

DRAFT

**Town of Franconia
Board of Selectmen’s Regular Meeting
Monday, January 5, 2026
at 4:00PM at Town Hall**

Board Members Present: Jill Brewer, Eric Meth, Dan Walker
Others in Attendance: Jenny Monahan, Jan Cole, Larry Plate

The meeting was called to order at 4:00PM.

Appointments/Work Sessions

Budget Review

Welfare: Budget was significantly overspent in 2025. Discussion whether to increase welfare budget by \$2,000 or increase ETF by \$2,000. Board is opting to increase ETF as it is non-lapsing.

Legal: Proposed at \$6,000, same as last year.

Executive: 2026 Proposed at \$217,780, \$1,400 increase over last year. Includes 3% COLA increase to wages and merit increase for Jenny as she is now doing the tasks Municipal Resources Inc. has been doing.

Personnel Administration: 2026 Proposed at \$343,850, an increase of \$46,806 over 2025 budget. Includes increases to health insurance and proposes at 2% increase to Employee Retirement (increasing from 5% match to 7% match to be closer to NHRS match).

Planning/Zoning: Proposed at \$6,501, a \$500 decrease over last year.

Patriotic Purposes: Proposed at \$11,000, same as 2025. The board discussed whether to offset what is raised through taxation by decreasing the funding to the Chamber of Commerce, in part due to the chamber no longer wanting to assist with the parade organization. Amounts to be finalized later.

To Sign/Approve

The minutes of December 15th, 2025 were approved as amended.

The January 2, 2026 to January 8, 2026 transaction list was approved.

Land Use Change Tax Funds Transfer Vote: Chair Brewer made a motion to transfer \$4,500 of Land Use Change Tax funds to the Conservation Fund. Selectman Meth seconds, motion passes unanimously.

Municipal Assessment Data Certificate: Reviewed by board and signed. Preliminary assessment-to-sales ratio analysis: 25 qualified sales; median ratio 60.7%; excludes foreclosures/bank/family sales; examples include assessed \$481,400 sold \$800,000.

To Discuss/Review

Reviewed that Tri-Town Meeting is scheduled for January 12th at 4:30PM at town hall and the 2026 Proposed Budget Hearing is scheduled for February 2, 2026 at Lafayette Elementary School at 6:00PM.

Warrant Article Review: The board discussed that they would like an update from The Frost Place to see where their fundraising is at so warrant article funding can be considered. Last report was they had raised \$40,000 of the \$130,000 match needed. For now, the board is considering a warrant article for \$25,000 pending an update on the fundraising.

Correspondence: The board discussed a letter from Carroll Select Board Chair Bonnie Maroney asking the board to consider writing a letter to oppose HB314 which seeks to prohibit the use of state, federal and local funds to support lobbying, which would be detrimental to New Hampshire Municipal Association which is a valuable educational and legal resource for many municipalities. After the discussion, Chair Brewer volunteered to draft a letter and send it to Jenny for the boards review.

Committee Reports

Conservation Commission: Next meeting is Tuesday, February 3rd at 3PM at town hall.

Energy Commission: Next meeting is January 20th at 4:30PM at town hall.

Planning Board: Next meeting is Tuesday, January 13th at 6PM at town hall.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:27PM.

Respectfully,

Jenny Monahan
Executive Assistant