

**MINUTES  
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

**Monday, June 22, 2015**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, June 22, 2015 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bob Montagno, Bernie Costa, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board – Mark Taylor, Paul Schmucker

Also attending – Peter Grote, Mary Grote

<b>SELECTMEN'S TIME:</b>
--------------------------

**BOS Minutes 06/22/2015:** Formal readings of the June 8, 2015 & June 15, 2015 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of June 8, 2015 & June 15, 2015 were approved with the following corrections:

**June 8, 2015 corrections:**

Page 1 - Appointments 2<sup>nd</sup> - line central paving and the state guy is **John Bushway**.

Page 2 – 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence **course will be changed to coarse. Then the first layer of the road is a binder** which is....

Six lines down.... Traffic control will have to **be** used.

2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph...How far can Ed **from Central Paving**.....

Couple lines down.. Bernie asked the town ----Scott said **that**....

Last line of that paragraph...specify Lafayette **Road** not Drive.

3:30 Disc Golf is an **Eagle Scout project**. Carter **Merrill** is doing this.  
Russ Cumbee mentioned that there was no relief **this year**.

Delete - **No sore thumbs**.

Dow Clock the ball is in **Donn's** court.

Page 4 – Safe routes to school – 3<sup>rd</sup> line down Kathy **Holden**.

Last page – A little more careful...closed session. Bernie made the motion and Eric seconded it to seal **CLOSED SESSION** minutes at 4:44PM.

**June 15, 2015 corrections:**

Page 2 – 2<sup>nd</sup> year of college....supply amount is for utilities.

Paragraph Deb Stever – She **said**, “Contractually, we have no idea how the fees are figured.”

Big paragraph five from bottom...Kim went to **Easton Town Meeting** ...not selectmen’s meeting.

Page 3 – five lines Kim’s salary and wages are coming out of the rest of the budget **upgrades are offset by fund raising.**

Zack **said**, “A lot of things could be tweaked and .....

Easton **Committee** member John Hines talked to the Select board . He is on the Rec committee.

We just **took down** a bulletin board.

Next paragraph...June & July. Should be opposite of what that says. **Jan & July and then March and June.**

Page 4 top line **recycled** aluminum dropped from **\$60 to \$20.**

**Take out Papers are smaller. It is a constant.**

Bob said there is money in Capital Improvements...**should be changed to Special Reserve Fund...**

4<sup>th</sup> line down...Container...100 yard container...single sort and separated out.  
They go to separation at MERF in Burlington.

Bottom 2<sup>nd</sup> Greg excused at 4:05

Last...when do we want to renew our transfer tri-town agreement?

Page 5- **Capital revenue fund should be special revenue fund. Come out of the special revenue It takes a vote from all three Boards of Selectmen to use Special Revenue Funds.**

The big paragraph 2/3rds of the way down change....**Cooley Jericho Community Forest not The WMNF has a lot to....**

Page 6 – Sally will draft a new memorandum...**Easton pays \$2K Sugar Hill pays \$2300... They do not pay the Rec Department... they pay to the Town of Franconia for the rec and transfer station.**

Last sentence -We will include a list of Sally's – job description... **Sally's tasks that are fixed costs to run the programs.**

Peter Grote – Change...He can come see Carol tomorrow... **to be sworn in.**

Dispatch fees - last line – this is the 911 total **department calls were 2569.**

Sidewalks – misspelling for **Holden.**

Page 8- the hole – Mark he **did** see the problem area between the parking lot and the telephone pole. **Brook to ditch.**

Bernie made motion to accept the June 8, & June 15, 2015 meeting minutes with the corrections listed above. Bob seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CLOSED SESSION -

<b>FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:</b>
---------------------------------------

