

TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2023 AT 6:00PM AT TOWN HALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Walker, Jill Brewer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Eric Meth

OTHERS PRESENT: Sharon Penney, Tim Brown, Virginia Mike, Dawn Steele

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm

APPOINTMENTS/WORK SESSIONS

Tim Brown – Franconia Area Heritage Council – 250th Celebration Events Overview: Tim said the FAHC will be hosting events over the three-day celebration with the theme of Franconia's past, present and future and provided a detailed overview of the events that will be held each day.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

TO SIGN/APPROVE

The January 30th, 2023, transaction report was reviewed and signed by the selectmen.

The minutes of January 9th and January 17th, 2023 were approved as written by the selectmen on a motion from Chairman Brewer and a second from Selectman Walker.

The Selectmen signed an updated transaction list for the week of January 14th – 20th with an additional payroll for that week.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW

Agent to Expend Status - Dow Field Maintenance Trust: Chairman Brewer said the Dow Field Maintenance Trust does not have agents to expend which was recently brought to the attention of the board by the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Jan Cole spoke briefly about the issue. A warrant article will need to be drafted to assign the selectmen as agents to expend the fund. Increase in Unanticipated Grant Funds to Police Department: Town Administrator Penney said the state has amended a grant the police department was awarded for approximately \$6,000 to add additional funds which puts the total award over \$11,000. She said she is still getting some details from the Dept. of Safety on the specifics of accepting the funds and will update the selectmen when she has that information.

CORRESPONDENCE: Town Administrator Penney said she received notification from the Dept. of Homeland Security FEMA about the storm that occurred over Christmas requesting an initial damage assessment. She said former Town Administrator Cowles had started the process and she found some information in Town Administrator Cowles notes but is unsure of the status of the process. She said she can check with department heads about damages and costs and see if some numbers can be put together for submission to the state.

Selectman Walker said a letter from Littleton Fire Chief Mike McQuillan was received stating that he was going to recommend to the town of Littleton that an extended ambulance contract should not be pursued with Franconia. Selectman Walker said several reasons were cited and some communication issues and misinformation were identified subsequently. He is hopeful the contract with Littleton can be salvaged but thinks the town should also be investigating other options. A meeting is planned tomorrow with Littleton's Deputy Chief Miller, Franconia Fire Chief Gaudette, Life Squad member Nate Hanson and Town Administrator Penney as well as a meeting with Lin-Wood Ambulance Chief Tauber to discuss Franconia's service needs. At this time Franconia's contract with Littleton for ambulance service will expire on March 31st. There followed a lengthy discussion with the public.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION: Chairman Brewer she will be out of town on Monday, February 27th in addition to Selectman Meth. The board decided to meet Tuesday the 28th instead.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to enter non-public session at 7:17pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (b). Selectman Walker seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

The board left non-public session at 7:30pm. With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm on a motion from Chairman Brewer and a second from Selectman Walker.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary