

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 23rd, 2022 AT 6:00PM AT TOWN HALL**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Walker, Jill Brewer, Eric Meth

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Cowles, Jenny Monahan, Mary Grote, Jayne O'Connor, Allan Clark, Lynn Terres, Virginia Mike, Dawn Steele, Chuck Lukasik, Larry Plate, Peter Gignac, Jack McEnany, Jan Cole, Mike Betley

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm

APPOINTMENTS/WORK SESSIONS

6:00pm – Dawn Steele - Salary Issues: Dawn followed up on a previous appointment with the board regarding employee wages.

6:15pm – Peter Gignac – Building Permitting Process: Peter spoke with the selectmen about the process for issuing a building permit and provided his opinion on which boards should be included in the process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was taken from Mary Grote, Larry Plate, Building Official Allan Clark, Patricia Garvin, Mike Betley, Peter Grote, Peter Gignac and Dawn Steele.

TO SIGN/APPROVE

The May 23rd, 2022 transaction report was reviewed and signed by the selectmen.

A septic application for map 28 lot 18 was approved by the selectmen.

An abatement for a camper at map 13 lot 34 site T25 was approved by the selectmen.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Town Administrator Cowles said the Special Town Meeting held on Friday, May 20th had good turnout and both articles passes unanimously. She said some motions were needed to proceed with the purchases of the fire truck and highway truck.

Selectman Walker made a motion that the Board of Selectmen authorizes Chairman Brewer to sign, on behalf of the Board, the agreement to purchase the Western Star Model 4700 for the Highway Department and to fund this purchase by authorizing the withdrawal of \$95,000.00 from the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund and \$115,000.00 from the unassigned fund balance. Second by Selectman Meth. **All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

Chairman Brewer made a motion that the Board of Selectmen authorizes Chairman Brewer to sign, on behalf of the Board, the agreement to purchase the Pierce Fire Engine, with \$400,000.00 from the Fire Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to be use as a down payment. After a pre-payment discount of \$22,224.00, the net amount of \$254,214.00 to be financed over a six-year lease purchase. Second by Selectman Walker. **All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

Selectman Walker made a motion that the Board of Selectmen authorizes Chairman Brewer to sign, on behalf of the Board, the lease agreement with Republic First National for the financing of the fire engine. Second by Selectman Meth. **All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Town Administrator Cowles said the tax warrant was prepared and ready for signature. The selectmen signed the tax warrant.

Selectman Walker said engine 2, which is being replaced, sold at online auction for about \$65,000, of which the town will receive approximately \$57,000.

Correspondence: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Broadband Initiative: Selectman Meth said the presentation/open house scheduled for June 21st to update the town on the Broadband Initiative will be rescheduled for a later date. Selectman Meth also said Requests for Information (RFI's) are being received and they have had presentations from Spectrum and Consolidated Communications. The next meeting is in June.

Chamber of Commerce: Selectman Walker said the Chamber met last week and discussed the Welcome Center.

Conservation Commission: Chairman Brewer said the CC meets tomorrow at the pavilion at 4pm.

Energy Commission: Selectman Meth said the Energy Commission is applying for a grant through Northern Borders Regional Commission and Chuck Lukasik will be completing the application. Selectman Meth requested that he be authorized to sign the application on behalf of the board of selectmen.

Selectman Walker made a motion to authorize Selectman Meth to sign the grant application for the Northern Border Regional Commission on behalf of the board of selectmen. Chairman Brewer seconded the motion with all voting in favor. **Motion passes.**

Planning Board: No update at this time.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule: The board of selectmen meeting on Monday, June 6th was rescheduled for Tuesday, June 7th.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm on a motion from Chairman Brewer and a second from Selectman Walker with all voting in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary