator Burbank said she would check with the NHDOT regarding signage for school bus stops. Jade said she would reach out to the Lafayette PTO to see about a crossing guard.

SIGN/APPROVE:

The Board approved the August 12, 2019 meeting minutes as amended.

The August 29, 2019 Transaction List was reviewed and signed.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Budget Review – Town Administrator Burbank said the Legal line is overspent by \$5,140.52, mainly due to the PSNH lawsuit expense of \$12,918.52 for this year. Town Administrator Burbank said funds could be moved from the Legal Trust Fund if the Board chooses to do so, and the Town should budget accordingly this year for the continuation of that lawsuit. Chairman Brewer said she is inclined to watch the situation until closer to the end of the year and make a decision then. Selectmen Meth and Blodgett agreed. Other budget items are where they should be. The Board signed off on several journal entries for voided checks.

Primex Premium Holiday – Town Administrator Burbank said the Town will be receiving a \$1,572.73 premium holiday return and a \$1,845.99 rebate for workers compensation.

Bidding Handicap Lift – Town Administrator Burbank said she had discussed the project with Scott Leslie and it may be a good idea to waive the bidding process for the lift due to the time constraints for getting the lift done this year. She said she has spoken with Presby Construction and they are interested in evaluating the project and putting together a bid. Town Administrator Burbank suggested the Board may wish to waive the bidding process and allow Presby to provide a bid for consideration.

Mary Grote requested to comment, and said she does not like the lift design as she finds it unattractive and clunky, and that she does not think the windows are a good match for the building. Town Administrator Burbank said the windows in the design could be changed.

Dawn Steele suggested some temporary ramps put in place while different designs were sought, and perhaps some local architects could give free advice on the design.

Thad Presby said some small design changes could be possible, such as different windows and details to make it match the building if Presby Construction does do the project.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to forgo the bidding process if Presby Construction's bid comes in below budget. Selectman Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

Mary Grote asked if it would be possible to have a public meeting before a design was finalized. Chairman Brewer said the Board was open to public input.

Dumptique – Chairman Brewer provided a newspaper story detailing a program that operates as a second hand store at a Transfer Station in West Tisbury, MA that uses freecycling to rehome useful items. She said there was a similar program at the Tri-Town Transfer Station previously but it was difficult for the employees to manage in addition to their other duties. Chairman Brewer said the "Dumptique" is 100% volunteer managed and would not require any employee participation and has strong parameters that prevent people from using it to get rid of items that should actually go in the trash. The Board briefly discussed the idea but made no decisions at this time.

Schedule Work Session for Policy Review – The work session for policy review was scheduled for Monday, September 16th at 3pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ron Baillargeon wrote a letter of resignation from Trustees of the Trust Fund.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to accept Ron Baillargeon's resignation as a Trustee of the Trust Fund. Selectman Blodgett seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cable Consortium: The Consortium will meet on September 12th after taking some time off from meeting over the summer. Selectman Meth said he is hoping to explore wireless broadband access.

Chamber of Commerce: No update at this time.

Conservation Commission: No update at this time.

Energy Commission: The Energy Commission will resume meeting on September 17th, 4:45pm at Town Hall after taking the summer off.

Planning Board: The PB met August 13th to review the Handicap Lift Project.

Tri-Town Transfer Station Committee: None.

Additional Discussion: Selectman Blodgett asked if some potholes before the Bickford Hill bridge could be addressed. Town Administrator Burbank said she would let Scott know.

Selectman Meth thanked Sergeant Jarvis for his assistance with a hiker rescue and Town Administrator Burbank praised Corey Rush for the work he did at 192 Main.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Peter Grote thanked the Board for allowing him to contact Town Legal Counsel regarding a ZBA issue and said the ensuing discussion was very productive.

The Board entered non-public session at 4:19pm as pursuant to RSA 91-A:3II(a)(c).

The Board left non-public session at 5:03pm.

Based on the non-public discussion, Chairman Brewer made a motion to compensate Chief Cashin \$4,000 from the Prosecutorial Budget for the work he has done as the interim Town Prosecutor. Selectman Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

Based on the non-public discussion, Chairman Brewer made a motion to change the Police Department Detail Rate Pay to \$65 per hour for non-resident requests and \$55 per hour for resident requests. Selectman Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

With no further input, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous voice vote at 5:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary