



TOWN OF FRANCONIA

INCORPORATED 1764

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 AT 3:00 PM AT TOWN OFFICES

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Chris Gautreau Admin Asst.

INVITED GUESTS: Scott Leslie, Kim Cowles.

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

The regular meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

ITEMS FOR BOS REVIEW/APPROVAL/DENIAL/DISPOSITION:

- 1) Meeting minutes of August 28 & September 05, 2017- The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of August 28, 2017 with Selectman Brewer making a motion to accept the minutes and Chairman Meth seconded with all in favor. The meeting minutes of September 05, 2017 were reviewed and Selectman Costa making a motion to accept the amended minutes with Chairman Meth seconded with all in favor.
- 2) Transaction List- September 14, 2017- The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for September 14, 2017.
- 3) Driveway permit- Reinhold- Map 5 Lot 10-1- The Reinhold driveway permit was discussed, and Chairman Meth will present to the Planning Board as there were some questions as to the purpose of the driveway.
- 4) Septic Permit- Glover- Map 14/ Lot 131- The Septic Permit Application was reviewed, approved, and signed by The Board.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:

RE: 3:00- Kim Cowles & Scott Leslie- Equipment Update.

ACTION(S) The Board asked department heads Kim Cowles and Scott Leslie about the equipment under their control and scheduled replacement with The CIP Committee. Selectman Costa questioned the use of the Ford F-150 Truck. Scott replied that the truck is very dependable and the highway department uses it every day. Scott also said the truck was a work horse, has good gas mileage, and has a low repair history. The consensus from The Board is to push back the replacement of this vehicle as a few more years of useful life was anticipated based on Scott's report.

Scott also reported that there is an older generator at The Fire Department that he would like to install as a back-up for the Highway Garage. The Board thought this was worthwhile since we already own the generator and it would be wise to put it to use. Scott will communicate with Holly and Kim on this.

Selectman Costa discussed the possibility of an addition to the Highway Department Building for equipment repairs. Scott responded that his crew does most of the equipment repairs, but it would be feasible to have a separate area and with the possibility of a lift to do additional repairs in-house instead of outsourcing the work. Scott will put together some preliminary measurements and will report back to The Board. Selectman Costa responded to put all of the Highway Department's needs to maintain their equipment in writing.

Kim Cowles provided information on the John Deere Tractor. Purchased in 2010 for \$44,000, it has an eight year life span. The tractor has had quite a few repairs recently and Kim says there is a lot of corrosion on the back-side of the tractor and has oil leaking from the rear end. The tractor is used for sidewalk plowing, hauling mulch and aggregate, mowing fields and the cemetery, and lastly for digging graves, albeit in the daylight hours only! With 1700 hours on it, the trade in value is approximately \$13,500 with a quote from Blackmount Equipment for a new 2018 tractor of \$49,635 which includes the backhoe. Monies accumulated in The CIP are \$31,190 to date. Mr. Grote asked who was responsible for the cost bargaining and Kim responded that the initiative will go out through the formal bidding process. Scott Leslie commented that this tractor is currently being used by all the surrounding towns and advocated not to go with a cheaper, less reputable tractor supplier.

The Board was responsive to all of the information provided and thanked Kim and Scott for their efforts.

TOPICS FOR REVIEW/UPDATE/ DISCUSSION

- 1) Coalition Against Bigger Trucks- CABT Letter: The CABT letter was reviewed and discussed. Selectman Costa would like to have Holly draft a letter in addition to the presented one with a focus on the J-Brake noise and road damage that these dual-trailers present.
- 2) DOT Projects Notice/ Public Hearing Schedule: The Board reviewed the Public Hearing Schedule for the Department of Transportation's Ten year Plan. It was agreed to that a workshop or two be undertaken before the meeting. With this in mind, it was agreed to have Kim Cowles, Scott Leslie, Chief Monaghan, and Mr. Johnk from The Lafayette regional School attend the next Selectmen's Meeting on September 18, 2017 at 3:00pm. Chris will make the arrangements for the workshop/meeting.

- 3) Wells Road Culvert: Selectman Costa reported that Mark Taylor has been in contact with a few contractors regarding the drainage/ flooding issue on this road. No decisions have been made and Chairman Meth questioned whether Mr. Red McCarthy could be consulted with.

COMMITTEE REPORTING

CONSERVATION COMMISSION: The Conservation Commission will be meeting in two weeks, and Selectman Brewer noted that after a letter of intent was sent in July of this year regarding Congestion Mitigation Air Quality- CMAQ, a mandatory workshop session in Concord, N.H. must be attended. Selectman Brewer will be attending the workshop on September 20, 2017 at 10:00am in Concord.

CIP COMMITTEE: The CIP Committee will be meeting on Wednesday September 13, 2017 at 3:30 pm. After meeting with department heads, Selectman Costa asked The Board to give direction as to whether the John Deere tractor and the Ford F-150 truck should remain on the CIP Schedule. The Board decided that both vehicles are necessary and that the F-150 could wait a couple of years at least for replacement.

ENERGYCOMMISSION: Chairman Meth reported that the commission will be moving forward with the street light project and the funding sources are tentatively in place. Eric will also bring up the crosswalk project lighting that will be required should the initiative be approved. The next meeting of the Energy Commission will be on September 19, 2017.

PLANNING BOARD: The next meeting of The Planning Board will be Tuesday September 12, 2017 to review lot line adjustments, a driveway permit application, and other business.

NORTHERN PASS: Chairman Meth was contacted by the attorney for the town to advise of a new schedule of Site Evaluation Committee hearings going forward through December of this year. Eric also advised that there is new council for the public and that we are still well represented by the change.

Chairman Meth also read into the minutes Thomas Wagner’s Draft Record of Decision pertaining to the proposed burial route, identified as the project’s preferred route where it crosses The White Mountain National Forest. The draft offers two rationales for the decision, and also states that “the intensity and duration of these effects is more than outweighed by the benefits associated with bringing additional hydropower to the New England grid.” Further, “the project would address three primary needs concerning New England’s electricity supply: diverse electricity supply; low-carbon electricity supply; non-intermittent electricity supply.” The letter also offers some opposing viewpoints and questions the decisions formulated in the draft as well as some key analysis of Wagner’s argument for by-passing the I-93 Corridor. Copies of the draft can be obtained at Town Hall free of charge.

PUBLIC INITIATIVES/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

There were no Public Comments today.

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

The Evergreen property was briefly mentioned, but with the hopes of inspecting the property soon!

Selectman Costa discussed the McKenzie property and reported that there was good standing timber there and that the 5 acre parcel which is in a flood plain was wet, but not flooded or swampy.

Selectman Costa made a trip to the Back Bay area of Wolfeboro and commented on the use of a “sunken garden” for drainage from a culvert, and how this may fit into the area of The Village Store in town.

Selectman Costa also advised The Board that the current lighting near the proposed crosswalk area might not suffice, and will probably need to be replaced to spec should the project be approved. Chairman Meth will include this concern on the next Energy Commission Agenda.

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 @ 4:55 pm 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 5:05 pm

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

*With a unanimous voice vote, The Board adjourned the meeting @ 5:06 pm.

Prepared and respectfully submitted by:

Mr. Christopher J. Gautreau

Mr. Christopher J. Gautreau

Administrative Assistant