

**FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 12, 2016**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:05 pm on Monday, December 12, 2016 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, Eric Meth, John Lachapelle, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board: Scott Leslie, John Monaghan, Rick Gaudette, Mike Campo, Sheryl Pratt.

Other Guests: Russ & Lydia Cumbee, Karen Foss, Dawn Steele, Mary Grote, Peter Grote

BOS Minutes for 12/5/2016: A formal reading of the December 5, 2016 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

BOS Minutes for 12/7/2016: A formal reading of the December 7, 2016 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

BOS Minutes 12/5/16 & 12/7/16 - approved by the Board as amended.

Transaction List 12/8/2016 - approved and signed by the Board.

Avitar 5 Year Contract - Sally will make copies for the Board Members to review. Sally will ask the DRA what part they take in evaluating the utilities.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 - Scott Leslie - Highway Budget - Discussed the Highway Budget. The budget is under spent largely due to the mild winter. It has been a good year for the highway department.

The problem of people accessing the Transfer Station from the Highway garage parking area has been solved by adding more boulders.

Scott mentioned the issue he is having with a parking situation at Mittersill at the end of Sunset Ridge Road just past the last house. Sally suggested he contact Franconia Notch Vacations to see if the house is being rented because the owner lives in New Orleans and try and touch bases with the occupants.

3:30 - John Monaghan - Police Budget - Discussed the Police Budget. The Department is currently over budget due to the back pay and retirement that was paid out.

John was made aware of the parking situation on Sunset Ridge Road.

He would like to look into the cost of hiring the prosecutor in Littleton to handle court hearings. We had used the prosecutor in the past. John originally felt he could prosecute the cases but that proved to be too time consuming with hours spent waiting in the court for the cases to be called.

In light of the ice storm last week John will look into chains for the cruisers.

Bernie made a motion to go into non public session, John seconded with all voting in favor.

4:00 - Mike Campo & Sheryl Pratt - Plodzik & Sanderson - They told us about their auditing firm and their experience and what they have to offer to our town.

4:30 - Rick Gaudette - Bernie got the tour and got to see the vehicles. Rick spoke to Primex. He is waiting to see what Primex will do either fix or replace the Rescue Truck. He will keep the Board apprised.

The Select Board entered into non public session according to NH RSA 91- A3, II (e) & (c) at 3:40 pm. The Select Board returned to public session at 3:45 pm.

The Select Board entered into non public session according to NH RSA 91- A3, II (e) & (c) at 5:10 pm. The Select Board returned to public session at 5:40 pm.

FOR DISCUSSION:

2017 - Non-Profit Appropriation Requests - Request for donations that was drafted up by Lydia. Sally will do a memo to all non-profits except Tri-County CAP and everyone will have to do a petition with signatures of residents of the town. We are reaffirming that they will all be petitioned except Tri-County Cap and they will have to fill out the form.

Septic Design - Ugo M19/L10-1 Notchway Place - approved by the board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conservation Commission (FCC) - Work on the warrant article of the Lawrence property in regards to the property easement.

CIP Committee (CIP) - No report.

Energy Commission (FEC) - Meeting tomorrow. The commission will be getting input from Eversource for Street Light project. They will be discussing traffic flagging and traffic disposal and drafting the warrant. There will be a presentation from the organization 100% Committed in regards to ski towns and ski mountains. They are trying to get everyone 100% renewable. Bernie asked Eric and the Energy Commission

to see if there are any energy efficient window grants that could be applied to the town hall.

Bernie made a motion to go with the Bid from Whitney's for the work to be done on the town hall, John seconded and all voted in favor.

Northern Pass - No report.

Planning Board - Kaela Gray will be coming to present the updated results for MTAG on December 13th.

Wages & Benefits - If there are questions on the job descriptions already submitted the Board should let the committee know. Dawn asked that the committee be added to the agenda next week. Bernie asked for electronic copies of the job descriptions and the price ranges. Lydia will supply the electronic copies once they are complete so they will be in place when the new Town Administrator gets here. Kim Cowles asked if she had received all of the committee's minutes so they can be posted on the website. There is a gap from August to November. Dawn and Lydia said they had not scheduled any meetings since the end of August with the exception of 11/8/16. One meeting was closed. Dawn will look again to make sure there weren't any other minutes.

Our new town administrator is Holly Burbank. Training starts on the 12/16/16 for that week. She will officially start on Jan 17th if not earlier.

Audit Committee - Peter Grote - The committee would recommend that the Board make a decision soon in regards to the auditor. Sally will be around if we need her. Whichever firm gets picked it would be good to have them come next week when Holly is here. The Committee would like the Board to choose Plodzick & Sanderson.

Infrastructure Committee - Bernie suggested that we really don't need another Committee. The Select Board could deal with looking into the Presby building next to the Highway garage. Bernie has a friend who is a systems engineer who has done work for Alpine Clinic, Polly's and Bretton Woods. We should complete an inventory of vehicles and equipment and look at systems. We should have Bernie's friend sit down with Scott Leslie to see what we need. Bernie was interested in how much money we have put into the highway garage. Sally said we had spent \$11,400 this year on the new insulated garage doors. Work was done to the mezzanine last year and the new salt shed a few years ago. The selectmen should go look at the building and John suggested we have Jeff Woodward be part of the process.

Bernie made a motion to go into closed session at 5:10 pm, John seconded it with all voting in favor.

Items to Revisit - See List

PUBLIC INPUT

Mary Grote - Repairs to the Rescue Truck - How much insurance do we pay to Primex? They will cover a full replacement. Insurance paid for the fire department

\$4,875 for all vehicles. How would it impact our budget? They cover the cost of replacement. We are waiting to hear from the adjuster.

Russ Cumbee - Questioned why we were going to closed session. Bernie explained that we had closed minutes to review, legal, and personnel issues to discuss.

5:10 Bernie made a motion to go into non public session, Eric seconded and all voted in favor.

The Board adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbie Bartlett
Executive Secretary