

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, April 15, 2013

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, April 15, 2013 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were John Lachapelle, Ted Hoyle, Bob Montagno, Sally Small and Suzy MacDonald.

Guests of the Board- Scott Leslie, Jeff Phillips, Kim Cowles, Jane Higgins, Easton Select Board and Sugar Hill Select Board

Also – Kyle Mike, Sue Ford, and Gordie Johnk

Ted Hoyle called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 4/01/2013: Formal readings of the April 1, 2013 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of April 1, 2013 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 4/18/13 - The Board reviewed and signed the checks and transaction list for 4/18/13.

Application for Tax Exemption – Franconia Community Church of Christ was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

Application for Tax Exemption – Neskaya Inc – Was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

CIP Committee Appointments were reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

ZBA Committee Appointments were reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

Building Permit – Mary Nehring – will be reviewed next week.

Building Permit – AHEAD – Map 14/Lot 106 – will be reviewed next week.

Agreement & Release for Building Permit Abutting a Class VI Highway was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

PA-29 Tax Credit – Veteran – Laflamme (2) – will be reviewed next week.

State of NH Forest & Lands – Forest Fire Report/Bill (2) – were reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

Intent to Cut – Otorowski M1/L1 – The Select Board signed the Intent to Cut for Otorowski M1/L1.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 – Scott Leslie/Jeff Phillips – Highway and Building Grounds 1st Q budget review – Scott discussed with the Select Board the selling of the truck that is being replaced this year. The Select Board says the truck can be sold and does not have to be traded in as long as it is sold for at least the same amount as the trade in. Scott has someone who is interested in purchasing the truck.

The Highway Department budget was discussed and reviewed. Being questioned is the amount available for plow blades and grader blades. It does not appear the line item was bumped up to accommodate this purchase. This brought on discussions on the grader funds held as a capital reserve fund. The Select Board is not an agent to expend on this fund. At next year's Town Meeting it is being requested that this account is renamed and that the Select Board members become agents to expend.

Gas and Diesel was carefully looked at and it has been determined that the propane for heating the building has been include in this figure. Sally will break this out in the future and will allocate \$20,000 for gas/diesel and \$8000 for propane.

The money showing on the "Salt" line is just for Salt and not sand or gravel. Overtime was discussed and normally there is no overtime in the summer.

Sally is asking that something be done on Wallace Hill with the culvert in the area of Ruth Griffins driveway. Scott thinks that a bigger culvert needs to be put in. He will look into the cost. The Select Board would like to see this taken care of.

Scott is getting prices for paving of Cole Hill Road and reclaiming Toad Hill Road and Timber Lane. He will prepare a letter to the residences as the type of surface may be changing. There will also be a public meeting scheduled.

The Select Board is also asking Scott to touch base with the resident at 35 Main Street regarding the sidewalk.

Jeff and the Select Board reviewed the Buildings & Grounds budget. Generally there is no overtime during the summer months. The uniform line should be \$350 not \$150.

Scott discussed and presented the Select Board with a quote for painting the crosswalks. Normally the Highway Department paints them. This is quite costly and takes up to a week and a half to complete. There is no money in the budget currently for painting of the crosswalks. The estimate is for \$1900. The Highway will do the painting this year. The Select Board will discuss the situation for future years.

The well at the Highway Garage remains undisturbed.

4:00 – Kim Cowles – Recreation Joint Meeting with Sugar Hill & Easton –The Recreation Budget was reviewed between Kim, and the Select Boards from Franconia, Easton, and Sugar Hill. The income and expenses of the different programs were discussed. Kim gave an overview of the summer program and of the adventure program. She also briefed the board on several events that will be taking place during the spring and summer.

The storage shed is almost done and will be placed on the Dow sometime soon.

Kim has been speaking with the Littleton Senior Center regarding a 9 passenger van with a lift. She will stay in touch with them as it looks like there may be a van for sale in July.

The Recreation by Laws was discussed and a few questions were asked. Margo asked how the staff is evaluated. These by laws have not been adopted yet. Easton may soon have a municipal budget

committee so maybe that wording should stay. The hiring practices were discussed for permanent employees.

There was discussion centered on Commissioners vs Committee Members. Kim will look at the definition of each at the suggestion of Tom from Easton and see which will fit the recreation Department better.

New area trail maps will be available in about three weeks.

4:30 – Greg Wells – Transfer Station Joint Meeting with Sugar Hill & Easton – Doing away with the odor at the Transfer Station was discussed amongst the Boards. The area is being power washed every time the containers are pulled out. The grade of the area is still being looked at. At this time it may not be necessary to redo the French drain.

Some of the recycled material is being taken to Littleton. Is this the result of one of the balers being broken? Is there any money available thru NH the Beautiful which could help to fix or replace this equipment? Why can we not recycle more plastics or even recycle with single stream? Income is being lost and as much as possible should be done by us and maximize recycling. The goal should be to maximize recycling not just maintain it. The footprint at the Transfer Station is pretty limited. Can our facility be expanded?

There have been many changes to Transfer Stations and recycling over the last 10 years. It's now a good time to revisit our "plant" and make improvements. A meeting will be schedule since Greg Wells was not able to attend this meeting to further look into establishing a committee and further discuss the vision of the Transfer Station. It's a good time to look for a consultant, possible Tony, former employee of the Littleton Transfer Station.

It is time to increase awareness as to what can be thrown out and what can't be. Signs, pamphlets, web site and school education are all ways to get the word out.

Margo attended an energy conference out of town and they were discussing "punch" cards sold at a transfer station. These cards eliminate the need to handle cash and are sold in a way similar to the green bags. Cash should not be accepted at any time at the transfer station. Only checks should be accepted and it should be enforced.

Sally has budget sheets for previous years that Jane is looking for. If Margo can't email them to Jane Sally can provide.

Waste oil can't be burned at the Transfer Station.

John Strasser has received several complaints on the Sugar Hill end of Bickford Hill Road. It seems that trucks are using this as a short cut and putting extra wear and tear on the road. He would like to see "No Thru Trucks" signs posted on each end of the road. Franconia is in agreement of this and will talk to road Agent Scott Leslie as well as with Chief John Monaghan.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Septic Permit – Mathew Mike – Map 6/Lot 28 was reviewed and will be sent to the State of NH for their approval.

5 Safety Manual Policies will be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

Email from Planning Board Re: Kiril Roainov will be sent to the Towns Attorney.

Bob has found EXCEL training to be held at the Town Hall.

Provan & Lorber has been recommended as a consultant for preparing a maintenance plan of Town owned building. Also Provan & Lorber can access the land at the Safety Services Building as far as wetlands go.

John Monaghan has detected a strong septic smell coming across from the site of a previous septic spill that happened over the winter. Let's get in touch with the Health Officer to find the source and rectify the problem.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Selectman Hoyle adjourned the meeting at 5:15 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary