

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, December 23, 2013

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, December 23, 2013 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Ted Hoyle, John Lachapelle, Bob Montagno, Sally Small and Suzy MacDonald

Guests of the Board – John Monaghan, Paul Schmucker and Rick Gaudette

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

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 12/16/2013: Formal readings of the December 16, 2013 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of December 16, 2013 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 12/26/13 - The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 12/26/13.

Approve documentation from Laura Spector Morgan – A motion was made to vote to agree to waive the privilege of documents that are in Stantec's possession. A vote was taken and all were in favor.

Letter to Planning Board – re: Pavement Types – A letter to the Planning Board regarding pavement types was signed by the Select Board.

Letter to Planning Board – re: Draft on Cluster Developments-A letter to the Planning Board regarding a draft on cluster developments was signed by the Select Board.

DRA – MS 60A – The DRA form MS60-A was signed by the Select Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 –John Monaghan – PD 2014 Budget – Chief John Monaghan reviewed the 2014 budget for the Police Department. The entire budget is up about \$20,000 from the 2013 budget. John explained his need to increase wages of part time officers and the need to add two additional part time officers. The increase in uniform expense is to replace some bullet proof vests for the officers and the chief. Training budget is increased to train new part time officers.

25.3 % is the mandated State of NH retirement. This will not change in 2014.

3:30 – Paul Schmucker – LS 4th Q Budget Review – Chief Paul Schmucker reviewed with the Select Board the Life Squad 4th Q Budget. Billing and Collection is up because Transport Payments are also up. Payroll has increased due to more runs.

The Life Squad will be purchasing more supplies next year due to the Affordable Health Care Act.

Paul would like to put on a crew to cover the Mountain and to cover the Town for about the 12 weeks the Mountain is open in the New Year. Paul says there are 80-100 transports from the Mountain. Sixty percent of those go the Linwood and forty percent are ours. Cannon has not requested this service. Paul wants to do this to generate income. He is looking to pay a volunteer \$10 to be on call per day for a 12 hour shift. If the person on call gets called out then they get paid an hourly rate. Paul is hoping to use the same 5-6 people that are already working on call for the ambulance. He would like to be able to cover eighty percent of the forty percent of the calls off the Mountain. Paul is doing this just to capture money.

Franconia has always covered the Mountain. Paul is looking for two people to work on a paid basis as an incentive. He does not know if this will hurt the Town in any way. John Lachapelle is worried about people being able to make that commitment. Calex has no contract or agreement with the Mountain. Paul sees this as an incentive to get more revenue to the Town.

Mark Taylor, Assistant Life Squad Chief has been discussing "ride shares" with Bethlehem and Lisbon as daytime coverage is hard to fill. There will be more on this later.

A lot of revenue has come from transports at the nursing home.

The Select Board would like to know how much the staffing increase will affect the budget for 2014. They would also like to know the income changes for 2014. John Lachapelle would like to see any changes to the program come before the Select Board, such as putting on a paid day crew. Paul will have numbers for the next meeting. Sally will figure the 2014 budget amounts and will be in touch with Paul.

3:45 – Rick Gaudette – FD 4th Q Budget Review – The Select Board and Chief Rick Gaudette reviewed the 4th Q Budget for the Fire Department. Wages have increases as the number of runs has increases also. There was discussion on how the guys were paid for calls, minimums for a call out, and for meetings. The Select Board would like for Rick to take a guess on wages for 2014 that would include a two hour minimum for a call.

There were more calls in 2014, many of which were to cover for mutual aid. Twin State is discussing how calls are being fielded.

Rick would like to purchase some airbags and the current ones are at least 10 years outdated. The cost is approximately \$4699 which he has left in his 2013 budget. There was some discussion weather this item should be placed in the CIP for the future.

Rick would like to compare the 2012 and the 2013 fuel costs. Sally will get him the information.

Turnout gear is usually for new members.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Department Head Staff Meetings will be held once a month on a regular basis. They will start in January of 2014 and will be the first Monday of every month at 3pm.

Dow Clock Restoration Quote – A quote from Steven Carter was reviewed for the Dow Clock Restoration. This quote will be used to help in seeking grants. This item has not been put out to bid yet. The Historic Registry must be kept in mind.

Recreation Van – There is still \$2400 in vehicle expenses line of the budget. The Recreation Department is purchasing a van with funds that have been raised through donation. Kim Cowles and Sally Small are wondering if the \$2400 can go towards the purchase of the van. Sugar Hill and Easton will have to agree to use these funds. The Recreation Committee decides how the money is used from the Dow Fund. The Select Boards decision would be how to use the money in the line item budget. The money in the Dow Fund is all from donations. If Kim speaks with Sugar Hill and Easton about using the \$2400 then it can be taken from the line item. If not than all the funds for the van would come from donations only.

Sally will work on Budgets for early 2014. The Select Board will hold the regular Monday meeting and may also hold a Thursday work session during January. Sally will also try to have a figure of surplus funds going into the general fund for year end.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Selectman Hoyle adjourned the meeting at 4:38pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary