

TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 12th, 2021 AT TOWN HALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Meth, Jill Brewer, Dan Walker

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Cowles, Jenny Monahan, Scott Leslie, Jeremy Hall, Dawn Steele, Karen Foss, Mary Grote, Peter Grote, Lynn Terres, Bob Montagno, Kevin Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.

TO SIGN/APPROVE:

The April 12th, 2021 transaction list was reviewed and signed by the Selectmen.

The review of the minutes of April 5th, 2021 was tabled until the next meeting.

APPOINTMENTS/WORK SESSIONS:

Town Meeting Review: The selectmen discussed that town meeting went well and Moderator Jim Walker did a great job running the meeting. They also commended Town Administrator Cowles for the informative slide show she created and remarked that its availability to residents on the website in the weeks prior to the meeting was beneficial.

Article 19, Fire Department Air Tanks, passed and Town Administrator Cowles provided an estimate of \$110,665 for the board to sign, with \$50,000 coming from the Fire Department's Heavy Equipment capital reserve fund, \$54,000 coming from taxation and \$6,665 from the department's operating budget.

There was a brief discussion regarding remarks made at town meeting about the town report not having enough financial information. The selectmen will work on this for the next town report.

It was briefly discussed that May would be a good time to finalize an Unassigned Fund Balance Policy.

In response to some residents asking that selectmen meetings be held later in the hopes that more residents would attend, the board considered changing the meeting start time to between 5pm and 7pm, with the board seeming to favor 5pm. No decisions were made.

Bob Montagno – Public Restrooms: Bob met with the board to discuss the need for updated public bathrooms as Article 9, Build a New Welcome Center, failed this year at town meeting which will delay the project. Bob offered to spearhead an effort to update the existing bathroom in the warming hut. Town Administrator Cowles will talk with Allan Clark and get back to Bob.

Public Works - Scott Leslie – Main Street Paving & Summer Plans: Scott said he is waiting to hear back from Tri-State curb and has reached out to three paving companies for the sidewalks. He said to save money, he recommends that the Highway Department rip up the sidewalk asphalt themselves. He also plans to chip seal Lafayette road this summer and will topcoat the paving done at Mittersill last year as well.

The ongoing septic infrastructure issue with a property at Mittersill was briefly discussed and Water Commissioner Kevin Johnson was present to discuss with Scott. There was a lengthy informal discussion on the building at Cannon that

is leased by the town as a substation of the fire department and plowing issues at Cannon as well.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Town Administrator Update: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee reports were delayed until the next meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Regarding establishing a timeline for finalizing a fund balance policy, Karen Foss said she thinks earlier would be better. She said the slide show numbers from town meeting are not lining up with the MS-636 or the budget and a lot of work should be done on that. She also recommends a risk analysis of our funds. Karen also offered help with the financial reports for next year's town report.

Mary Grote asked if the board has considered when improvements will be made to the basement of the town hall so the building will be more functional for gatherings.

Kevin Johnson commented that the Franconia Notch Regional Chamber of Commerce is not sponsoring the town wide yard sale on May 22nd, but rather are promoting it. Kevin had asked about using the Dow Field but the field had another scheduled event that day. Kevin also asked about using 192 Main for the yard sale too. There was some discussion about liability for use of the space. Town Administrator Cowles will check with Primex.

In regards to the paving, Dawn Steele said that town policy dictates that three bids must be sought for capital projects that cost over \$1,000. The board said that bids will be sought.

There was no further public comment. Chairman Brewer made a motion to enter non-public session at 3:54pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(a).

The board left non-public session at 4:45pm. With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary