

**FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 9, 2017**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:02 pm on Monday, January 9, 2017 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, Eric Meth, John Lachapelle, and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board: Carol Wills, Dawn Steele, Lydia Cumbee, Jeff Woodward.

Other Guests: Russ Cumbee, Peter Grote, Mary Grote, Kim Cowles.

BOS Minutes for 1/3/2017: A formal reading of the January 3, 2017 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

BOS Minutes 1/3/2017- approved by the Board.

Transaction List - 1/12/2017

Notice of Intent to Cut - Emily R. Kelley Map 15 Lot 6/7/8/9/10/11

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 - Wages, Salary & Benefit Committee - Reimbursement of medicare premiums & supplements. The federal laws and affordable care act - employee reimbursed premiums when group plan is a secondary group plan. If we had 20 employees we could. We have over 20 employees so we cannot reimburse. Health Trust is our primary. Health Trust said no. We cannot reimburse under the law.

An employee could do Medicare and supplements if they were no longer an employee. They have to pay the regular coverage or not have anything.

We have to offer group coverage per ACA. The employee has to take the plan or retire and then Health Trust offers a supplemental coverage.

It is Bernie's understanding; that the employee could stay employed if they took medicare. It won't be primary it will be secondary after our insurance. You can have some part A Medicare at 65 but will only be secondary. Part A doesn't cost anything for participants. The town insurance will pre-empt it.

Job Description - The Committee still has to present the Highway Department descriptions.

A lot of work has been done by the Committee. They have done a good job. They have done Salary comparisons. They have used all data from NHMA and compare to our local communities and is making recommendations.

The Committee is submitting the Transfer Station Attendant Job description.

Jeff Woodward recommends that the Insurance and Benefits should meet with individual employees at least once a year to advise.

Lydia will give Holly Burbank a flash drive with all information in regards to the Committee. The committee can sit with Holly in regards to what they have come up with.

Lydia Cumbee questioned last year's raises. In the Dec 19th minutes Bernie stated that the raises not to exceed 2% department and not more than 3% per person. Department Heads were supposed to follow this direction. Some employees were given more. Lydia wants to know why.

Bernie appreciates what the committee has done. They have provided a lot of information to the Board. Dawn stated that she had confirmed numbers on the charts with Sally.

3:30 - Carol Wills - Budget was discussed. There is a one-time fee to set up tax payments on line. It will cost \$500 to set up. The public is requesting to be able to pay on line. The Board unanimously agrees to setting up the town so that taxes can be paid on line. She would like to have the town reimburse her for her health insurance costs which is \$5,951.00.

4:00 - Closed Session - Personnel

FOR DISCUSSION:

Vacation Time - Pay out or lose accrued time over allowed carry over.

Clarification of the Policy - make sure we are administering it the way it is written. 50% of accrued annual vacation time. Only half is carried over. Sally asked to paperwork sake...find out do we want to 1) pay out department heads with their vacation time 2) lose it 3) Or accrue.

We need a policy. We are missing a piece of it. We can do what we want. If you don't use it you will lose half. How do we handle the accrued time or is there a CAP? **Eric makes the motion to follow the policy as written in regards to accrued vacation time, with all voting yes.**

Frost Place Roof - Coming out of the town maintenance. What is the Frost Museum putting up from their money? RFP - Project submission Form wants funding

source...Henry Holt Publishing...they have a source there. Look for Grants from Lchip State of NH to help with costs. Independent sources for the porch and the restaining. The Barn restored by Henry Holt Publishing Company. We can send Kim a copy of this and do what is proposed.

Bernie makes a motion to send the RFP for the Frost Place out to bid, John seconded it and all voted in favor.

Non-Profits -The Board will review the Non-Profit Forms and discuss at a later date. There are three new ones - Tri-County Transit, Bridge House (Plymouth), Tri-County CAP (Tyler Blane Homeless).

Northern Pass - January 11, 2017 at 10am - Legislative Bill HB145 Act requiring a municipal to approve high tension power lines to come thru the town. It will be in Room 301 in Concord. They can still have input by a calling in to your State Representative.

The Board should send an email to Brad Bailey in regards to this.

Eric made a motion of our strong support HB 145, John seconded with all voting in favor. Eric will write a letter so Peter can take to Concord and will email to Brad Bailey.

SEC Hearing - petition filed by 18 towns the SEC declaring a ruling using town maintained road. Route 18 & 116 are State Roads.

January 24th - SEC technical session - there is a series of sessions asking representatives of independent and municipal groups to question them for pretrial testimony. Eric's name appears between 930 and 10am.

Chris Patrوريا from Easton - she has done yeomans work for general ins and outs of details of digging in regards to hydro boring and encroachment . There has been an issue with hydrocarbon odor after boring and disturbing the soils. Things we are not even considering when they disturb the soils. Mobile station that would be disturbed with the constructions and no one has even considered. There was a gas station at the intersection of route 116/112. The boring crew stopped because of hydro carbon odor. Walter Palmer our lead spokesman filed a motion to suspend.

Copy Machine - \$950 to repair...we will look into leasing and buying a new one. Ask Holly what she wants to do.

University of NH Community and Economic Update - Program - Bernie will read and report back.

Attorney Legal Group - Cable TV Consortium - sign it per Mr. Bilielfield and Jenn Gaudet said sign it...it is only \$56. The Board will sign it.

Payroll - 30 hour of OT for transfer station - ask Greg about it.

Sally's weekly time - We had agreed on 20 hour. Sally has 27 hours. That was not the agreement we had.

Swing Band Concert - John wants to know if they rented the hall. How much and where does the money go? They were charging to get in. How many people are allowed for capacity? John will send an email to Kim with the questions.

ITEMS TO REVISIT

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

Mary Grote - Non-profits - we don't know what we are going to do yet. We will discuss next week. We have to decide if we want to petition. We don't have the forms yet. The Board has to discuss all of it. We talked about long standing agencies that we may not ask them to petition. We are waiting to get the forms back. Petitions must be submitted by the end of January they are due by the beginning of February.

Russ Cumbee - Vacations - is there CAPS when they leave with a cash out. In 2010 there were changes in regards to CAP - we cannot find the form.

Eric made a motion to go into closed session for personal issues at 5:15 pm, John seconded it with all voting in favor.

The Board adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbie Bartlett
Executive Secretary