

DRAFT

**Town of Franconia
Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting
Monday, March 30, 2026
at 4PM at Town Hall**

Board Members Present: Dan Walker, Eric Meth, Gene Leeds

Others Present: Libby Staples, Jenny Monahan, Jan Cole

The meeting was called to order at 4:05PM.

Appointments/Work Sessions

None

Public Comment

None

To Sign/Approve

Minutes review – tabled until next meeting.

Transaction List – March 27th thru April 2nd, 2026 – Approved.

Septic Applications – Foss – Map 23 Lot 17 – Approved.

To Discuss/Review

Health Officer – Town Administrator Staples said she spoke with Littleton Chief Chad Miller about serving as Franconia's Health Officer after Chair Walker posed the idea to him. Chief Miller said he needs to clear it with Littleton first but is willing to serve if approved by Littleton's Selectboard. Town Administrator Staples will update when Chief Miller follows up with her.

Septic Applications – Local Approval – Following up on a previous discussion, Town Administrator Staples said she inquired with the Dept. of Environmental Services about what the town would need to do to stop requiring local approval of septic designs. She said the town usually makes about \$1,000 a year from the applications but a bi-weekly meeting schedule during the summer months sometimes delays approvals which delays the septic installation. She said DES advised her that the town would simply need to send a letter to the state indicating that local approval is no longer required. After a brief discussion, *Chair Walker made a motion that the Town of Franconia by vote of the select board today has moved to discontinue requiring local septic plan approval prior to RSA 485-A;32, I & II. Seconded by Selectman Meth, motion passes unanimously.*

SB538 – Municipal Net Metering – Town Administrator Staples said Chris Dube, Chair of the Energy Commission, reached out to her in regard to this bill that would extend net metering eligibility for municipal energy projects in New Hampshire. It would allow certain projects that apply for interconnection by December 31, 2031, to receive net metering compensation for at least 20 years, or

until January 1, 2040 (whichever is longer). The change is intended to help address delays that have slowed down municipal projects. Chris encouraged the board to formalize its support for this bill by signing a letter from NH Clean Energy Commission.

Chair Walker made a motion to sign a letter of support, as requested by the New Hampshire Clean Energy Commission, for SB538, extending net metering eligibility terms for municipal energy projects. Selectman Leeds seconds, motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence – Town Administrator Staples said Denice Roy from the Department of Revenue Administration would like to have a meeting on Thursday, April 30th at 10AM to discuss the process of the town revaluation which will take place this year. The meeting will include Libby, Jenny, Assessor Jaron Downes and Denice suggested a selectman attend. The selectmen will check their schedules and follow up with Town Administrator Staples.

Town Administrator Staples also said the NHDOT has begun the work on exits 35, 36 and 37.

The work to repair the water damage to the safety services building has been completed. The total project cost came to \$48,531.36 and Town Administrator Staples has submitted the paperwork to Primex for reimbursement.

Selectman Meth updated the board that he will be attending a meeting on Friday, April 3rd at noon with Cannon General Manager Jace Worth, Brian Suthoff (Easton Selectboard) and Rusty Talbot (Sugar Hill Selectboard) to discuss how the tri-towns can help Cannon and Franconia State Park and vice versa, what would the towns like to hear regarding potential impact zones at the park and improvements, what would the park like to hear from the towns, discuss concerns about emergency services availability and costs, and opportunities and concerns about bike trails. Selectman Meth also suggested asking about reinstating a locals discount as Bretton Woods does.

Town Administrator Staples said that Certified Computers will begin the transition to .gov this week and will be reaching out to various departments to update their systems. She will keep the board updated on how this will affect their emails and town communications. It is not anticipated that the process will cause much disruption.

There was a brief discussion about the Caledonian Records Sunshine Scores and how the town may improve its ranking.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:51PM.

Respectfully,

Jenny Monahan
Executive Assistant