

TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, December 11, 2017 AT TOWN OFFICES

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Holly Burbank, Karen Foss, Peter Grote, Justin Roshak, Dawn Steele, Kim Cowles, Greg Wells, Martin Cashin, Bob Mancini, John Monaghan.

The meeting was called to order at 3:06pm.

APPOINTMENTS:

Kim Cowles was present to review both the Recreation and Buildings & Grounds budgets. The Board and Kim reviewed each line item.

Kim mentioned that she was going to need to buy wood chips for the Dow Field Playground next year. She questioned whether or not the Board of Selectmen were agents to expend from the Dow Field Playground Fund, and if not, we would need to place an article on the warrant for 2018. Holly will look into this.

Greg Wells was next to present and review his budget. The Board and Greg also went over the Transfer Station Budget by line items.

Bernadette Costa made a motion to enter non-public session at 4:07pm pursuant to NH RSA 91:A:3, II (a), (c).

Martin Cashin, Bob Mancini and John Monaghan joined the non-public session.

The Board came out of non-public session at 5:03pm. 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.**

The Board re-entered public session at 5:05pm.

SIGN/APPROVE:

The Board reviewed the November 27, 2017 meeting minutes. After a brief discussion, Selectmen Costa made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Selectmen Brewer seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion Passes.**

The December 14, 2017 Transaction List was reviewed and signed.

The Board reviewed and signed a petition & pole license from Northern New England Telephone.

Town Administrator Burbank noted that Sam Stephenson had requested to purchase back his property after being taken by Tax Deed. He also presented a cashier's check for the amount due. Holly did note that with tax deeded properties when an owner is buying it back, we are not allowed to put conditions on the repurchase.

The Board next reviewed, approved and signed the HealthTrust Medical Coverage Agreement for 2018.

The Board then reviewed and signed a building permit for Map 22 Lot 4-8.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

At a prior meeting Selectman Costa asked if the Selectmen were agents to expend the Life Squad Van Fund. Holly looked into this and reported that they were not agents to expend this fund.

Holly presented two flyers sent to the Town from Northern Pass. One was a regular newsletter that they send regularly, and the other was a notice speaking about job fairs coming up.

Holly then updated the Board on the Water Commission. She noted that Ray Peltier had resigned his position effective immediately, and that an email had been received from Joan Hartford letting the Board know that she would not be re-running in March for personal reasons. In addition, the Board received a letter from Herbie Bartlett letting them know that she would be resigning her positions of Water Department Secretary and Planning Board Secretary effective December 31, 2017.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conservation Commission: Jill Brewer noted that she met with the River Walk Group today. Kim Cowles has received easements from most of the landowners involved. The group would like to extend the trail behind the Ford building and gas station. They are hoping to have this extension done by next winter. Jill also noted that they have reached out to NH DES to see if they can kill the Japanese Knotweed in that area.

Selectmen Brewer also spoke about getting an easement from the Town of Franconia for the trail behind the 192 Main Street. This led to a brief discussion about selling this property by sealed bid or auction in the spring. It was suggested that we start the 90 day repurchase window sooner rather than later.

CIP Committee: Bernardette Costa noted that the CIP Committee will be meeting with the Planning Board tomorrow night, December 12 at 7:50pm to present their Capital Improvement Proposal for 2018.

Energy Commission: Eric Meth gave a brief update on the Energy Commission. The lights had been delivered and we are still waiting on final approval of the loan documents.

Planning Board: Eric Meth noted that there was another public hearing on December 12 at 7pm. The public hearing is scheduled to take comments on the MTAG Grant and new proposed zoning changes.

Northern Pass: Chairman Meth noted that he had a prep session with Christine Fillmore to get ready for his testimony now rescheduled to December 18th. The time of the hearing is still unknown.

PUBLIC INPUT: There was no public input.

Bernadette Costa made a motion to enter non-public session at 5:37pm for personnel and legal reasons.

Peter Grote joined the non-public session.

The Board came out of non-public session at 6:26pm. 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 6:27pm on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly A. Burbank
Town Administrator