

**FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 23, 2017**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, January 23, 2017 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, John Lachapelle, Holly Burbank and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board: Kim Cowles, Greg Wells, John Monaghan, John Neylon

Other Guests: Mary & Peter Grote, Karen Foss, Zach & Joyka Chicoine.

BOS Minutes for 1/17/2017: A formal reading of the January 17, 2017 & January 19, 2017 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

BOS Minutes 1/17/2017 & 1/19/2017- approved by the Board.

Transaction List - 1/26/2017 - approved and signed by the Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:45 - John Monaghan - Award - John Neylon “Apache John” who is the regional Chair for the Navy reserve. They get involved with employers who have hired reservists and give out the Reserve Patriot Award. An award and certificate for Chief John Monaghan from the American National Guard for hiring and supporting Officer Zach Chicoine who is a reservist.

4:00 - Kim Cowles - Budgets - Budgets were discussed. Kim combined the separate budgets of Recreation and Buildings & Grounds. The town buildings are over on the water bill and for the cost of the circulators that were replaced on the furnace. There is a sag in the sewer pipe under the town building which is not an easy fix so it gets clogged. Connie is cleaning the outside bathroom which she hadn't been billing for and now she is.

Kim would like to purchase a spreader for the back of the John Deere. There is no efficient way to spread salt or sand. It will cost \$3900 for a new spreader. Littleton just bought one and it works very well. We may want to install a salt tent at the maintenance shed. If we could find an old salt hopper we could use for filling up the spreader.

The Library has a carbon monoxide issue. More ventilation has been installed. Maybe the combined budget should be all town buildings. There are three town buildings that have Boards. The town does the outside repairs and the Boards take care of the insides of the buildings. The buildings included are the town hall, maintenance garage, Mittersill property (old Fire Station), library, museum and the Frost Place.

Parks - Field maintenance wasn't done this year because she was covering for Jeff. The fields have to be loamed and reseeded. She does a third of the field each year.

Parks - Kim has many volunteers for gardens.

We need to advertise the RFP for the Frost Place. It will cost \$15-\$20K for the project. There is money in the Capital Reserve fund. The roof is high priority. They are looking for a donor for the roof repair.

Eric makes motion to expend funds from the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund to address the Frost place roof, John seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

Combining the budgets - The Board is okay with having Kim combine the budgets. Next year Holly will determine what she wants for next year.

Bernie made a motion to go into closed session for 4:25pm with Eric seconding the motion and all voting in favor.

4:15 - Greg Wells - Budget was discussed - It is not complete the wages and workers comp and insurance not in there. He is going to need a new hydraulic pump for \$2200 installed.

Northern Pass - Eric Meth will be in Concord at 930am to meet with Christine Fillmore prior to being questioned in regards to response to Eversource for the Data Sources. He will be commenting on a variety issues like the impact on scenic issues here in town and the impact of our utilities. He said it would be like a deposition.

Peter Grote disagrees on what Christine Filmore has for an agenda and the questions. She has 5 points. Her agenda is general to the region and not to Franconia. Peter has an issue with it. We do not have the funds for the region. We do not support with the communities with towers. If we have to have them we want it out of sight. He is not sure how these five points were arrived at by her. Our points are specific to Franconia. Bernie makes a suggestion to answer what you want to answer not necessarily what they are asking.

We need to put on the agenda to resolve the Sansoucy bill.

FOR DISCUSSION:

Lawrence Property does not have to do a warrant article for the easement. Pass the information on to the FCC.

Sally Small vacation & sick payout for sick and vacation time that had accrued - John is requesting adequate documentation for the payout. Pick a couple of years about 10 years ago like 2003 thru 2007.

Energy Commission warrant article - Eric said he has a draft of a warrant article for the particulars of the street light project. He hopes to finalize it by the next meeting. Karen Foss asked if the board is going to accept a warrant or have to petition the article.

Bernie makes a motion to accept warrant for the street light project to be without a petition, John seconded the motion will all members voting in favor.

Bernie suggested that she and Holly do a ride along with Scott Leslie to view the roads before the final budgets are completed. The Board thought that it was a great idea.

Lafayette Brook Bridge - John recommends that we keep this on the radar for because the bridge will have to be shut down for 2 plus months for construction.

The Select Board entered into non public session according to NH RSA 91- A3, II (e) & (c) at 4:15 pm. The Select Board returned to public session at 4:20pm.

The Select Board entered into non public session according to NH RSA 91- A3, II (e) & (c) at 4:25 pm. The Select Board returned to public session at 4:35pm.

ITEMS TO REVISIT

Items were tabled -
Cisterns and Fire Ponds 03/28/16 -
Tri-Town Recreation Agreement -
FD Generator in Trailer -
Updating Pole License Agreement
F150 vs F550 (Highway)
Purchasing & Bidding Policies

PUBLIC INPUT

No public input

The Board adjourned at 4:45 pm and will reconvene in Sugar Hill at 5pm.

5:00 - Meet @ Sugar Hill for Tri-Town Agreement

Members present: Sugar Hill - Dick Bielifield, Margo Connors, John Strasser, Jenn Gaudette, Easton - Deb Stever, Ed Cutler, Zack Mei, Franconia - Bernie Costa, Eric Meth, John Lachapelle, Herbie Bartlett.

Others Present: Peter & Mary Grote, Claudia Lachappelle, John Hynes, Frank Pinter, Russ & Lydia Cumbee.

THIS MEETING WAS AUDIO RECORDED BY FRANCONIA.

Parks & Recreation Budget - Kim Cowles - Budget was reviewed and discussed. Not a lot has changed from the 3Q. The Lafayette Recreational Committee has recommended a 2% increase for Recreation wages.

Holly Burbank recommends that Kim get a new laptop and not use her own for town business because of RSA 91A. If for any reason there was an issue her personal computer could be confiscated and everything on her own computer would become public record.

The skating rink has been used a lot this year which is very good.

Background checks are done for anyone who has any potential chance of being alone with a child. It does not have to be done every year only if there was a gap in years.

Summer program gets charged out at @ \$299/person and then an additional charge per trip.

Kim took the summer program to the Bethlehem Pool. They charge \$25/person for membership to the pool for the year.

Kim hires a transportation bus company for Friday trips. They put this out for bid each year.

They have typically 8 summer counselors for the summer program.

The split between the towns is 9% for Easton, 27% for Sugar Hill and 64% for Franconia. It is based on the school population from each town as of December 31st of each year.

Transfer Station - Greg Wells - Budget was reviewed and discussed. His budget was \$6K from last year. He will need a new hydraulic pump. The Bobcat is aging but still performing. He may need new roll up doors. The doors are okay but may need paint, new hardware and tracks. The doors are 15 years old. He may need another storage container as well. Next year they may want to start doing some repairs for deferred maintenance to the building.

Jenn Gaudette is looking for the final year end transfer station bill as soon as she can get it. Easton has already gotten hers.

There was discussion in regards to the heating of the outside area. Eric and the Energy Commission will have to look at the building. This building has a poor design. There is too much open space. The boards may want to look into a new design. Something that is more efficient. Greg discussed zero sort. With the prices right now for recycling it is costing the town money to get rid of items.

Margot will check with NCC. Eric said he would speak to Kaela Gray and see who she would recommend to speak with. We are working with her from NCC for MTAG.

Regular session ended at 5:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbie Bartlett

Executive Secretary