

**FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, November 14, 2016**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, November 14, 2016 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, Eric Meth, John Lachapelle, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board: John Monaghan, Scott Leslie and Rick Gaudette

Other Guests: Russ & Lydia Cumbee, Mary & Peter Grote, Dawn Steele, Tinalyn Caisse-Knox, Jim Alden, Kim Cowles.

BOS Minutes for 11/7/2016: A formal reading of the November, 2016 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

Bernie made the motion to accept the minutes as amended, John Lachapelle seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

<p>Transaction Lists - 11/17/16 - Approved and signed by the Board. Building Permit - Jacobs (M14/L26) Garage - Approved and signed by the Board Abatement - Map 17/Lot 4 (Former Lawrence Property) - Approved and signed by the Board.</p>

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 - Scott Leslie & John Monaghan - Winter Parking at Mittersill -John and Scott discussed the parking problems at Mittersill and the winter parking ban that has been in effect since 2008 which runs from October 15th thru March 1st for snow removal and for emergency vehicles. Each year this is a problem especially on the weekends. The police will be ticketing the offenders.

Problem at Transfer Station and Highway Garage - Scott reiterated that residents are trespassing and doing illegal dumping into the C&D containers after hours by going through the area between the highway garage and transfer station that is blocked off by boulders. John Monaghan suggested that the Police put some game cameras out to see who is doing this. John has told his officers about trespassers. We will have to talk to Greg at next week's meeting. Scott hasn't gotten an estimate yet for a fence to stop people from getting in through the highway garage area. The expense would have to be approved by the tri-towns.

On Call - Highway Dept - John Lachapelle asked why the road crew is being paid On Call Pay which is \$35/week if there is no snow. The policy stated that it begins on November 1st and ends March 1st. Scott stated that he could defend to the public the rationale on this when he was asked by John Lachapelle.

Church Street Hole - Scott stated that the State fixed the hole on Church Street by installing a catch basin.

3:30 - Rick Gaudette - Ladder Truck - The truck may be ready for delivery at the end of the week. The cost of ladder truck is \$69,000 and the cost of the certification the townspeople requested was \$7,030.

3:40 - Closed Session - Personnel

The Select Board entered into non public session according to NH RSA 91- A3, II (e) & (c) at 3:40 pm. The Select Board returned to public session at 3:50pm.

At 3:50 pm the Board voted to come out of closed session and voted to seal the minutes.

4:35 - John Monaghan -During the Police Department's meeting with the Wage, Salary & Benefits Committee the question as to whether or not hourly officers had been correctly compensated for their holiday pay was discussed. This would only concern Sgt Cashin and Officer Pilotte since the Chief is on salary. Sgt Cashin offered to review the records and report back to the committee what holidays had not been paid so they could be paid for any back pay that was owed them. Sally will also look through her records and work with Sgt. Cashin.

Lydia Cumbee - Lydia gave the board information explaining the legality of non exempt employees using comp time instead of being paid comp time. If an employee agrees to comp time there has to be a written agreement from the employee and given to the employer. Changes would need to be documented and filed.

The Wage, Salary and Benefit committee is moving forward gathering information to come up with the various job descriptions that need to be updated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conservation Commission (FCC) - No report. Next meeting is scheduled for December 1st.

CIP Committee (CIP) - The CIP Committee would like to be part of the process when departments are discussing purchasing new equipment during their meetings with the Selectmen. Bernie suggested the Departments do as the Planning Board does and have a checklist to show that due diligence has been done. Maybe have someone with experience like Red McCarthy for the roads and maybe Trevor Presby for purchasing vehicles and equipment. In our recent municipal magazine there was an article in regards to the mission and scope of the CIP. Bernie will share the article with the other Board Members and Karen Foss.

We need transparency and due diligence. CIP has finished the process and will have a Public Hearing on November 30th at 4pm.

Transparency and due diligence is necessary. After the hearing the spreadsheets and rationale will be presented to the Planning Board and then to the Select Board.

Energy Committee (FEC) - At the meeting last week there were 3 responses to the RFP for street light project. They are requesting more information from one respondent and the committee is moving ahead. It will be a warrant article for the town to vote on. They are looking at State financing for 2%. There is grant money that is available also. The Committee has spoken with Mr. Perkins at Eversource and will get guidance from him so the town is in accordance with the rules.

Northern Pass - Peter had received emails in regards to information that Kris Pastoriza had passed along concerning the Laney Directional Drilling that would occur in the center of Franconia should the Northern Pass project be approved. He shared the information with the board.

Planning Board - Dick Reinhold questioned whether or not the town had ever received the road profile for Meadowcrest Drive before the town took it over. Sally and Scott told the Selectmen that there had been no changes to the original road profile and that only more gravel had been added to the road and the beginning of the road was paved to create an apron on to route 116. Sally was asked to find the original road profile plan that was proposed. Herbie reminded everyone about the Community Workshop tomorrow night in the Town Hall for gathering information for the MTAG and Master Plan process. There is also a public hearing on November 22nd for Eversource scenic road cuttings @ 7pm. It will be posted on the notice board in town.

Wages & Benefits - The committee hopes to have the job Description ready for Monday's meeting.

Audit Committee - No report.

Performance Appraisals - Performance appraisals and budgets. Sally will email the department heads that they will be due the first week of December.

Audit Report - Sally received a draft from Roberts and Greene of the 2015 audit. Eric has reviewed it and handed it off to John for review. We will get the final audit probably this week Peter was looking for a copy of the management letter. Sally gave him a copy of the draft letter.

Window upstairs - The source of the leak in the Selectmen's office was from the upstairs window so the Board agreed with Kim and Corey's efforts to wall it off. Kim thinks that area should be cleaned out upstairs and used for minimal storage. It can be reopened in the future if someone wanted to put a window back in there.

TO DISCUSS & REVIEW

Fairpoint Abatement - The Board agreed to pay the refund of \$33,499, for the years of 2011-2015 in one payment. Sally will let Gary Roberge from Avitar know of our plans and cut the check for next week.

2017 Primex Insurance Renewals - Sally shared the Primex renewal value summaries with the board for the Workman's Compensation and Unemployment Compensation, both went down, as well as the Property and Liabilities which went up.

Plain Kate's Saloon - Bernie presented a response to the questions Ms. Lorentzen sent to the Fire Chief but were actually for, and submitted by, the building inspector. She asked that the letter be included with the minutes of the meeting to answer some of the questions that townspeople have been asking.

PUBLIC INPUT

Tinalyn Caisse-Knox - She had concerns and comments in regards to the On Call Pay. She believes it is unfeasible to pay people for on call on a sunny day. She calculates a cost of \$1800 to \$2000 for on call pay for the season. It is not snowing why should the workers be on call? As a Supervisor Scott should be accountable if it is not snowing.

Peter Grote - Northern Pass group had met with Shaheen at NHDOT. Shaheen avoided all legal issues and commented on Kris Pastoriza's research on the chemicals being used. NHDOT is overwhelmed by the Northern Pass Project going underground. The work on our intersection with direction drilling boring will not be simple.

The Board adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Herbie Bartlett
Executive Secretary