

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Wednesday, January 16, 2013 (Worksession)

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were John Lachapelle, Ted Hoyle, Rollie Barnaby, Sally Small and Suzy MacDonald.

Guests of the Board- Scott Leslie, Jeff Phillips, Marilyn Knowlton, & Kris Pastoriza

Also:

John Lachapelle called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

APPOINTMENTS:

1:00 – Scott Leslie/Jeff Phillips – Discussed the budget for Town Buildings. The steps need to be put back out to bid. Uniforms are a new line item and the Select Board will look further into this. The Buildings & Grounds truck will need to have tires in 2013. The health insurance increase is about 3%.

The Cemetery is down a little and that can be attributed to a change in workers compensation. Cemetery wages were discussed. Income comes from burials or donations. Money for the sale of Cemetery lots is given to the Trustees and they put it into an account.

There is not a current plan for maintenance of the gate at the cemetery. The last time it was worked on the inmates from the Grafton County jail did it.

Jeff went around the Town owned Building with Dave Witham from PRIMEX looking for possible safety violations. Jeff has a copy of the things brought to his attention and has given a copy to each department head. A copy has also been given to the Safety Committee and the Select Board.

The Highway Department 2013 budget was reviewed and discussed. The total budget is up about 14%. This budget being presented is much more realistic then in the past. Uniforms are included in this budget and the Select Board will review that line item. Grader maintenance will need to be done in 2013. The funds for this can come from the CIP rather than from a line item in the budget. Money for gravel has been bumped as well as a line item added for chloride. The chloride will be split with Sugar Hill with each paying for half of the load. A roadside mower has been priced that can fit our current tractor. The Select Board feels this item is justified as roadside mowing is done once a year. The cost will be placed in a line item. The roadside mower will pay for itself in 2 years based on what we are paying for roadside mowing now by a private contractor.

This year a new 6 wheeler will be bought to replace a 1995 10 wheeler. Sally will need to have a firm price on the truck as well as trade in value so she can write up the warrant article.

1:30 – Marilyn Knowlton – Town Clerk/Tax Collector – The Select Board has done a lot of research and they are unable to offer Marilyn health benefits as an elected official. Town policy does state that health benefits can be offered on a pro rated basis to a part time employee. As Planning Board Secretary she only works 2 hours a week so she would have to work an additional 18 hours in order for this to work. Elected Official hours do not count.

2:00 – Kris Pastoriza – Kris has presented the Select Board with lots of historic research done on the small white building that houses tires at the Transfer Station. This building was owned by a Sam Ely at one point. She would like to have the building put on the NH List of Historic Buildings and needs to have the “owners” signature. The Select Board is interested in finding out more about the limitations that would be presented if they signed this request. The Select Board will have a conversation with Mary Kate Ryan to discuss this request further. A decision to sign or not to sign is requested to be made by January 28, 2013.

2:30 - Mark Taylor - EMD – Mark Taylor has been asked to be the EMD. He has agreed to this position. The program needs to be rewritten and Mark will begin working on this. Martin Cashin will be the deputy.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

The list of safety concerns from Primex that has been passed around by Jeff needs to be addressed. Each department has a copy. The Safety Committee will be the driving force behind prioritizing. The committee should recommend that an estimate or two be obtained on the electrical items list at the Town Building, Library, and Highway Garage.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

March 12, 2013 is Town Meeting Day

February 11, 2013 will be the Public Budget Meeting

The filing period to run for public office is from January 23, 2013 until February 1, 2013

Selectman Lachapelle adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary