

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, April 28, 2014

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday April 28, 2014 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were John Lachapelle, Ted Hoyle, Bob Montagno, and Suzy MacDonald

Guests of the Board – Jeff Woodward, Jack Cook, Derek Spears, Kim Cowles, Rebecca Brown and Kris Pastoral

John Lachapelle called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 4/14/2014: Formal readings of the April 14, 2014 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of April 14, 2014 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 5/1/14 - The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 5/1/14.

Demo Contract – Safety Services Building – Spears Brothers – reviewed and signed.

Building Permit – Flescher- Map 15/Lot 32- New Home – reviewed and signed.

Building Permit – Aimette – Map 4/Lot 19 – 2 Car Garage 26'x26' – reviewed and signed

Building Permit – Hibler/Hibbert – Map 29/Lot 40-10- New Home – reviewed and signed

Building Permit – Lovett – Map 29/Lot 4.5 – 4 car garage/studio/kiln Shed – reviewed and signed

Building Permit – Franconia Community Church – Map 14/Lot 70 – addition – reviewed and signed

TAN – Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank – reviewed and signed

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 – Jeff Woodward – Financing Options for Safety Services Building – Jeff Woodward discussed several proposals the Safety Services Building Committee had received for financing the loan for the new Safety Services Building. The lowest rate is for a 20 year fixed loan at a rate of 2.84%. During the construction process the Town will pay interest only based on 2.84% for 8 months.

After discussion the Franconia Select Board made a motion to go with the lowest rate submitted by Passumpsic Savings Bank. A vote was taken and it was a unanimous decision to accept the proposal from Passumpsic Bank. Chairman John Lachapelle will be signing the financing package and will be the signer on all documents on behalf of the Town.

Jeff Woodward will contact Passumpsic Bank. Sally Small will contact the other banks and thank them for their interest. Jeff has figured the Town will pay about \$25,000 in interest from start of construction until the end of the year. Jeff is willing to also attend the loan closing.

3:10 – Susan Schibonoff – Susan came into the meeting to invite the select Board to a Site Evaluation Committee Information Meeting on Sunday May 4, 2014 in Plymouth. This is in reference to Northern Pass.

3:15 – Jack Cook – Energy Commission Appointment – Jack Cook will be leaving the area in July 2014 and would like to present a new member to the Energy Commission. Jack would like to recommend David Strange to the Commission. He would be appointed to fill out Jack's term which ends in March of 2016. A motion was made to accept the recommendation of Jack Cook and appoint David Strange to the Energy Commission. A vote was taken and all three Select Board members were in favor.

Jack discussed the energy efficiency of the new Safety Services Building. The Commission is looking at energy alternatives for the buildings. Jack is looking into grant money.

Jack invited the Select Board to the May 8th meeting at the Lafayette School. *To see if the Lafayette Regional School District will vote to remove the existing oil tank and convert the heating system to an LP gas system. A majority vote is required.*

3:30 – Spears Brothers – Safety Services Building Demo Contract – Derek Spears was here representing Spears Brothers and the Demolition Contract for the Safety Services Building. The contract was reviewed and signed by the Franconia Select Board and Derek Spears. This contract was signed after the recommendation of the Safety Services Building Committee.

John Lachapelle would like all signed copies of the contracts sent to the Towns Attorney.

4:00 – Kim Cowles (did not attend) & Rebecca Brown – Ammonoosuc Watershed Conservation – Kris Pastoriza was invited to attend as she is also working on a project with the Ham Branch. Rebecca was able to discuss the Ammonoosuc Watershed which would affect the Ham Branch. These two projects run parallel but are not connected. The Select Board has been given a summary of the project for their review. Rebecca has been participating in a fish study. Profile High School did a watershed study around 2005. Trout Unlimited is looking at corridor development in populated areas. This current proposal is for the Ham Branch to protect headwaters and small manageable watersheds. Rebecca is looking at support to hire interns from Plymouth State for research from the homeowners along the Ham Branch. They will collect all sorts of data. This is all based on the landowner's voluntary conservation easement on their property. Part of this program is community outreach and public education to the landowner.

Rebecca is looking for money from the Conservation Fund to help fund this project. Kim Cowles will be asked to research this on behalf of the Conservation Commission and to make a recommendation to the Select Board.

Kris's project is to look at the waterways from town to town and to look beyond the boundaries. Her program is nonrestrictive. Kris discussed the education piece to the watershed. Ted's concern is the homeowner should be notified before the program is used. Could this cause a Planning Board or a Zoning issue? The Conservation Committee can recommend this but it always goes back to the Town as an advisory and then would go to the Zoning Board. A designated river would mean that after acceptance an Advisory Committee would be formed.

Kris is happy to approach the landowners and get their input. She will return with items in writing to the Select Board. The application is June 1, 2014 for a three town application. Kris handed out a couple of support letters and is hoping to get a letter of support from the Town of Franconia. Activity is triggered by permit requests, wetlands, shore lands, and alteration of terrain.

The Select Board will look for Kim Cowles to read up and research both of these and come back to them with a recommendation.

Rebecca discussed two legislature questions; Gambling and Road Toll. A 4.2% road toll is being proposed. Rebecca did support the gambling bill last year but she will not support the bill on the basis of revenue again.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Town Hall Stairs & Handrails :Stainless Steel Handrails – The handrails for the Town Hall were discussed. Should we do a black power coated finish or should we do stainless rails. Long-term use and maintenance point at using stainless rails. It is an additional \$2520 for stainless rails. The Select Board will go with stainless rails. Bob will contact Provan & Lorber.

Septic Permit – J Cantlon- Map 15/Lot 19.3 – After review the Town will not allow a building to be built on this location due to zoning regulations. It is not clear until speaking with Sally Small if this will still be sent to the State of NH for review.

The next agenda should include the cleaning of the Town Hall as well as the public restroom outside.

John Lachapelle would like another letter sent to the Planning Board regarding the draft of 2009 – Cluster Housing. The Planning Board did not answer the last letter written by the Select Board.

John Lachapelle has noticed the poor condition of 40 Harvard Street. This appears to be a vacant building and has been for some time. John points out that our zoning ordinance states that you cannot have a vacant building for more than one year. John would like to schedule a walk around with Allen Clark our Building Inspector and the Select Board.

John would also like to discuss the Hazard Mitigation plan and how it relates to the Wells Road. Several priority items need to be discussed as deadlines are attached to some items. Have Scott Leslie and Mark Taylor come to the next Select Board meeting. Mark Taylor will be asked to look into grants for this. We may have to involve an engineer.

The Water Department is asked to meet with the Select Board on May 12, 2014 to discuss changes made to the Mittersill Fire Station.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Highway on “Summer Hours” – Mon-Thurs 6am-3:30pm – Fri 6am-10am.

Selectman Lachapelle adjourned the meeting at 4:35 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary