

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, January 28, 2013

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, January 28, 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- Rick Guadette & Thad Presby

Also:

John Lachapelle called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 1/22/2013: Formal readings of the January 22, 2013 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of January 22, 2013 were approved as written.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 1/31/13 - The Board reviewed and signed the checks and transaction list for 1/31/13.

Crane & Bell Engagement Letter was discussed and was signed.

MS – 60 Auditor Options was discussed and signed.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 –Rick Gaudette - Rick discussed the building and the new heating system. The building is not heating as it should be. The trucks were still frozen several hours after a big fire. Rick is looking to purchase a couple kerosene heaters. There is currently no option to bring up the temperatures in the building quickly. It has been noticed that there was no insulation in the furnace room and it causes the washer to freeze up and break. Elmer Arborgast is looking to pick up the cost of these items from damage done due to a freeze up.

It appears the Safety Services building is going thru about 330 gallons of propane in about 10 days. The Select Board would like to look into the purchase of another 500 gallon propane tank or switching out for a 1000 gallon tank.

A \$1000 will be added to the budget for 2013 so that two torpedo heaters can be purchased.

Rick will get some more information on someone who can filter the fuel oil out back so it can be used in a regular furnace.

Rick and the Select Board agree that we now need to start talking with other towns regarding the future of the ambulance service and possible regionalization with all of the changes being made in Littleton.

3:30 – Thad Presby – Is getting ready to install a new well at the Safe Place Storage location. This is going to affect the Highway Department as they get their water from this well, although the water is not drinkable. The new well being installed by Presby will not be supplying the Highway. In the spring, the Highway will need to look for water. Salt from the Highway may be a problem in the Presby area. They will need to look for a “clean” area.

A wet lands permit was discussed for the “Bus Garage” location owned by Presby. Their intent is to do some work on the area and build an office building pending all permits required. They will be merging the two lots in that area and doing a septic permit.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

2013 Budgets were discussed. The uniform lines for the Building & Grounds and the Highway have been cut from \$2800 to a total of \$1400. This will be split amongst the departments. (\$350.00/\$1050) None of this money is to be spent until they can provide documentation and explore more options.

Abbie Greenleaf Library Appropriations were discussed.

Memo from Jamie Dow (DRA) – Jamie Dow, NH DRA, has provided some guidance on the subject of donations – such as a donation to another town for a fallen officer. If we have a misc. line item that could have come out of that. After some further discussion the Select Board would like to stick with the advice of our Attorney. That advice is to create a warrant article and ask for permission from the town’s people to make a donation.

Sally is starting to write the Warrant and hope to have a draft copy on Monday. Sally is still working on the wording for optional powers for the Conservation Commission to spend money for out of town land purchase.

A warrant article is needed for the locally elected/appointed auditor.

Marilyn Knowlton, as Town Clerk/Tax Collector may be open more hours to the public after the election.

A report has been received from the DOT regarding the status of the Hillwinds Bridge. Work does need to be done but it’s nothing critical.

John has been looking and can’t find anything written in the handbook where the percentages are defined for employee/employer paid amounts of health insurance. It only states that the employee will pay 50% of the increase.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

TTW, LLC Wetlands Application

March 12, 2013 is Town Meeting Day

February 11, 2013 will be the Public Budget Meeting

Selectman Lachapelle adjourned the meeting at 3:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary