

**Town of Franconia
Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting
Monday, April 13, 2026
at 4PM at Town Hall**

Board Members Present: Dan Walker, Eric Meth, Gene Leeds
Others Present: Libby Staples, Jenny Monahan, Tim Brown, Jan Cole

The meeting was called to order at 4:02PM

Appointments/Work Sessions

Tim Brown – Time Capsule: Tim Brown introduced the time capsule project to the Board of Selectmen and requested permission to unearth the 50-year “Project 2026” capsule, which is buried on the Town Hall lawn. He explained that the capsule is about six feet deep and will be carefully dug up by hand over Memorial Day weekend (May 30). The contents will be displayed at the Abbey Greenleaf Library and later moved to the museum. He said the materials will then be repackaged and reburied for another 50 years, and a new granite marker will be put in place. Tim also mentioned involving the school and plans to reach out to Principal Amy Kopp. The board agreed that Time could proceed with the plans to unearth the capsule.

Public Comment

Jan Cole let the board know that the Trustees of the Trust Funds met with representatives from Bar Harbor Bank & Trust to discuss moving the towns investment funds from Three Bearings to Bar Harbor. After this discussion, the trustees determined that it would not be beneficial to move the funds.

To Sign/Approve

The minutes of March 16, 2026 were approved as amended and the minutes of March 30, 2026 were approved as written.

The selectmen approved the April 10, 2026 to April 16, 2026 transaction report.

The board signed the 2027 Fire Warden/Deputy Reappointment forms, appointing Rick Gaudette as the Fire Warden and Kim Cowles, Tyler Gaudette and Alex Peoples as deputies.

The board approved the following Records of Appointment:

- Rick Gaudette - Building Inspector
- Monica Laflamme – Capital Improvements Plan Committee – exp 3/2027
- Danielle Dawson – Capital Improvements Plan Committee – exp 3/2027
- Jan Cole – Capital Improvements Plan Committee – exp 3/2027
- John Agostinelli – Planning Board – exp 3/2029
- Stephen Schwartz – Planning Board – exp 3/2029
- Hamilton Cammann – Alternate Library Trustee – exp 3/2029
- Steve Plant – Capital Improvements Plan Committee – exp 3/2027
- Larry Plate – Capital Improvements Plan Committee – exp 3/2027

- Chuck Lukasik – Energy Commission – exp 3/2029
- John Dimarzio – Alternate Planning Board – exp 3/2029
- Brian Williams – ZBA – exp 3/2029
- Pete Gaudette – Recreation Board – exp 3/2029

Fireworks Contract with Pyrotechnics - \$6,750 – Approved by the board.

To Discuss/Review

Old Home Day Parade Update – Town Administrator Staples said there has been little engagement to form a parade committee and if more people do not participate, there may be no parade this year. There was also discussion about a donation raised by last year’s parade committee that is being held by the chamber and that the town may need to formally request the donation from the chamber.

BOS Meeting Schedule – The board decided to meet bi-weekly until further notice.

Update on Meeting with Cannon Mountain GM, Jace Worth – Selectman Meth provided an update on the April 3 meeting with Cannon Mountain management (Jace Worth), Easton Select Board member Brian Suthoff, and Rusty Talbot of Sugar Hill Selectboard. He reported that Cannon Mountain is continuing to coordinate with Chief Cashin on safety services and has been limiting police requests, with theft incidents down this season. He also noted Cannon’s openness to local affordability ski programs and efforts such as art installations along the trail to extend the ArtWalk and encourage tourism in Franconia village. Selectman Meth added that the upcoming tram replacement project is moving forward, with bids expected in May from two European manufacturers and an estimated cost of \$33–36 million, targeting completion in Fall 2028. He said the project would likely require seasonal closures and significant revenue loss. Plans include reusing existing towers and possibly reconfiguring the summit building with a new restaurant. The board discussed this at length after the update.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05PM.

Respectfully,

Jenny Monahan
Executive Assistant