

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Monday, June 27, 2016**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, June 27, 2016 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, Eric Meth, John Lachapelle, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board: Phil Krill, Ernie Hansberger, John Monaghan, Karen Foss, David Strange, Kim Cowles, Chip Stowell and Bob Tortorice

Other Guests: Peter Grote, Mary Grote, Karen Foss, Dawn Steele, Lydia Cumbee and Matthew Monaghan.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 6/13/2016: A formal reading of the June 13, 2016 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

Eric made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Bernie seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

**Transaction Lists – 6/23/16 & 6/30/16 - Approved and signed by the Board
Building Permit-MBFF (Mojo's) – Handicap Ramp (M14/L74) –Approved and signed by the Board
Waiver of Interest – Top of the Notch (M14/L30) – Approved and signed by the Board
Abatement of Taxes – Fitzpatrick (M13/L34T15) – Approved and signed by the Board
Abatement of Taxes – Neal (M14/L43-8) – Approved and signed by the Board**

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 – Open Time – Dawn Steele informed the board that she wanted to record the meeting. Bernie requested that we record the meeting as well.

Dawn would like to add some verbiage to the 6/13/16 minutes regarding supplemental insurance. She gave her changes to the secretary. She reminded the Board that they had discussed having Thad or Trevor Presby as part of the interviewing panel for the Buildings & Grounds position.

In regards to the Application for Buildings & Grounds she thinks the physical question is too intrusive. Maybe we should have that reviewed by the town attorney. She suggested we review the Town of Littleton's language and gave the Board a copy of one of Littleton's applications.

Peter Grote – Discussed the ongoing Northern Pass Issue. Peter would like a list of the directors for the Chamber of Commerce. Sally will get that list to him.

Lydia Cumbee – really likes the flags on Main Street. Sally explained that within one week we got the permit, the flags, and Kim got them installed. John wanted to know if other employees could have helped

her with the installation. Sally said yes but Kim had Sam Johnk, part-time assistant, help her get the job done.

3:15 – Franconia Heritage Museum – Phil Krill & Ernie Hansberger – The original lease expired in 2007. The Museum Board members would like to have a new agreement in place and would like some consistency. There are things that need to be done on the building. The Selectmen did start talking about the changes in 2007 and at that time extended the original lease agreement for one year. The membership funds are used for administrative costs and inside maintenance such as the furnace. At present there is nothing major expected to be done on the outside of the building. They will give the Board the anticipated expenses and a copy of items to be done. They will provide copies of the old lease and draft of lease with proposed changes.

Phil Krill said that they were proud of the Chronicle segment.

Ernie wanted to know if the Town would pay for the nickel and dime items that have been done to the Interpretive Center. Bernie said that until the town adopts the building we cannot assist in the maintenance. We will put a discussion of the lease on agenda for next week.

There has been a rumor going around that the Franconia Heritage Museum was going to close. That is NOT TRUE...new members are always welcome.

3:30 – Energy Commission – Street Lights – Inventory of street lights has been done. The committee's focus is concentrating on replacing the old sodium lights with LED. Eversource gave the committee an estimate of the savings. Lots of other towns have started using the LED's. The survey has been done of the street lights that could be eliminated. Chip Stowell said they would be willing to have the poles flagged so people can see exactly which ones will be turned off. Estimate of \$40,000 is to replace all 140 fixtures with LED lighting. John Monaghan noted that some are in remote places. David Strange will ride with John Monaghan at night to view the LED downward directional and a better lighting affect and see which lights could be turned off. There will be less light pollution and the LED's are more efficient.

One way to go would be to get the project set up on the CIP List. Another would be to bring question to the voters to see if they would anti up for this net cost of \$40K. When the high sodium lights were installed they were on a warrant article.

The incentive money from Eversource is allocated on a first come and first serve basis. Next year if we were to go for a warrant article it would be a good chance to get the money. If we file our application by 3rd quarter this year, the funds would be in reserve and then would wait for a town vote.

What is the diameter of the light on the ground? They will look at it. Sugar Hill has shut off half of their lights. Littleton has LED lights by Jiffy Mart going towards Meadow Street. John will call Chief Smith and ask him how this has worked out for them. They will report at their next meeting with the board. The Energy Commission would like to get the application in by September to the utility. The board agreed to their request.

It was suggested that we let the town folks know about ribbon identification with a public informational meeting explaining the tagged poles. The information could also be put on the website.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Holden Engineering – Closed Session.

Building & Grounds Interview Group – Select Board, Dawn Steele & Jeff Woodward. Four applications are in and two more to be coming in. Selectmen will open and copy applications 5 minutes before the meeting to make copies of the applications.

Planning Board on 6/28/16 – Eric may be late. Delage Farm Road – Coles continuation of the 2nd hearing – The concern was that the town has plowed that road and is it a town road. We have maintained the bridge and replaced the bridge. Presently the town plows across the bridge and the driveway to the house. The property is going for sale now as one piece of property. The real estate is advertised as the town maintaining the road. The heirs have inherited and are selling the property. The question for the town is should the town stop plowing the driveway? The proposed subdivision is for only two lots with access across the bridge. The subdivision shows a hammerhead on the far side of the bridge which would provide frontage on their private road. We do not own land on the other side of the bridge. If we stop plowing to the house we would need to ask the owners where they want the snow put.

Bernie consulted with the attorney and was informed that the Town may stop plowing the driveway. The Selectboard agreed to stop plowing the driveway. Sally will inform the owner of the Board's decision and ask where they would like us to put the snow.

The Board also discussed the fact that there was only one house on the other side of the bridge and that the only reason the town maintained that crossing was to have easier access to the elderly woman who lived on the other side of it. The Board decided that it would like to stop plowing and maintaining the bridge. The Board would like to discontinue the bridge and that would probably have to be done at the town meeting. Sally will ask Jamie Dow of Department of Revenue Administration about it.

There will be no Public Selectmen's Meeting next week. There are no scheduled appointments for next week. We will be having a closed session meeting on Tuesday at 3pm on to review sealed bids for the position advertised.

Vacations – The Board would like a list of vacations to be used - Scott 4th of July, Sally last two weeks of July, Herbie August 12-15th,

Flags – The fire department will make a donation from the proceeds of the barbeque. We bought 35 flags with hardware which cost \$1800. So far for all funds that have been donated Sally has sent thank you letters. We have raised \$1200 so far to cover the costs with more donations coming in. The Board will ask Bill Mellekas to give a big thank you at the old home day parade to all the towns folk who have donated for the flags.

Batchelder ROW – Sally sent an email and if we don't hear back Sally will call. Herbie and Eric will mention it to him at PB Meeting tomorrow night.

ROW's in General – Each one is different. John stated that ROW's are explained in the book "A Hard Road to Travel."

4:45 pm – Closed Session – Legal and Personnel – As per RSA 91-3:II (e) the Board voted to go into closed session. At 5:40 pm the Board voted to come out of closed session and seal the minutes.

The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Herbie Bartlett, Executive Secretary