

**Town of Franconia
Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 8th at 6:00PM
at Franconia Town Hall**

Board Members Present: Jill Brewer, Eric Meth, Dan Walker

Others Present: Libby Staples, Jenny Monahan, Larry Plate, Dawn Steele, Virginia Mike, Jan Cole, Steve Schwartz, Mary & Peter Grote

The meeting was called to order at 6:05PM.

Appointments/Work Sessions

Peter Camann – Go Skateboarding Day Jamboree & Race Clinic: Peter proposed holding a skateboard clinic at town hall utilizing the rink, welcome center parking lot and town hall parking lot on a Saturday from 8am to noon. He said the mission he shares with colleagues across the US and in Europe is to get skateboarding off the streets and into dedicated spaces and for skateboard racing to be recognized as a sport in the US. He has reached out to the United States Ski & Snowboard teams promoting skateboard racing as a platform sport and is awaiting response and has researched costs associated with building an asphalt track for skateboard racing. Peter was able to work with ski areas in Colorado historically to get spaces and programs going there as well as authoring a book on skateboard racing.

The board had questions about liability to the town and how that may be addressed. Chairman Brewer suggested Peter reach out to Tyler Ray of Granite Outdoor Alliance to see if he could be a part of The Graniteer event that will be held on the Dow September 30th.

Public Comment

Dawn Steele said it would be helpful if when the town clerk/tax collector office is closed to post it at the post office in addition to the website and the door at town hall. Dawn also asked about the status of the short-term rental spreadsheet. Dawn submitted her resignation from the Zoning Board of Adjustment to the selectmen.

Steve Schwartz commented that Concord Coachlines has not resumed their pre-pandemic service schedule which made two stops in Franconia and still only makes one stop per day. He suggested a letter from the board is sent to advocate for increased service.

Sign/Approve

The minutes of July 24th, 2023 were approved as amended.

The board reviewed and signed the August 4th - 10th, 2023 transaction report.

Discuss/Review

The selectmen approved Buildings & Grounds Supervisor Corey Rush's request to post signs at the spigots on the welcome center that advise that the water is not for public use.

Correspondence – Chairman Brewer read a letter from some visitors to the area praising Sgt. Jarvis for his “above and beyond” assistance when they experienced an issue with their rented vehicle.

Additional Business – The selectmen signed a \$0 bill of sale granting the town's ambulance to Littleton Fire & Rescue as they will be utilizing it for service in Franconia and it is necessary for Medicare billing that they own the ambulance.

Committee Reports

Broadband Initiative – Selectman Meth said the BI committee met in July and next meets on August 17th via Zoom. He said a major concern for the committee is keeping Consolidated Communications on schedule and an

engineering report is due from them on October 19th. A public meeting will be held by Sugar Hill on September 20th with Consolidated Communications. Franconia will hold a public meeting with Consolidated as well possibly in March after town meeting.

Conservation Commission – Chairman Brewer said the CC met with Elise Lawson of Wildlife to Watershed for the preparation of a wildlife inventory report that is usually done cyclically as part of the town’s Master Plan redraft.

Chamber of Commerce – Selectman Walker said there was no quorum at their last meeting.

Capital Improvements Plan – Selectman Walker said CIP has started meeting and most recently met with Corey Rush of Buildings & Grounds.

Energy Commission – Selectman Meth said there was no meeting in July and he thinks the next meeting will be held August 22nd. They recently had a presentation from a new resident that works for Trebel LLC that assists communities with pursuing Community Choice Aggregation.

Planning Board – Selectman Meth said that at the July meeting the PB had a presentation from North Country Council for the redraft of the Master Plan. There are two more meetings scheduled with North Country Council, the next of which will be a listening session on housing on September 23rd and a meeting in October after the PB does some training tutorials by NCC. Selectman Meth said the PB has been discussing the town’s Accessory Dwelling Unit zoning as it relates to the housing shortage and elderly housing.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Monahan
Executive Assistant