

MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Monday, July 27, 2015

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, July 27, 2015 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bob Montagno, Sally Small, Eric Meth and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board – Scott Leslie, Greg Wells, Harriet Taylor, John Monaghan.

Also attending – Peter & Mary Grote

SELECTMEN’S TIME:

BOS Minutes 07/20/15: Formal readings of the July 20, 2015 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of July 20, 2015 were not approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

BOS Transaction List for 7/27/15

Building Permit – C. Luke Lore LL (Map13/Lot 7) – CMV Repairs – Reviewed & Signed
Building Permit - Horan (Map 8/Lot 17) – Enclosed Porch & Deck – Reviewed & Signed
Building Permit – McLachlin (Map 14/Lot22) – Enclosed Porch – Reviewed & Signed.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 - John Monaghan – 2nd Q Police Budget – The board met with John to review his 2nd Quarter budget. John thinks he is tracking okay. Bob and John discussed the breakdown of the electric and propane charges for the new building and Bob felt that it should be done by square foot rather than the charges being divided by three. John also questioned his phone and internet which are currently with two different carriers at Allan’s suggestion for redundancy. The telephone and internet is costing a lot of money. John will research the contract in regards to that and will look into trying to bundle the internet and phone. The board also discussed the how to breakdown the cost of computer support. Most likely the best way would be by the number of computers in each department. Currently the Police have 7 computers.

Bob will email Fitz from the Energy Commission to see if they can help breakout the energy cost of the building.

3:30 – Greg Wells – 2nd Q Transfer Station Budget – The budget didn’t change a whole lot since we met with the three towns. Sally asked if Greg was going to purchase the scales that are in the budget. Greg is debating this. He probably will not get the scales. His bigger problem is to do something about a new storage container. Purchasing the container isn’t the problem; limited space on the site is the problem.

Greg mentioned that recycling nationwide is down 50%. Greg is down 24% over the past 5 years. His concern is the amount of income from recycling and feels that he will make \$20,000 this year but not the \$30,000 anticipated. In regards to the wages, Bob questioned why are employees taking so many sick days? Is there a problem? If you take three days sick time in a row you need a doctor's note. Bob questions the work ethic. Greg will remedy it. You should only use sick time when you are sick. Nate Hartford and Kevin Dauphine have to be certified this year.

4:00 – Scott Leslie – 2nd Q Highway Budget – Scott met with the board to discuss his 2nd Q budget. He has saved on the amount of salt used last winter by leaving town streets snow covered and only sanding not sanding and salting and. You cannot expect the same every year. If it is a warmer snow it is would require salting. Kerr road done and looks great with the new basecoat. There is one 30 mph sign but he will have to put another one at the top. Lafayette Drive was also completed and there 30 mph signs on the road. Scott just has to finish the shoulders up.

The board discussed the ramifications of Jim Cyrs motorcycle accident that was awful. He has sick and vacation pay he can use and his Aflac will be good up to six months. The board questioned Scott as to how we cover for him when he is not here? Scott felt the department should be okay until winter. We can use Jeff if necessary. We will revisit as he recovers. If Jim is out thru the winter will we hire someone temporary that is dependable? We have great guys that very rarely miss time. We need someone who will be responsible.

Sally sent Red McCarthy's report on Meadowcrest Drive to the Select board. Ken Mosedale also has a copy and is ready to start upgrading the road. Scott will let Ken Mosedale know that they will need a driveway permit from the state. Sally will get number for Scott and Email it to him.

Eric said the sidewalk on Academy is broken up. Scott talked to the Earle Collins about this. There is a sink hole on 116 that is caused by the beavers. Scott will talk to the DOT know about it.

Wells Road Tucker Brook Bridge – Scott tried to get a grant that was denied. They recommended trying to funnel the water like putting in bigger rocks. We have money for bridge repair. We would be better off to do it now so we don't have to be faced with a wash out.

You cannot get the expanded steel that is on the two bridges off of Route 116 (Lafayette & Bickford) anymore. Scott spoke to Beck & Belucchi. We may be able to get it off some old bridges. Scott is not sure what else to do. Maybe we should have someone look at them. Scott put some plates on the Bickford Hill Bridge and Lafayette Bridge and that has solved the problem for now. It is 4 x 4 thick steel welded right to the bridge.