**Transaction List for 06/22/2015-** The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 06/22/2015.

<b>APPOINTMENTS:</b>
----------------------

**3:00 Mark Taylor & Paul Schmucker** – Came in to discuss the letter from the hospital in regards to the elimination of the paramedic. The quality of EMS will drop after 9/30.2015. We are basic EMT's. For a heart attack we can give them aspirin, give them oxygen and drive fast. With a Paramedic they can give them medication on sight. They can hook up a cardiac monitor to pace you and get your heart running properly. They can get a med flight from where you are as opposed to waiting until you get to the hospital. That is the only definitive level. We do not keep records. Littleton Hospital said we use the medic four times a month. This does not include who we have on staff. Licensed paramedic is at a higher level than ambulance medics because they come from the hospital. Their ability to use more than a normal paramedic would. Paul stated that we are going to lose instruction from the hospital. They met once a month for continuing education. The paramedic also taught while they were in the ambulance. We will not get that any longer. According to the hospital the paramedic is used 22 times for all towns per month. 111 are critical because the medic has the expertise that we don't have and it will affect the quality of life at the outcome without the paramedic. They can do pain control until we get to a first aid station. The paramedic can give a better quality of treatment. We will lose that ability in town as well. For hip break we have to move once and it will be painful. The medic can medicate so it doesn't hurt as much. The government funded the program but it ran out awhile ago. The Littleton Hospital picked it up. Now the program will be no longer. The medics are angry they have been tossed aside. There is a lot of expertise in being a paramedic. It includes a

lot of school, work, continuing education and a lot of expertise. Jack from Bethlehem & Paul will sit down and fill in for one another. Jack has EMR's and he needs an EMT. Paul will drive over and vice versa. We will be short. Bob thinks everyone should go to our state rep. There have been articles in the paper about not being happy about this subject. Bob was surprised the hospital went about it this way. We can understand about budget cuts but Bernie heard scuttle about Littleton politics and taxes.

Paul said when the paramedic funding ran out from the federal government the rules were no longer applicable. The hospital was not getting paid. The hospital said that they were not going to charge for their services. The hospital has the ability to do that. We have a basic transport charge. Once thru the door they can bill that patient. If the paramedic did anything they could bill for that.

Bob wonders if the Select board can meet with the hospital. We thought they were going to expand the program. It is only our hospital doing this. Maybe we should have a meeting with other Select boards that are affected by this. Calix is not affected by this. When they sold themselves to Littleton they guaranteed a paramedic for the town of Littleton. They work under Twin State Mutual Aid but do not back us up. We go to Sugar Hill and Littleton often does back them up but seldom come to help us. They have their own issues. Has the paramedic gone to Sugar Hill? Our issue is not money it is patient care. They would have to adjust their bookkeeping but they could charge for the paramedic's services. For billing purposes they could bill for the drive, bill for transport and what we do. Any service the paramedic does could be charged by the hospital. The hospital is the issue. There is something else is going on. They have Nurse Practitioner's in the ER which benefits the ER doctor. They don't like hang nail calls. Bob wants to know how to address this issue. They could be funding that Nurse Practitioner with the paramedic money. This is just our guess. It sounds like Littleton Hospital is not fulfilling its obligations to the area. They haven't closed their doors in regards to bringing emergency patients there. If they were a private hospital they could shut it down. They won't do that. Bob is worried about heart attack and stroke victims because time is of the essence. Bernie said the only way is to have hospital run it is to have political pressure from the town. Steve Czarnecki would do all the lines. He is an excellent medic. Bill Mead has to work in the south because there is not enough work here. Pam Oakman will be becoming a paramedic in September or October. She was going to work at the hospital. Now she will have to go somewhere else. Sally said maybe we should with a letter to the hospital. Allan Clark was not happy. Bob cannot see having a meeting with the eight towns. We have to take some kind of action. We should draft a letter to the hospital and cc: the other towns. Bob will draft a letter in regards to this. The program impacts the towns but not the ambulances. We don't know what is going on at the hospital. Bethlehem is upset. We try not to use the paramedics unless we don't have to. We wanted to make sure we are using them properly. We are concerned about the well being of our citizens. Bob will draft the letter and contact the Bethlehem Select Board and copy all the other towns. We may want to engage our Senator, Representatives and Executive Council. Once the letter is drafted it will be given to Paul & Mark for review before we send it out.

