

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING**  
**MONDAY OCTOBER 30, 2017 AT TOWN OFFICES**

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**TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Eric Meth, Jill Brewer, Bernardette Costa

**TOWN OFFICIALS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Holly Burbank, Town Administrator

**INVITED GUESTS:**

**GENERAL PUBLIC:** Ms. Mary Grote, Justin Roshak

The regular meeting was called to order at 3:12pm.

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**ITEMS FOR BOS REVIEW/APPROVAL/DENIAL/DISPOSITION:**

- 1) Minutes of October 23, 2017- The meeting minutes were reviewed by The Board. Chairman Meth made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Selectmen Brewer seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 2) Transaction List- November 2, 2017- The transaction list was reviewed and signed by The Board.
- 3) The Board reviewed and approved driveway permits for Boone – Map 31/Lot 16-2 and Burgener – Map 24/Lot 20.
- 4) The Board signed Deed Waivers for two properties previously voted for non-acceptance. Map 14/Lot 43-12 and Map 14/Lot 43-30.
- 5) The Board reviewed and signed a tax abatement for Map 28/Lot 169.

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**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:**

RE: Meet with Owners of Franconia Village Store @ Bethlehem Village Store

ACTION(S) Meeting will be rescheduled to Monday, November 6, 2017 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

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**TOPICS FOR REVIEW/UPDATE/ DISCUSSION**

- 1) TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE: Holly noted that in one week, the Northern Pass Defense Fund Fundraiser had already raised a little over \$9000. She also noted that eviction notices had been sent to Grafton County Sheriff's Department for service on those tenants in the properties taken by Tax Collector Deed. Holly then gave the Board a brief overview of the tax deed process.

- 2) The Board had a brief discussion regarding the power outage caused by the overnight wind/rain storm.
- 3) The Board next reviewed two candidates that had an interest on being a Franconia representative on the Lafayette Recreation Committee. After reviewing letters presented to the Board by each candidate, and a brief discussion, Bernadette Costa made a motion to appoint Cindy Berlack to the Lafayette Recreation Committee. Jill Brewer seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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## **COMMITTEE REPORTING**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION:** Jill Brewer gave a brief update on the Conservation Commission. There was a discussion regarding a meeting conflict with the Planning Board and Master Trail Planning Meetings scheduled for the same evening of November 14<sup>th</sup>. Several residents have expressed interest in attending both meetings, but with the meetings happening at the same time, they will be unable to. Jill Brewer noted that she would reach out to Chris Nicodemus to see if times or dates can be adjusted so that residents can attend both important meetings.

Jill next noted that the Gale River Trail in Fox Hill Park has been completed using a \$5000 Trails Grant. She also mentioned that she would like to apply for a \$1500 America Walks Grant. Jill gave a brief overview of the grant. Bernardette Costa made a motion to have Jill Brewer apply for the America Walks Grant. Eric Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**CIP COMMITTEE:** Selectmen Costa updated the Board on the CIP Committee. At the last CIP meeting, Greg Wells was there to discuss his capital equipment. Bernardette noted that the CIP Committee thought that a community discussion should be started regarding the Transfer Station and the fact they have been losing money when it comes to recycling. A few questions posed by the CIP Committee, is do we want to keep recycling, should the hours at the transfer station be reduced, or are they adequate. Bernardette noted that we currently recycle cardboard, and make no money in doing so. Many businesses bring in their cardboard, and the Transfer Station has to dispose of it. With no profit from this venture, the CIP Committee wondered if we should even accept cardboard, or if we should be charging for it.

The Board next discussed the Transfer Station Funds that are set-up. A question has arisen as to the guidelines for these funds. For example, who are the agents to expend? Do they need Town Meeting vote of all three towns for money to be expended from the funds? It was suggested that a meeting of the Tri-Towns Boards be organized to discuss the Transfer Station. Holly will coordinate a meeting with all three boards in the near future.

There was also a brief discussion regarding maintenance of all equipment that have hydraulics to include our lawn mowers, and to see if Scott Leslie would coordinate and make sure that they are all being maintained to ensure the longest life possible.

**ENERGY COMMISSION:** Chairman Meth gave a brief update on the Streetlight Project, and noted that the LED lamps would be stored in the garage at Town Hall while installation was taking place.

**PLANNING BOARD:** Eric gave a brief update on the Planning Board, and noted that they would be meeting on Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, and would also be having a public hearing on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss changes to the Zoning Ordinance.

The Board then had a brief discussion regarding NH RSA 79-E Community Revitalization Tax Incentives. This was signed into law in 2006, and makes it possible for property owners wanting to substantially rehabilitate buildings in a downtown or village center to apply to the local governing body for a period of temporary tax relief.

**NORTHERN PASS:** Chairman Meth had nothing new to report on Northern Pass.

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**PUBLIC INITIATIVES/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:**

THERE WERE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS TODAY

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

The Board asked Holly to reach out to Kim Cowles and see if she would speak with Thad or Trevor Presby regarding cutting down brush at the bridge that is obstructing views.

Selectmen Costa spoke about the current breakdown at which each Town in the Tri-Town Recreation area pays for the Lafayette Recreation budget. Currently, the breakdown is based upon the number of children in the schools. With the increase in adult programs being offered, Bernardette would like to see what the proportion of fees would be if based also on the adult population in each town. Town Administrator Burbank will speak with Kim Cowles regarding this.

The Board next discussed the offer to buy the Presby Building on Easton Road. After a brief discussion regarding the building and its possibilities, it was decided that the Presby Building does not meet the Town's needs at this time. The Board does wish to convey to Trevor Presby that the price offered was a good buy, and it is in fact a very good building and they thank him for his offer to the Town to purchase it.

**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	

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\* Chairman Meth made a motion to enter a non-public session @ 4:32 pm regarding personnel issues as per RSA 91-A: 3, II, (a) (c). Selectman Brewer seconded the motion. All were 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. Selectman Brewer seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly A. Burbank  
Town Administrator