

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, June 1, 2015

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, June 1, 2015 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, Eric Meth, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board –

Also attending – Karen Foss, Mary Grote

SELECTMEN’S TIME:

BOS Minutes 05/18/2015: Formal readings of the May 18, 2015 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of May 18, 2015 were approved with the following corrections:

Page 1: Under Presby... There are two contract options \$100/year for a 5 year contract.

Page 2: Bernie made a motion that the Town pay \$100/year.

Page 2: Delete Bernie to write a letter to Littleton about the sewer agreement with Littleton.

Page 2: Need a clarification under Community Forest add obligation after contractual

Page 3: Amy Bahr is on the Heritage Council the council wanted the old man.

Bernie made a motion to accept the minutes with the above changes and Eric seconded , with all in favor to accept the minutes..

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 06/01/2015- The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 06/01/2015.

APPOINTMENTS:

None

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Building Permits -

Solar for Fitzpatrick. Allan Clark reviewed and approved it for the board’s signatures. This will be installed on his roof at the end of Eaton closest to the river. They are putting up an Array.

Phil Noonan – The permit was for a garage where he had his shed. Allan reviewed and approved it for signatures. Mr. Noonan meets the setbacks.

Both were signed by the Selectboard.

Tax Warrant – bills will be mailed this week. The first issue is due July 7th. The Board will sign this tax warrant. Tax Warrant is actually a property tax levy. Carol to collect these taxes. In regards to putting the Master Plan Letter in with the tax bill, we cannot put anything in with the tax bill. It will be discussed at the next Planning Board Meeting. There are two copies of the warrant. We have a copy in our office and the tax collector has one in her office. All generated by the assessing program.

Cemetery Deed - for the Berlacks. Money goes directly to the cemetery fund.

Current Use Application- for Karen & Paul Foss. Once signed, Sally will send it down to Grafton to get recorded.

Intent to Cut – State owned land- Mittersill Ski Trail. Who has authority to cut? Same group that did it last year is cutting this year. It was signed by someone from DRED.

Current Use Penalty - Two parcels that came out of current use after a portion was sold. 10% of the fair market value is what is charged to the owners. The owners have 30 days to pay the tax. Half goes to conservation fund and half goes to the general fund.

Patrick & Cynthia Coyne for Map 22, lot 4-2 \$13K
Steber/Medanich 2006 Trust for Map 19, lot 10-11 \$17K

Waivers for tax interest for second issue of taxes – changes from Post Office Box to actual physical address. Bill did not get to the person in time. Taxes have paid been paid and the interest is to be waived.

Zoning Board - We need new people for the zoning board. There were four resignations at the meeting on 5/28/15. Sharon Hoyle had emailed us notifying us of her resignation. Mary Fowler, Melinda Richardson & Don Lawton announced their resignation at the meeting. Melinda Richardson will continue until her position is filled. There were no elections held at this meeting.

Overtime – to be discussed at the next meeting.

Road Safety Report – Intersection of Route 116 & 18. Karen Foss saw someone blast thru the stop sign. Flashing light has been activated.

Safe Routes to Schools - Bernie received a copy of the letter that was sent by us. Find out how the letter was sent to Holden Engineering, was it sent registered mail? Eric said the ball is in Laura's court if we have to respond. Laura wants to know what we want her to do. Sally paid the bill. Do we want to go after them and sue them? If we take them to small claims we can only get up to \$7,500. Is it worth our while to physically go there and knock on the door. The history of this is that John Corrigan was the person at State...when we applied for the grant money...the Feds stepped in...John Rhodes, the new person at the State, wanted to cross his t's and dot his i's. There was a personality conflict. Rhodes didn't think so. Kim worked hard and

Sally typed to get all the easements and it came down to the last three that they could not answer. In August Rhodes said this is it, I want it now we are waiting for you to finish up these last three. At the end of August he hadn't responded and it hadn't been done. In September he said do it or you are out. More of a question we were relying on Holding because they are the Engineers. Sally has everything in her computer. Sally never heard back to them saying they would sign the easements. Kim was on top of this.