**PARKING LOT ISSUE** - At the Public Safety Building where they dug up the pipe the frozen pipe. There were two holes that settled. They were when you came out of the parking lot and are turning south. The shoulder slumped and anyone driving there will slide off the side of the parking lot. The State has some specs in regards to the shoulders. Scott doesn't think the State will do anything. Scott had to look at it a few times.

**3:25 – Scott Leslie** – Is here about the trees by the Cooperative. The wrong trees were not cut. The concerns were the trees in front of the Presby's property. The two trees there were a hazard. He was in the meeting and they are not dead. The trees have been there for a100 years. These have to be cut down with the use of a crane. The power company doesn't have much of a concern. When anything happens they will come fix it. Bob said that man could have them call his lawyer and we will put it in our budget for next year to have the trees cut. We will put it in the line item for next year. Why did the town say they would take them down? The previous owners of the A-frame were concerned about the trees destroying the house if they came down. The Presby's were upset the trees were cut. It cost \$10K to take down 8 trees. The others trees that were taken down were dead. We will put it into the budget for next year.

Library – The foundation & drainage there is water that comes in that is going towards the pellets and pellet stove. Scott said he hasn't been in there since the pellet stove was installed. It happened ten years ago. Mac fixed it. Jeff said he would fix it but it hasn't been done. Scott said he paved it and it stopped it. Dinny said there is a flood in there. Is there a sub pump in there? There is no sub pump in there. Hopefully the pellets are on pallets. There will be a mold problem if there isn't one already. Scott will talk to Jeff and report to us and let us know what it will take to have it fixed. Maybe they could put drainage in around the foundation. This will come out of the building maintenance fund. Scott will get back to us in regards to the library foundation.

Sidewalk – We are waiting on the Engineer from the State. We sent them blueprints for what we wanted to do. The \$20K will allow us to pave from Garnet Hill to The Dutch Treat. It's about 775 feet. The driveways to Garnet Hill and John Unger –Murphy's are the owner's responsibility. We did a couple driveways on Academy Street. The Insurance Company owner had to talk to his brother. Scott said, "Good luck you won't get it out of him." Cott doesn't think we should absorb the costs.

White Farm – Scott signed the document so that he could shop at the White Farm. They used to get military stuff.

Workshop done by Northern Pass will be here on August 18<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 11pm. It will be like a trade show and we will charge them for the use of the hall.

<b>TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:</b>
---------------------------

The Select board signed the federal document for reimbursement for federal and state lands. 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of our land mass is up there. We have anticipated revenue.

**Building Permit** - Allan looked at the building permit for Steber Medanich 2006 Trust. He wanted to make sure they had a septic since Feb 14. The plans for Notchway Drive will be a nice house. Allan Clark is the building inspector. Allan looks the building plans over and approves before the Selectmen sign the building permit. The Presbys may be building the home. The snow load wasn't right. We wouldn't have a clue about that so we have to pass it by Allan first. They have to send layout along with the application for permit. Before we had a building inspector we had to have a licensed contractor, plumber and electrician review. For a single family home you needed those inspectors.

**Kim's Insurance** - Sally talked to Primex. Kim's insurance would kick in first. Primex would kick in after \$500. She would be covered as long as she was doing something for her job. If she was driving from job to job she was fine. If she drove home from a job to have lunch and something happened driving back to the job she would not be covered. She needs to check her insurance. Sally will talk to Kim in regards to this and then have Kim call Mary Beth if she needed to.

**Generator** - We were at the school for our Safety Class when we lost the power. Sally said we should have asked Gordie Johnk if they wanted the generator at that point. Sally talked to Toni about it at the book club. How big is the Generator? After having this safety class at the school Jeff helped the plane crash victim at the Weirs over the weekend. Good Job Jeff.

