

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021 AT TOWN HALL**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Meth, Jill Brewer, Dan Walker

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Cowles, Jenny Monahan, Janice Cole, Mary Grote, Dawn Steele, Peter Grote, Lynn Terres

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.

TO SIGN/APPROVE:

The June 14, 2021 transaction list was reviewed and signed by the Selectmen.

The minutes of June 7, 2021 were approved as amended on a motion by Selectman Walker and a second by Selectman Meth with all voting in favor.

APPOINTMENTS/WORK SESSIONS:

Janice Cole – Unassigned Fund Balance: The Selectmen continued their discussion from the May 24th meeting with Janice about an Unassigned Fund Balance. Janice presented a written policy for the boards review. The town's risk assessment and the ideal percentage range for the fund were discussed at length. No decision was made.

DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Main Street/Route 116 Intersection: Town Administrator Cowles said she has been talking with NH Dept. of Transportation about the regular accidents that take place at the intersection. She said the state has considered doing a roundabout at the intersection but determined there was not enough room. In the past they have said that a four way stop is not warranted at the intersection as there is not enough traffic. Town Administrator Cowles has talked with several of their engineers about putting a raised median to narrow the traffic lanes and putting traffic signs on the median. She has spoken with several accident victims who have stated that they were looking past the intersection when traveling towards the highway and did not realize there was a stop there until it was too late. The board agreed that a letter could be drafted to be sent to our state representatives stating that the amount of accidents at the intersection is concerning and asking for their support in finding a solution. The board would also like to have the traffic at the intersection reassessed.

Town Wide Revaluation: Town Administrator Cowles said letters have been sent to residents notifying them of their new assessed values. She has asked the town's assessor, Dave Woodward of Avitar about having a meeting with residents to answer questions and is waiting to hear back from him.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Brewer said she was asked about alcohol use on the Dow during the summer. It was discussed that the board does this annually.

Selectman Walker made a motion to allow alcohol use at town sponsored events through 10/31/21. Selectman Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

Chairman Brewer made a motion to allow alcohol use at the Northern Grafton County Democrats JFK Barbecue on August 29th on Dow Park. Selectmen Walker seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passes.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Broadband Initiative Committee: Selectman Meth said there is a meeting of the North Country Communications District Committee on June 25th via Zoom.

Chamber of Commerce: Selectman Walker said the Chamber meets this Wednesday the 16th.

Conservation Commission: Chairman Brewer said the next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow June 15th at the pavilion at 4pm.

Energy Commission: Selectman Meth said the next meeting is June 16th at the pavilion at 4:30pm and they plan to continue their work on the on creating a Solar Ordinance.

Planning Board: Selectman Meth said the Planning Board met on June 8th at 7pm. They continue to work on the Master Plan and Master Plan town wide survey. The next meeting will be on July 13th at 7pm at town hall.

OTHER DISCUSSION: Chairman Brewer said the town's mask ordinance expires on Wednesday, June 16th. She said the current data looks well and she is comfortable with letting the ordinance expire at this time but if things change with the virus it can always be reinstated. Selectmen Meth and Walker agreed.

Town Administrator Cowles said businesses on Main Street have been sent a letter reminding them about the temporary sign ordinance and asking them to review their signs and get into compliance.

PUBLIC INPUT:

There was a brief discussion between the board and the public about the sign ordinance.

Dawn Steele asked what the new town wide valuation is. TA Cowles said she is looking into that currently.

Dawn also asked if the hearing was still planned for the 28th at the school.

There was a brief discussion about the selectmen meeting biweekly for the summer starting next week.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07pm on a motion from Chairman Brewer and a second from Selectman Walker.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary