

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S BUDGET WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 17, 2018 AT TOWN HALL**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Meth, Jill Brewer.

OTHERS PRESENT: Holly Burbank, Mary Grote.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm.

The Board discussed the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget, and possible warrant article items.

Town Administrator Burbank first presented to the Board of Selectmen, the proposed tax rate issued by the NH Department of Revenue. She explained to the Board that they could use some of the money in the Fund Balance to lower the tax rate, or could leave the rate as is. There was a brief discussion regarding some proposed projects that would need to be completed in 2019, and it was decided to leave the tax rate as proposed by NH Department of Revenue, leaving the Board the option to use some of the Fund Balance towards one or more of the proposed projects. The new tax rate will be \$18.92. This is a \$1.17 increase from last year's rate.

The Board next discussed several possible warrant article items to include Adoption of RSA's for the purpose of Acquisition of Sale of Land and Buildings, and also Delegation of Authority to accept dedicated streets.

The Board spoke about the need for the new handicap lift, and possible funding options, as well as the need to demolish the building at 192 Main Street.

Holly next spoke to the Board about the increase in our health insurance costs for 2019, as well as the possibility of adding dental insurance for our employees. Holly then asked the Board to also consider adding 12 employees to the NH Retirement System (NHRS). Currently, the three full-time police officers are in the NHRS and this is by State mandate. All of the full-time employees at the schools are also part of the NH Retirement System. Currently, those 12 employees are offered \$20 per week to be placed into a retirement plan but must match that \$20 in order to be eligible. After a brief discussion, the Board noted that they would consider placing the remaining 12 employees into the NHRS.

The Board then discussed different road and bridge repair projects as well as some of the Town's current trust funds and the possibility of creating a new trust fund for Welfare.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly A. Burbank
Town Administrator