**Clock – Summons** - Bernie thinks that we should have people who were on the committee here to discuss this. It is a matter of money. We have no more money. What do they have in the coffers and what are their expectations? Harriet said do not give them money or give access. He did something wrong according to the guy who did finish the project. All that would come into play when we go to court. The lawyer saw the letter to us and she never saw the contract. We sent it after the letter asking for the money. That is the only reason we should know a little more before we hire the lawyer. Harriet said there is more money theoretically that we owe on the contract but he did not finish what he was contracted to do. Is part of this \$5K a part of that electric time thing that needed to be fixed? Sally's take on this is he didn't finish what we wanted in the contract and some of it is not done correctly. The electric time thing was not part of the original contract. It is dangerous with the heavy rocks that could crash thru the floor and the electric time thing would solve the problem. Donn would have hooked the rocks up to finish the job. His take on it we didn't let him finish the job. He also had ordered the wrong size electric bell hammer actuator for the clock. Bob said the bottom line is if he is due more money the committee will have to pay. The selectmen took a very staunch agreement on this for \$10K. All there is, is \$10K. Bernie questioned having our lawyer getting involved. She said it wasn't worth going after the 11K for the school why would we go after \$3K. Maybe there would be some meeting in the middle. We should file it and for these reason we do not owe him any money. We have 30 days to respond. July 12<sup>th</sup> is our date. Bob said Don didn't complete the work and if he didn't complete he didn't have to put any labor in it. Bernie said to put yourself in his position that we wouldn't let him complete the work. Harriet said the clock should have been finished a long time ago. The other thing is the work had to be done in a satisfactory manner and done in a timely fashion. He gave us permission to get someone else to complete the

work. Bob said that at a Selectmen's meeting Donn said that the town doesn't owe us anymore money. Bernie said he will argue it. Bob doesn't want to put a whole lot of work into it. Sally will photo copy it and email to Eric. Eric wondered about the claim originating in VT filing a suit in NH. Herbie will call Small claims in Littleton. We want simple not expensive. Sally will do a worksheet if we need to.

**Harvard Street** – Mr. Keyes has Allan's phone number. All questions need to be addressed. He will have Whitney's address the roofing issues.

**ZBA** – Kay called Joan about joining the ZBA and she has not returned the call ZBA...ZBA is like Supreme Court in a sense. It wouldn't hurt to get a couple of people. So we need two more. We will go thru the checklist and see if there are people we would like to approach to join the board. It's not a board that meets regularly. Kay can look thru the checklist. Someone young and talk at the next meeting.

Sally will call the school in regards to generator.

**Performance Reviews** - Safety Services building. Bernie called DOT and got the run around there too. Everyone thinks it didn't need to be done. Mark Taylor explained to her why it had to be done. Let's put some tape out there until we figure it out. Bernie tried contacting Marcia Graham with no response. Bernie wasn't sure if she was not in the right spot. Bernie felt like she was blown off when it comes to performance reviews. They don't work for us. Two of them do.

**Meadowcrest** - They have looked at the road. They will let Ken Mosedale know and then they will accept the road.

**Miscellaneous** - Bernie wanted to know what happened to the laptop that was bought for the Planning Board. It could be used for the Watershed documentation.

**Tri-County CAP** closed their Littleton office. Have to go to Ashland or do it online. We wrote their check for \$2700. They help with fuel assistance and help with housing. If someone from Bancroft House needed to move on they would come up with rent or deposit to relocate. The people that use it won't have a computer or a vehicle access to get to Plymouth. It will create more issues for the welfare department. Sally got an email from Karen Hoyt. As of 26 June no longer an outreach program in Littleton. Dawn Ferringo is irritated about it. They raised money for this.

**Closed Session** – We went into closed session at 5:02pm.

<b>ITEMS TO REVISIT</b>
-------------------------

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

