

**MINUTES  
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
Monday, April 4, 2016**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, April 4, 2016 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, Eric Meth, John Lachapelle, and Sally Small.

Guests of the Board: Lydia Cumbee

Others in attendance: Peter Grote, Mary Grote, Dawn Steele, Karen Foss & Anne Foss

<b>SELECTMEN'S TIME:</b>
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**BOS Minutes 3/28/2016:** A formal reading of the March 28, 2016 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

**BOS Minutes 4/1/2016:** A formal reading of the April 1, 2016 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved.

<b>FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:</b>
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**Transaction Lists - 4/7/16 - Approved and signed by the Board**  
**Appointments – Planning Board (Thad Presby) & Trustee of the Trust Funds (Karen Foss) -** The appointments were approved and signed by the board.

<b>APPOINTMENTS:</b>
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**3:00 – Open Time** – Dawn Steele brought to the attention of the board a minor wording change to the minutes of March 28<sup>th</sup> that involved her discussion with the Board and the Water Commissioners. The wording change was accepted by the Board and the minutes were amended.

Dawn also questioned the cost of the new PAYT bags and in reviewing the minutes of the January 11<sup>th</sup> Tri-Town meeting it was decided to raise the large bags from \$2.00 to \$2.20 or \$20.00 per roll to \$22.00. The minutes of March 28<sup>th</sup>, were amended.

**3:15 – Lydia Cumbee-** Lydia showed the Board the form she had created that they could use in obtaining more information from the non-profit organizations that ask the Town for money each year.

Lydia expressed her disappointment that the MRI report was not made available prior to Town Meeting since parts of the report were referred to in the February 22nd meeting when salaries were discussed and that the Board had used the 2012 Wage, Salary & Benefits Survey from NHMA when there was a 2014 Salary & Wage report from NHMA available. Bernie explained that the Board made the decision to wait until after Town Meeting to discuss the report and the suggestions for staffing the town hall when Sally retired.

Lydia also questioned part of the MRI report that combined the Executive Secretary position with the Planning Board Secretary explaining that they were really two separate positions that happen to be filled by the same person and that should be corrected on the job descriptions.

John asked Sally if she had heard back from MRI with the names of the three towns that were used in the comparison for the salary ranges. Sally had not heard back from MRI. She would try and contact Carol Granfield again to get the answer and to ask her to rewrite the job descriptions to separate the Planning Board Secretary from the Executive Secretary.

**3:30 – Visit to Highway Garage & Highway Dept 1stQ Budget Review-**The Board and the rest of the group met with Scott Leslie at the Highway garage to go over his budget's first quarter expenses. Before discussing the budget Scott showed those in attendance the Volvo Excavator that the town had just acquired. He also pointed out the gap between the garage doors and the flooring that creates a big heat loss. Scott told the group that he had been approached by the Presby's to see if the Town would be interested in purchasing the building next door for a new highway garage. Scott explained that the Town could fit all of their trucks and equipment in the building and that the current garage could be used for cold storage and that he thought it was a prospect worth exploring.

Items discussed on the budget were the Building Maintenance (repairs to the propane heating system) and the electricity which seemed high. John also asked about the storm damage line item and Sally explained that was the cost attributed to the Plantation Road flooding in February.

Dawn Steele added to the discussion of Plantation Rd. Forest Hills Association has hired Gardner Kellogg to do a survey of the area around Pennyroyal Lane to figure out the property lines and to see if the town could access the Huggett's driveway through the Forest Hills green space. Regardless, if an emergency access were to be created it would still have to go over both the Walker property and Dr. MacArthur's with the property owners (Walker, MacArthur & Huggett) and the association in agreement.

Bernie asked what Scott planned to do with the sidewalks this year and he said he planned on doing about another 800 feet. Possibly continuing at the far end of town in front of the Children's Center.

The Board questioned when the Town Hall flooring was going to be done and it was agreed to wait until the fall and block out a section of time on the calendar when the main hall will not be available.

Scott informed the Board that the paint sprayer he budgeted for to repaint the STOP AHEAD signs on the roadway of Route 116 on the bridge was the wrong model and the correct one will cost about \$800 more but the board agreed that it was needed for the safety of the intersection.

Scott also told the Board that he was looking at 2008 10-Wheeler with 70,000 miles that was being traded in at Liberty International but he was waiting for their report on the truck before he made his decision.

<b>TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:</b>
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**Blasting Regulations** – Eric researched the North Hampton regulations that were adopted in 2012 and explained that if they were a regulation and not an ordinance the Planning Board could adopt them at a regularly advertised meeting. The Board agreed to have the Planning Board look into adopting the regulation.

**Trustee of the Trust Funds**– The Board is still waiting to hear from Mogens Jessen as to whether or not he would agree to be appointed as a Trustee.

**Committees-** Sally told the Board that she had heard from Jennifer Gaudette that Elizabeth “Bit” Andross would be willing to serve on the staffing committee if it could fit into her work schedule. She was familiar with the Administrative Assistant’s job having worked with Jennifer in Sugar Hill. Russ Cumbee had agreed to be on the staffing committee and both Lydia Cumbee and Tinalyn Knox had agreed to serve on the Salary, Wages & Benefits Committee.

Bernie reminded the Board and those in attendance that the committees were subject to the RSA 91-A and that all committee meetings are open to the public, minutes need to be kept and made available in a timely manner, and all emails are also subject to the Right to Know Law.

The Board agreed that the end date for the committee’s final reports should be July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**4:45 – Closed Session – Legal Action** – As per RSA 91-3:II(e) the Board voted to go into closed session. At 4:55 pm the Board voted to come out of closed session and seal the minutes.

<b>ITEMS TO REVISIT:</b>
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**Public Safety Building** – Bernie relayed her conversation with Allan Clark regarding the Public Safety Building punch list, Energy Commission’s desire to do an energy audit of the building and the waterline and water pressure issue. The punch list is complete and Allan was already working on a report of completion for the building. The Chief’s were working with a plumber to fix the problem of the water pressure since they had a better understanding of the situation.

<b>FOR YOUR INFORMATION:</b>
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**There may be a possibility of a closed session meeting.**

**The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:00pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sally L. Small  
Administrative Assistant