

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 6TH, 2023  
AT FRANCONIA TOWN HALL**

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jill Brewer, Dan Walker

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Eric Meth

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sharon Penney, Jenny Monahan, Larry Plate, Jayne O'Connor, Dawn Steele, Janice Cole, Virginia Mike, Lynn Terres

**The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm**

Chairman Brewer made a motion to enter non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(b), (c) at 6:03pm, seconded by Selectman Walker.

The board left non-public session at 6:19pm. Chairman Brewer made a motion to hire Michael Bednarski as a part-time transfer station attendant for \$17 per hour. Seconded by Selectman Walker. **Motion passes.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dawn Steele commended the selectmen for their work with Littleton's select board on the EMS issue.

Selectman Walker said he spoke with Littleton's Chief Miller today, and Chief Miller provided an estimate of \$53,795 for the 90-day extension of EMS services. Selectman Walker said this is based on Franconia's previous call volume and services will be billed per call. He said the breakdown is \$500 per call, a \$200 stipend for their responding employees, an up to \$5,000 allotment to get Franconia's ambulance into service under Littleton's license and some additional funds for administrative purposes. There followed a lengthy discussion with the public. Some residents expressed concern about getting information out to the public about the EMS issue and educating voters prior to town meeting. Jenny said she would investigate the town's Constant Contact user information. The next meeting with Littleton's board is Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at the Littleton Community Center.

**TO SIGN/APPROVE**

The minutes of February 13<sup>th</sup> and February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, were approved as written on a motion from Selectman Walker and a second from Chairman Brewer.

The selectmen reviewed and approved the March 3<sup>rd</sup> to March 9<sup>th</sup> transaction list

**TO DISCUSS/REVIEW**

The selectmen approved septic applications for map 30 lot 2-9 (Godziff, Windago Lane) and map 25 lot 9.3 (Franconia Soaring Foundation, Easton Road)

**Abatement Application Recommendations from Assessor:** The board received two

abatement recommendations from Assessor Dave Woodward. He recommends the following:

**Gold/Kenet – Map 24 Lot 46** – The assessor recommends that the depreciation factor be changed from fair to very poor, plus an additional 10% physical depreciation for a revised parcel total of \$197,700 and that an abatement be processed on the \$147,300 difference for tax year 2022.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to accept the recommendation from the assessor for map 24 lot 66 and process an abatement on the value difference of \$147,300 for tax year 2022. Selectman Walker seconded the motion. **Motion passes.**

**Pratt – Map 15 Lot 3-2** – The assessor recommends that the condition factor on the view calculation line be changed from 90% to 80% resulting in a revised parcel total of \$505,000 and an abatement be processed on the \$16,500 value difference for tax year 2022.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to accept the recommendation from the assessor for map 15 lot 3-2 and process an abatement on the value difference of \$16,500 for tax year 2022. Selectman Walker seconded the motion. **Motion passes.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Town Administrator Penney said she prepared a letter of engagement for North Country Business Services, Inc. for up to 15 hours a month for general bookkeeping and financial compliance oversight to be paid at \$40 an hour.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Broadband Initiative:** Selectman Meth was absent but there was a discussion that Consolidated Communications was awarded \$40 million dollars of American Rescue Plan Act funds through the state for broadband access in underserved communities and Franconia, Easton and Sugar Hill are included in the plan.

**Conservation Commission:** Chairman Brewer said the CC next meets Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 4pm and plan to discuss the collaboration with Plymouth State, the NEMBA project grant award, the Mallery property and recent land clearing on Orr Hill.

**Energy Commission:** Town Administrator Penney said the state inspection for the solar array is scheduled for Friday March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Additional Discussion:** The board discussed the schedule for the next meeting. As they are meeting with Littleton at 5pm on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup>, they scheduled a brief meeting from 4pm to 4:30pm at town hall to conduct regular business before heading to Littleton.

The selectmen then reviewed the warrant and decided which one of them will speak to each article. There followed a lengthy discussion with the public that referenced multiple topics.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm on a motion from Chairman Brewer and a second from Selectman Walker.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan  
Administrative Secretary

DRAFT