

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Monday, May 2, 2016**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, May 2, 2016 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, John Lachapelle, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board: Scott Leslie, Kim Cowles

Others in attendance: Walter Palmer, Peter Grote, Karen Foss, Dawn Steele, Ed Kovacs, Larry Plate, Mary Grote.

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| SELECTMEN'S TIME: |
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BOS Minutes 4/25/2016: A formal reading of the April 25, 2016 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

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| FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL: |
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Transaction Lists – 5/5/16 - Approved and signed by the Board

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| APPOINTMENTS: |
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3:00 - Open Time – Dawn Steele – Requested changes to the last meetings minutes.

The Lawrence Property – closing date is scheduled for 9 May 2016. The proration of taxes on this property for closing will be from April 1 thru May 9th. The amount will be \$8.79. We will abate these taxes.

Salary, Wage & Benefits Committee - will be meeting every Thursday morning at 11:00 am in the Main Hall per the Chairman Dawn Steele. This committee is comparing 5 to 6 towns that are similar to Franconia. Dawn inquired about having non-public meetings to protect people in regards to recommending modifications to salaries in this town.

3:15 – Scott Leslie – Road Quotes - Scott had a list of all companies that put a bid in for the town of Lee. Bernie investigated Franconia's bidding process. It is very specific: we need to advertise for all products and services in media sources, public ads. We can put an ad out for a week to see if anyone comes up with anything else.

All sealed bids at a date and time to be posted into the paper. They are kept in the safe until opened. The vendor will measure up the roads and give bids. This process is quite lengthy per Scott and they lose valuable time in regards to getting the roads done. He has a website that he goes to that tells the quotes for different towns per vendor for The Board agreed to revise the bidding policy.

John makes a motion that the Board can observe other town's bids for similar/like current quotes and past experience with paving vendors should be considered and then if necessary the paving can be put out to the bid process, Bernie seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

Scott Leslie reported on the doors at the Highway garage. The motor has to be replaced on the last door. The bottom panels on the doors are rotting out. One door has to be replaced and the vendor can take some of the panels out of that door that is being replaced and he can use the panels from the old door to replace the rotted sections on the other doors. Scott will get a price to do that. Saint Johnsbury Overhead Doors will come this Wednesday. The new doors are thinner with more R value. Safety devices are not part of the existing doors. The wires were safe. The vendor fixed the remotes that were doing the crazy things. He tried rewiring with new remotes.

Mr. Plate has questions for Scott in regards to Plantation Road. 3/4 "crushed gravel from Presby's Pit will be put on Plantation Road. The only thing that was not done is the circle. Iron Foundry & Toad Hill has this gravel. Plantation Road will get 700 yards of gravel put down. It will be paved a little bit further than the bridge.

When the town was considering removing the old paved surface when removed how was it communicated to the abutters? A special meeting of Plantation Road was held in the hall. It was posted in the paper. How many people from Plantation Road were at the meeting? No one remembered. We had a series of roads that needed to be grinded. Toad Hill and Plantation Road were two of them.

When it was dug up what was the total cost to remove the oil surface? It was about \$3,500 K. The whole job was 10K. It cost about a \$100K to put a binder on that road. It is about a mile of road surface.

We have been putting binder on roads for \$100K. The following year we would put an inch of top coat on. It takes about 500 yards of asphalt at \$75/yard. When we put the gravel down we could pave.

There is a crown to the road and Mr. Plates culvert is packed with sand on the inside corner. Below the culvert is filled with sand. In the past 5-8 years about 2 feet of sand has built up there. We cannot put water bars on the road to stop this. We could pitch away from your property but you are still going to get water coming off of the road because it is downhill. We could ditch it down further but it would affect your lawn. The water, silt and sand goes across his lawn. We could put in a good size swale. The driveway culvert is not the town's responsibility. Scott said he has not done anything different to the road except grinding the oil surface since the past road agent.

Will Presby's gravel compact? Scott will be putting 700 gallons of chloride on it and should be good for the rest of the summer. It would cost \$160K to pave this but that is not what we are doing.

Asphalt does not last in the North Country. Wallace Hill is already cracked. Mark Taylor is staying on top of the State in regards to the River on Plantation Road. Trees in the flooded area look horrible. The berm will be going back with some dry culverts. Scott heard that the State may fix the river because it did change its course. Time will tell what the State does. When we get permission to do this we will. We have to do the road now.

Will this prevent the washboard affect? It should stop the washboard. Going into the bridge area you will probably get it there from the bridge drainage. It makes a difference when the roads are being rolled.

Peter Nehring 92 Dow Ave – There is another tree that needs to be cut right in front of Peter's home. Is this the one with blue and white tape around it? Is that Asplundh putting the blue and white tape on

them? We took money out of the highway block grant because if the trees fell they would crush homes. They were dying. They had to use a crane to cut the other trees. It is quite costly. That should have come down when the others were cut. It was in the town ROW. Peter asked last year if we could cut that tree and we didn't have the money. It will have to come out of the highway bock grant. Totally Trees cut the last ones. We will get quotes. We should get a quote from Cavanaugh.

Mittersill Lots - Alpen Hill - There are three lots that are owned by three different owners. Map 28, Lots 25, 26 & 27 should be taxed separately.

Employee Family Hiring – This document will be reviewed by our attorney.

Energy Commission – Nothing to report by Eric Meth.

Jim Alden - he is having difficulty getting people together to meet for the Staffing Committee. Bernie said the magic number is three for committees. Pauline Palmer is withdrawing from the Staffing committee for personal reason. Judy Wilson may be one to consider.

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| TO DISCUSS/REVIEW: |
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3:50 pm – Closed Session – Legal and Personnel – As per RSA 91-3:II (e) the Board voted to go into closed session. At 4:45 pm the Board voted to come out of closed session and seal the minutes.

5:20 - 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