Dow Clock – Eric got a phone call from Harriet Taylor. Phil Devanza had the equipment. All went according to plan everything put into place. The electrician Dave Gabriel looked at it. Looking to get in touch with Jim Price. She was upbeat and things were moving forward. John Sikes...moving material for the box...everything moving forward with the electricity being hooked up. Don Lathrop still wants the rest of his money. Robert Bechl called Sally to talk to Bob. He wanted his cell phone. Sally told him that Bob is in Italy. That issue is still unresolved. Clock is still not running. He took it apart and put it back together. Bernie's question is do you want her to talk to him? Eric said to wait and get an official consensus. He is threatening law suits. Our minutes are public.

Technology Committee - Wait for Bob's return.

Zoning Ordinance – did not go thru the legislature. We will do it again next year. It is too expensive to have a special meeting.

Harvard Street – Gave him 30 days to respond to our letter.

Honor Roll – Jeff didn't do it yet. If you see him have him remove the recyclables and the older chairs. Sally has shown Jeff what needs to go.

Evergreen Apartments – not a septic issue so we cannot get state involved. Allan walked around the property and we found nothing. Rick Trees is cannot be called because it is not a state issue. Dr. Wolcott the Health Officer will have to tend to the issue. There has been a complaint by Loretta in Apartment 5.

Cisterns and Fire Ponds – Toad Hill. Rick Gaudette... Trueboffs filed a dredge permit. It become a fire suppression pond . If you have to do maintenance you do not have to file a permit. Sally will email him to see if they need another permit.

Generator – Lafayette Elementary School Eric discussed at Planning Board meeting in regards to the energy box and silo. Gordie Johnk the principal presented that the two things had to be moved. The Planning Board said that they did not need a site review plan.

Generator at the Safety Service - FEMA grant money. Fire Department has a spare generator. We want to see if the school wants it because that is one of our designated emergency sites. A new generator was put into the Public Safety Building. Do we offer it to the school? Is it adequate for the school in the all purpose room and the bathrooms? The question is was the old generator acquired through FEMA money...that is only used for emergency management. Sally will look into that.

Hiring Relatives – wait for Bob’s return to discuss this.

Performance Reviews – put policy into place. Lately any raises have been cost of living increases. We have had two forms that have been used over the years.

Delinquent taxes - Notices have gone out. John passed on information to Lydia Cumbee. Eric will talk to her.

Miscellaneous - Eric mentioned the Principal of Profile High School, Courtney Vachon...students gave their class trip money to their principal. Alpine Adventures have donated to students a day at Alpine Adventures. Good job Profile Students....

Mary Grote – Does anyone know what the CMV taxes & water – will be paid by the new owners. Yes...the new owners will have to pay those taxes.

Bernie makes a motion to close the meeting and Eric seconded it and all in favor meeting was closed at 4:25pm.

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

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

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

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

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

Evergreen Apts - 4/13/15, 4/27/15, 5/4/15, 5/11/15, 6/1/15

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

Telephone/Internet at PSB - 4/27/2015

Fire Ponds & Cisterns - 5/4/2015, 6/1/15

Hiring of Relatives 5/11/15,6/1/15

Fire Dept Generator to School 5/11/15, 6/1/15

Delinquent Taxes 5/18/15, 6/1/15

Performance Reviews 5/18/15,6/1/15

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Bernie has notes from her meeting. She was in this meeting for six hours. Issues we might have to deal with. Do we reimburse for Kim’s mileage in her personal vehicle. Liberty Insurance said that if an employee drives their own vehicle for their job their insurance would not cover if they had an accident while working for the town. Licenses are on file here at the office. Will our

insurance cover her? If she volunteers it's a non-issue. When the town truck was traded in Jeff had to use his own truck. Sally will check with Primex. Kim may not be aware of her coverage.

Don't hit reply all when sending emails. Send an email to Sally and then Sally will disperse messages to everyone. Send a "bcc" out when addressing the chairman.

For making copies we can charge 50 cents per page for a copy. We normally charge \$1.00.

If you have an elected person leave office we have to appoint someone for the remainder of the term. That person has to have the same qualifications as the previous person. For example they have to be a resident. They have to be board elected and the Deputies report to Select board.

The select board can reject a tax deed if it is a liability. Condemned properties if it was a gas station it could be contaminated soils. Things, we as a town, do not want to be responsible for.

IRS liens take precedents over town.

In our agenda we need to include a possibility of a non-public session. Has to be planned before we have one.

Sidewalks are part of the roads. If someone reports something you have to come up with a process to fix it.

Thank you Bernie for sharing your meeting with us.