

## FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Monday, November 9, 2015

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:02 pm on Monday, November 9, 2015 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bob Montagno, Eric Meth, Bernie Costa, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett.

Also attending – Peter Grote, Dawn Steele, Karen Foss, Mary Grote, John Monaghan, Jeff Phillips, Kim Cowles, Greg Wells, Dinny Richmond, Bill Mellekas, Scott Leslie, Karen Foss.

### SELECTMEN'S TIME:

**BOS Minutes 11/2/15:** Formal reading of the November 2, 2015 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes for November 2, 2015 were approved with the following corrections made:

Page 1 Dinny Richmond – typo on **Regarding**

Page 2 – Phone conferences under Appointments – specific. He will be able to do this. Give us a proposal within two weeks. He **can** rather than **will** do a one day site visit.

Under Ken Mosedale - **State of NH needs a...**

Page 3 – Winter Burn permits. Last line. **Change this to that meeting.**

Bernie made a motion to accept the minutes, Eric seconded the motion and all voted to accept as amended.

### FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

**Transaction List for 11/1215** – Approved and signed by the Board.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Issue Property Tax Warrant-** Tax rate will be \$16.36/\$1000.

Tax rate is up one penny from last year. We used \$125K of the surplus to level fund. Tax bills going out this week. 8.59% retained fund balance. Last year we used \$100K out of the Fund Balance. \$499,149 is in the fund right now.

**Tax Anticipation Note** – Signed and approved by the Board.

**Health Trust Authorization & Membership Agreements** – **We will table this.**

**2016 Avitar Revaluation Update Agreement** – It costs \$42,800 to do a revaluation and we do it every five years per the State. Equalization has to be done by 15 Dec.

**Building Permit – Mittersill – Map 28/Lot 1 – Repairs to Lobby.**

### APPOINTMENTS:

**3:00 – Department Head Meeting & 3<sup>rd</sup> Q Budget**

**Kim Cowles** – Reviewed Budget for Parks – All looks good in regards to Parks. The businesses feel the town needs Public Bathrooms and Kim wanted to know how we could solve this problem. She wants to look into putting in composting toilets possibly on the Dow Field

with a permanent structure. The board felt it should be a CIP Issue. Who should start investigating and putting that together? Eric will investigate and bring it up at the Planning Board.

**Recreation Budget** – All looks good in regards to Recreation budget. Soccer Event was well received. Seventeen different communities were involved. Halloween was a great turn out. 5K Wobble Gobble coming up on Thanksgiving co-sponsored with Adaptive Sports.

**Sally Small** – Reviewed Office budget and all is well.

**Greg Wells** – Reviewed Transfer Station Budget. Nate Hartford is gone and Corey went full time. Greg had interviewed two applicants and hired one. He will bring Sally the paper work. Recycling revenue is not doing very well this year. He cannot control the market. Greg would like to do zero sort. All recyclables can go into it. No bailing required but it would cost about \$60K per year which is based on tonnage. No money would come in either but there would be less overhead (smaller payroll). This would have to be discussed with the other two towns.

**Sally requested all Department Heads come in once a week to check their mailboxes.**

**Jeff Phillips** – Reviewed Buildings & Grounds Budget – he is a little over on this equipment maintenance budget because of the new carbide blades for the tractor. These blades should last for 5 years. They are getting fuel cheaper at Presby than from the State.

**Cemetery** – Barb Holt did a great job with the book for the Cemetery. He had issues with his cemetery help. He has a new helper and so far he is working out well. The chipper is broken down and once it is online again they will work until snow hits the ground.

**Sidewalks & Plowing** – The new person will help with that. He will do the same thing that what Jim Aldrich had done.

**Scott Leslie – Highway** – Vehicle Repair - Spent \$5/\$6K in repairs. He wants to shim Mittersill Roads with the rest of the Block Grant Money.

Building Maintenance at the garage – Scott would like to redo the break room at the Highway Garage. He would like to insulate a wall and plywood it and put some cabinets, countertops and refrigerator in. Also he wants to partition off the bathroom. The Selectmen authorized using expendable funds for the break room repairs.

**John Monaghan – Police Budget**– The only unsown in his budget is the building maintenance. He wants to divide out propane, water, telephone and internet. It will have to be divided by the square footage used by each department of the 9600 square foot building. He thinks he is using 30%. His budget is costing more than John had anticipated. John will budget for next year and raise his budget. Building was supposed to be less to heat than the old building but some of the cost was due to the construction and heat needed to finish the inside of the building. They had to get building up to temperature last year. Now that they are fully operational, a tank of propane

should go for a long time. There are two tanks that were filled, one for the heat and one for the generator which added to the cost that wasn't budgeted.

John wants to check telephones and internet contracts and see if he is locked in. He may be able to get a better rate if he were to bundle things.

Zach won't be around much because he is running out of the hours he can work. The Chief gave an update in regards to what has been going on with the town.

Sally will be expecting anticipated budgets mid of December and will give the department heads a printout of expenses through the 17<sup>th</sup> of December. Be thorough on your budgets.

**4:30 – Library Trustees – Williams Contract** – Bill Mellekas sent an email to the architect with no response as of yet. Laura Spector suggested going to the Planning Board. We will need to go for an informal and get a waiver. It has to be noticed. We will need to submit a plan and explanation. Herbie and Eric will speak to the Planning Board tomorrow night.

The contract from the architect should be addressed to The Abbie Greenleaf Library Building Committee and signed by the Library Trustees which are on the Building Committee.

#### **TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:**

**Solarize Campaign** – wanted to have a flyer included with the tax bills but they can't because you can't include inserts with the tax bills.

**Donn Lathrop – Dow Clock Update – For the Record** – We won the court case.

**Municipal Resources, Inc. Agreement** – Sally said she wasn't sure where the money would come from to do this. This is too important not to do said Bob. This is a contract so Sally will send a copy to Laura Spector. NH Municipal Association said Municipal Resources, Inc., is the only company who do this type of work.

#### **ITEMS TO REVISIT**

#### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**There may be a possibility of a closed session meeting.**

Bernie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Eric seconded the motion and all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbie Bartlett  
Executive Secretary