

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 2ND, 2022 AT 6:00PM AT TOWN HALL**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Cowles, Jenny Monahan, Doug Weisman, Chris Dube, Allan Clark, Lynn Terres, Mary Grote, Dawn Steele, Jan Cole, Monica Laflamme, Larry Plate, Mike Betley, Peter Grote, Jim Walker, Jayne O'Connor, Ann Foss, Chuck Lukasic

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm

APPOINTMENTS/WORK SESSIONS

6:00pm – Steve Plant, Treasurer's Report: Steve said the first quarter treasurer report balanced out. There were four aging transactions that were researched; three checks and an EFT. All have been resolved. Steve said that he and Town Administrator Cowles are working on creating procedural guidelines for the board's review.

Steve said he was able to review the preliminary auditor's report. There are a few things he would like clarification on and he would like to participate in the audit review with the auditors to address those questions.

Skid Steer Purchase and Transfer Station Budget Review: Tim Blake was not able to attend the meeting. Town Administrator Cowles said the most favorable quote of the three quotes received for a new Kubota Skid Steer is from M.B. Tractor & Equipment for \$29,139 for the Skid Steer (including the trade in of the current Skid Steer of \$14,000). The grapple bucket attachment is an additional \$4,250. Chairman Brewer signed the quote and made a motion to expend up to \$35,000 towards the Skid Steer and the Grapple Bucket attachment out of the Transfer Station's Skid Steer Capital Reserve Fund. Selectman Meth seconded the motion with all voting in favor. **Motion passes.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was taken from Mary Grote, Dawn Steele, Jan Cole and Monica Laflamme

TO SIGN/APPROVE

The May 2nd, 2022 transaction report was reviewed and signed by the selectmen.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

EMS: Town Administrator Cowles said she and Selectman Walker met with Chief McQuillan from Littleton to discuss having their EMS cover Franconia calls on a per diem basis for the remainder of 2022. Selectman Walker said the charge would be \$300 per call and would be billed quarterly. The draft contract includes a 30-day escape clause for either party. Town Administrator Cowles hopes to have the contract in its final form for the next meeting.

Welcome Center/Public Bathrooms/Warming Hut Donation: Town Administrator Cowles read a letter from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation (NHCF) stating that the anonymous donor for the Welcome Center project has increased their donation up to a cap of one million dollars. NHCF will not issue a lump sum payment as was previously arranged, but will process grant recommendations as they are received from the donor.

Selectman Walker made a motion to accept the funds from the anonymous donor up to one million dollars. Chairman Brewer seconded the motion with all voting in favor. **Motion passes.**

Special Town Meeting: The town is waiting to hear if the court will grant the special town meeting for May 20th as requested.

Other Business: The selectmen signed records of appointment for board and committee members who were recently appointed by the selectmen at their previous meeting.

The selectmen approved a request for the Franconia Inn to expand their liquor service to the patio outside the pub and surrounding the pool and authorized Jenny Monahan to draft a letter to the state liquor commission reflecting their approval of the expanded liquor service area.

Correspondence: Kris Pastoriza wrote the board expressing her concern with the safety of cyclists and pedestrians due to the speed of traffic on Route 116. Kris said the paving will be in Easton but urged the board to work with Easton's board and NHDOT to try to get some traffic slowing measures in place.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Energy Commission: Energy Commission member Chris Dube said three proposals were received for the installation of the solar array with the most favorable being \$56,000. He said New England Commercial Solar Services was chosen for the project based significantly on cost and completion date proposals. There followed a lengthy discussion with the public, after which Selectman Walker made a motion that the board accept the recommendation of the Energy Commission to pursue a contract with New England Commercial Solar Services for up to \$60,000 and authorize Town Administrator Cowles to sign the contract on behalf of the selectmen. Chairman Brewer seconded the motion with all voting in favor. **Motion passes.**

Broadband Initiative: Selectman Meth said the last meeting was April 21st. Doug Weisman was in attendance and said a public meeting is being planned for June to update the public on the progress being made and deficiencies encountered. Carol Miller plans to attend the meeting to assist with questions and answers.

Chamber of Commerce: Selectman Walker said that at its last meeting, the Chamber met worked on preparing a rental agreement for the office space in the welcome center. They are also working on putting together a job fair to be held at Profile High School.

Conservation Commission: No update at this time.

Planning Board: The Planners met on April 26th and discussed rules and procedures and elected officers.

Selectmen Meth commented on the recent passing of Ken Ford, his contribution to the town and that he will be missed.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm on a motion from Chairman Brewer and a second from Selectman Walker with all voting in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary