

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Monday, February 22, 2016**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:01 pm on Monday, February 22, 2016 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bob Montagno, Bernie Costa, Eric Meth, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett

Guests of the Board: Dave Woodward, Josephine, Belville, Brenda Pabon

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

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 2/11/2016: Formal readings of the February 8 & February 11, 2016 BOS meeting minutes & February 8 Budget Hearing were waived.

February 8, 2016 - Meeting

Bernie makes a motion to accept the minutes as written, Bob seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

February 8, 2016 - Hearing

Bernie makes a motion to accept the minutes as written, Eric seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

February 11, 2016 – Meeting

Bernie makes a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Bob seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction Lists – 2/25/16 – Approved and Signed by the Board

Driveway Permit – Mellaci (M29/L23) – Evergreen Lane

Septic Design – Mellaci (M29/L23) – Evergreen Lane

Intent to Cut - Presby (Map 13/22 – Lafayette Drive & Map 22/Lot 11 Rte 116)

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 – Josephine Belville , Brenda Pabon & Dave Woodward – 2016 Town Revaluation

2016 Tax Year – Re-evaluation. The Re-Evaluation Process & responsibilities was discussed. Once every 5 years a re-evaluation is done. 2011 was our last evaluation. Everything will be brought up to fair market value.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Action Items – The public is requesting the total cost for each employee. Make it available to anyone who requests it.

Medicare - We have to refine the company policy in regards to employees who are 65 and older who are eligible for medicare. The policy will be given to Laura Spector for review. It is unfair to the employees to make this change this far into the year. We will make this policy change effective as of January 1, 2017.

Dawn Steele recommended that we call the state and see what the procedure is to enroll for medicare. You have to enroll 3 months prior to turning 65. Sally will speak to our insurance company and have them come and speak to the employees that this involves. A notice will be given to the employees.

The Financial Advisory Committee – One potential member does not want to have an employee on it. Kim Cowles is presently on this committee. What will the roll of this committee be? Let's see what other towns are doing. Let's not re-invent the wheel.

RSA title III chapter 32:24 - Bernie requested a copy of this RSA.

Chamber of Commerce – advocated against Northern Pass in 2013 and make sure they reinstate the policy. Bob will call Barbara Ashley. Reduce their budget to \$5,000.00 and wait to see the results of the new organization.

List of Budget cuts – Justification for Sally & Kim's increase. MRI Report that was just done by the town. The administrator should be paid between \$19-25/hour. Sally's experience and years of service she will be getting \$24.04. The raises to employees were merit raises based on performance.

Kim Cowles - In the 2012 survey the Wage & Salary from New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) the salary range was \$38-\$45K for Kim's job.

Bernie reported that food has gone up. The COLA is based on the whole country and is skewed towards metropolitan areas. There has been a 2.0% food increase and shelter went up 3.5% according to the US Bureau of Labor statistics real estate in New Hampshire is ranked 36 in affordability with 1 being the best per a New Hampshire Real Estate Organization.

Amend the bottom line by \$5000.00.

Bernie makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 pm, Eric seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

There may be a possibility of a closed session meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Herbie Bartlett, Executive Secretary