Harriet Taylor – She came in bringing good news. George Foss came to her in regards to the Franconia College Trust Fund Money. When the college was here and George Foss's mother had the Real Estate Office there were rental deposits. All the monies were left behind when the college closed because of bankruptcy. The money went into an untouchable fund. We are trying to get the government to switch over to something doable. George wants a package put together. He needs two letters from him and one letter from the town. It could be transferred into an Estate Property which then can be accessed. The Town needs to write a letter will to State Property Office stating that the Town of Franconia is the beneficiary of the Franconia College Bankruptcy and now the legal owner of those monies. George will have another letter that states he has no claim on the monies and should be paid to the town of Franconia. This money could go into a Fund for maintenance of the Dow Clock.

The Lathrop hearing is on August 25th at 930. Harriet Taylor and Dinny Richmond will be going to the hearing in St. Johnsbury.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Main Street Intersection – Cross Walks & Stop Ahead – Scott is still trying to find the STOP AHEAD stencils to paint on the bridge roadway. Littleton doesn't use the stencils. Lisbon may have the stencils. The crosswalk painting will be done in the next week. Scott is getting shoulders done on Kerr so they don't wash out.

Common Interest Participation Agreement – Question – Bernie Waugh sent the board the completed document. Sally will ask Jennifer Gaudette if we need to do anything else to complete the agreement.

Lafayette Lions Club Thank You – Donation for parade money.

North Country Public Safety Foundation Application - Do we want to nominate any EMS, Police or Fire personnel for this? We should hold this for when Bernie gets back.

Cannon Mountain View – We had a great meeting at the property last Wednesday with Rick Guadette, Allan Clark, Phil the contractor, Cornelia Lorentzen, Bernie Costa, Herbie Bartlett, and Sally Small.

Grants – The grant money that we applied for the new Safety Services building have been granted by the Governor and the Executive Council. What Bob would like to do is get Jeff Woodward in to discuss smartest way to use the money to pay down the debt. We will do this as a Select board. Let's see if he would be able to come in and meet with us.

Evergreen - We have recourse on tax lien. Eric will talk with Carol and we'll schedule her for August 13th to discuss this and the other tax liens that are still on the books..

Trustee of the Trust Funds – We need to do this before Bob goes away.

Cemetery Trustees will meet with us on the 10th.

ITEMS TO REVISIT

Overtime Policy for HW/BG - 03/30/2015 **(To discuss in the Fall with the Road Agent)**

Mittersill Roads Winter Policy – 04/06/15 **(To discuss in the Fall with the Road Agent)**

Road Safety Report - 03/30/2015, 4/13/15

Safe Routes to School - 03/30/2015, 4/13/15, 5/4/15, 05/11/15, 6/1/15, 6/8/15, 6/15/15, 6/22/15, 6/29/15

Dow Clock – 04/06/15, 4/13/15, 5/4/15, 6/1/15, 6/8/15, 6/15/15, 6/22/15, 6/29/15

Technology Committee – 04/06/15, 4/13/15, 5/4/15, 6/1/15, 6/8/15, 6/29/15

Zoning Ordinance Vote - 04/13/15, 5/4/15, 6/1/15

Harvard Street House - 4/13/15, 4/27/15, 5/4/15, 5/11/15, 5/18/15, 6/1/15, 6/8/15, 6/22/15, 6/29/15

Honor Roll Sign at Town Hall - 4/13/15, 5/4/15, 6/1/15, 6/8/15

Evergreen Apts - 4/13/15, 4/27/15, 5/4/15, 5/11/15, 6/1/15, 6/8/15, 6/22/15, 6/29/15, 7/6/15

Follow up on Sidewalks/Business area - 4/27/2015, 5/11/15, 6/1/15, 6/8/15, and 6/22/15

Telephone/Internet at PSB - 4/27/2015

Fire Ponds & Cisterns - 5/4/2015, 6/1/15, 7/6/15
Hiring of Relatives 5/11/15, 6/1/15
Fire Dept Generator to School 5/11/15, 6/1/15/ 6/8/15, 6/22/15, 6/29/15, 7/6/15
Delinquent Taxes 5/18/15, 6/1/15, 6/8/15
Performance Reviews 5/18/15, 6/1/15
Vehicle Issue 6/8/15
Kim's insurance 6/8/15, 6/15/15, 6/22/15
Members of Trustees of the Trust Fund 7/6/15
Cemetery Trustees 7/6/15, 7/13/15

Eric made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Bob seconded the motion and all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbie Bartlett
Executive Secretary