

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2017 AT TOWN OFFICES**

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

**TOWN OFFICIALS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Paul Schmucker, Kim Cowles, Mary Grote

**The meeting was called to order at 3:07pm.**

Eric Meth thanked Holly for hosting a successful Employee Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Holly thanked Eric, and also wanted to publicly thank Kim Cowles for all of her hard work coordinating the caterer, set-up, and rsvp's.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Paul Schmucker was present to talk about the replacement of the Life Squad Ambulance. Paul spoke to the Board about recent maintenance issues that had arisen, but those have all been fixed. After a lengthy discussion regarding trade-in options, and re-furbish options, he does feel that he could get 15 years out of this current ambulance and doesn't feel at this time that it needs to be replaced any sooner than that. There was a brief discussion as to the amount of money currently in the Life Squad Van Capital Reserve Fund, and whether or not any surplus in the Life Squad Budget at the end of the year could go into that Capital Reserve Fund. Town Administrator Burbank will check with the NH Department of Revenue to see if this can be done.

Kim Cowles was next to speak to the Board. She spoke about repair/maintenance items at Town Hall, and would like to get approval to get bids and move forward with these projects. The projects that Kim noted, were to replace 8 lights in the main hall with LED lights, replace all of the windows in the main hall with double hung energy efficient windows, paint the interior of the main hall, put indoor/outdoor carpet in the entrance to the main hall, replace the main hall double doors, and put in sound boards along the walls in the main hall to help with the acoustics in that room. Kim gave a brief breakdown of costs for each of these projects, with all of them totaling approximately \$25,500. The Board then spoke to Kim about other maintenance projects to other Town buildings, as well as the total amount available in the Town Buildings Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. With no further discussion, Jill Brewer made a motion to have Kim Cowles move forward with getting bids and start renovations for replacing the light fixtures and windows in the main hall. Bernardette Costa seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Motion Passes.**

**SIGN/APPROVE:**

The Board reviewed the November 13, 2017 meeting minutes. After a brief discussion, Selectmen Brewer made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Selectmen Costa seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion Passes.**

The November 22, 2017 Transaction List was reviewed and signed.

The Board reviewed and approved a septic permit for Map 28, Lot 57.

The Board next reviewed and signed two repurchase deeds for Map 21, Lot 20 & 21 and Map 6, Lot 22. These were properties repurchased after having been taken by Tax Collector's Deed.

The Board also reviewed and signed an abatement form for Map 24, Lot 26.

### **TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:**

Town Administrator Burbank gave the Board an update.

1. Map 15, Lot 2 has approached Holly to repurchase their property back. Holly has given a final number through November 27. Holly will keep the Board updated as to whether they come in to repurchase.
2. Holly next noted that she has completed and will be posting the Information Technology Services Request for Proposal (RFP) on the Town's Website, NH Municipal Association Website, and in the Littleton Courier.
3. Holly spoke with Scott Leslie regarding Sam's Place, and he noted that the building was not needed, and it stored large tires that were close to 40 years old. There was a brief discussion as to how to dispose of the tires, and also what the "cost" for Sam's Place would be. Holly also showed the Board a certificate showing that Sam's Place was on the NH State Register of Historical Places.
4. Holly also spoke with Scott Leslie as to whether he and his crew could do any of the work on the new crosswalk being planned. Scott didn't feel he could do the work, as there are many ADA compliances, and he also doesn't feel he has the equipment to do the work.
5. Holly noted that the Town Office would be closed Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday.
6. Holly finally noted that she was almost finished with pulling together paperwork for FEMA in regards to the July 1<sup>st</sup> rain storm.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Conservation Commission:** Jill Brewer noted that the Conservation Commission meets tomorrow, November 21<sup>st</sup>. Jill also noted that the Master Trail Meeting went well, and left people excited and motivated.

**CIP Committee:** Bernardette Costa questioned whether or not the Selectmen are agents to expend the Life Squad Van Capital Reserve Fund. Holly will look into this and report back.

**Energy Commission:** Eric Meth noted that the Energy Commission meets Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:30pm at the Woodsville Guaranty Bank. Chairman Meth did mention that they were still anticipating delivery of the new lamps for the light poles.

**Northern Pass:** Chairman Meth gave an update on Northern Pass. Chairman Meth is scheduled to testify in front of the Site Evaluation Committee on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Eric cited several different articles relating to Northern Pass.

**Planning Board:** Eric Meth mentioned that the Planning Board had a public hearing on November 14<sup>th</sup>, where they reviewed zoning regulations and ordinances that will be updated pursuant to the MTAG Grant. There will be a second public hearing on November 28<sup>th</sup>. The Board asked Eric for a copy of the proposed zoning changes.

**CORRESPONDENCE & MISCELLANEOUS:**

Chairman Meth read a letter from Gordie Johnk, Principal of Lafayette Regional School acknowledging the commitment and dedication of the town's Police, Fire and Life Squad Departments. A copy of that letter is attached to these minutes.

Holly shared a letter from Plodzik and Sanderson explaining the current fund balance. A copy of this letter will be available at Town Hall, and will also be placed in the Town's annual report.

Jill Brewer mentioned that she had been contacted by Deebie Symmes who is interested in talking to her regarding the Master Trail Plan, and Jill will be meeting with her in early December.

There was brief discussion regarding taking over the upper portion of Franconia Mountain Road. There is a question whether or not there are three full-time residents located on this portion of the road. It was decided that we would have to drive out there to take a physical look at the number of homes and try to determine if any of them are full-time residents.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** There was no public input.

Bernadette Costa made a motion to enter non-public session at 5:40pm pursuant to NH RSA 91:A:3, II (a), (c).

The Board came out of non-public session at 5:55pm. Bernardette Costa made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Jill Brewer seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion Passes.**

With no further discussion, the Board adjourned at 5:56pm on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly A. Burbank  
Town Administrator