

**FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 17, 2016**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, October 17, 2016 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Bernie Costa, Eric Meth and Herbie Bartlett.

Guests of the Board: Susan Moore, Cornelia Lorentzen, Phil Albanese

Other Guests: Russ & Lydia Cumbee, Skylar Boutin, Mary & Peter Grote, Dawn Steele, Virginia Mike, Mark Hesler,

BOS Minutes 10/11/2016: A formal reading of the October 11, 2016 minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as amended.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction Lists - 10/20/16 - Approved and signed by the Board.

Minutes 10/11/16 - Approved by the Board.

Building Permit - M29/L40.5 Sanders/Pearson - House - Approved and signed by the Board.

Building Permit - M22/L4.1-1 - Lemire - House - Approved and signed by the board.

APPOINTMENTS:

6:30 - Susan Moore - Is campaigning for State Representative for District 2.

7:00 - Cornelia Lorentzen - She thanked everyone for coming on tour of her facility. Cornelia mentioned that Allan Clark does not return her emails or calls. She has asked for an informal review for the assembly permit. She said a suggestion was made that the renovation permit would be detrimental to her assembly permit. She would like that in writing. She is requesting a denial for the proposed plan for assembly. She requested that the Board convince the fire chief to grant her the assembly permit. She wants to know why she is not getting an informal review for her proposed plan? Cornelia wants an appointment to have the fire chief review the plans. Cornelia has asked him five times in 9 days to do that and he denied her. He refused to review it.

Herbie will email Allan and let him know that the plans are here tonight. Herbie will let Rick Gaudette know that these items are here. Please have him take the next step to move this along.

7:30 - Trevor Presby - Presented a potential offer to the Town of Franconia to buy his building right next door to the Highway Garage at 858 Easton Road for \$89K/SF. He intends to build his new facility across the street which will generate more tax revenue for the town. Trevor is open to all options. He is considering putting solar on the building. Also the town could add another 30-60 feet onto the building if needed. Trevor stated he would entertain a property trade etc. The Board will discuss and review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conservation Commission (FCC) - No report.

CIP Committee (CIP) - Bernie reported that there were concerns from the committee in regards to the stand up mowers. Bernie spoke to Kim Cowles and she said they use the small standup for the cemetery. The large stand up is used on the Dow and has no residual value. Building & Grounds would like to keep it and use it. We have three mowers and we need them all per Kim. The John Deere is a multi use piece of equipment. Used for sidewalks, backhoe, plowing, etc. The committee is questioning if this is the right piece of equipment. The committee has raised some good questions. The committee spoke to Scott Leslie about the F150. They may want to eliminate the truck and have him use the F550. Scott and the department have been consulting with Trevor Presby and have been maintaining the equipment. They are trying to extend the life of the equipment. Bernie spoke to Scott about the sidewalks on Route 116. The Select Board want to wait to do this if Northern Pass goes thru it will get ripped up. The Committee thinks that we would get a better deal if we did not do the sidewalks piece meal and did them all together at one time to get a better rate. There is also a sink hole on Church Street. It is a state road. Scott will be notified about his again.

Energy Committee (FEC) - They will be meeting again and discussing the street light poles in town and the proposed solar for the town building.

Planning Board - Per Eric Meth the Planning Board had two informal discussions. One was referred to the Zoning Board and one didn't need anything from the Board to move forward.

Wages & Benefits - Meeting is scheduled for October 27th at 2pm. Dawn has been trying to get in touch with the retirement person but he does not answer his emails.

Audit Committee - No report.

Northern Pass - The Board discussed the Northern Pass petition. They decided that the Board would sign the petition as the Town of Franconia, Board of Selectmen. Someone had asked Herbie if the petition link was going to be put onto the website. Bernie asked to check the website to see if other links were attached to the website.

Bernie spoke to Peter Grote that the Northern Pass attorney fees are over budget. The bills will be reviewed. The town voted to spend \$10K on this. When Sally gets back from vacation the bill will be reviewed and she will consult with the Board. The Board directed to not pay anymore attorney bills at this time. The attorney should have been told in the beginning that we only had \$10K to expend.

Bernie made a motion to not spend over the \$10K on the Northern Pass attorney that we are already over on, Eric seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Interview Committee - Closed Session - Legal and Personnel - As per RSA 91-3:II (e) the Board voted to go into closed session at 9:00pm. At 9:20 pm the Board voted to come out of closed session and seal the minutes.

Miscellaneous -

The Plan for Gale River - Bernie will ask Scott Leslie what the plan is.
NCC- Annual Dinner on October 27th. Is anyone planning to attend? Eric said he would let Herbie know. (The Trees are out and there is grading and filling being completed.)

Kim Cowles - Bernie asked Kim to write a letter discussing her work and asked her to make a time sheet out to show what she does in a week. Kim has worked for the town for 8 years. She has dedicated her life to her job. She is on an on call basis. She works seven days a week. If she wants to take three hours off in the middle of the week she does. She works 60-70 hours a week during parts of the year and then during her down time she may work 20-30 hours a week. It all balances out. She also has comp time that she will never get paid for. She keeps a spreadsheet of her time worked. This past week she had 42.5 hours. 15 hours she spends in her supervisory position. Bernie said she was not clear in regards to the parks portion of her time. This will be reviewed by Bernie and Kim. Kim got her bus drivers license to drive the bus for White Mountain School to allow her to drive our kids. The agreement with Barry Transportation was to work for them for a year in order to get her license.

Kim has been working on the RFP for the Frost Place. Corey and Kim have been working here at the town building. They replaced the walkway stairs which were a hazard. She was unclear on the bidding process of the sills. Kim wanted to know what the process was. Bernie said it depends on how much the improvements were. Anything over \$5K would come from CIP. The sill has to be replaced and there is a wiring problem on Carol's side of the building. Everything is hooked into a power strip right now. Kim also recommended an exterior motion detector and outlet on that corner of the building for personal safety. Also she wants to install the old fire station generator here at the hall. She will do another RFP for this. Kim believes that she and Corey can do the concrete work for this. According to the personnel handbook she will have to get three bids for any work to be performed. It also has to be advertised. We want to get a list of all the local contractors. They all have to be in good standing so that we can notify them. We would like to keep the business local. Maybe we could have a local contractor page on our website.

Kim is very open to communication. Anyone can contact her. She feels like she is not getting the support from the Selectmen and the town in regards to what she is doing. Bernie and Eric both said they supported her and the time she invests. She would like recommendations from the town in regards to what they would like to see done. If it is not on her list it can be put on her list.

Time Sheets - A request was submitted by John Lachapelle last week in regards to standardizing the employee time sheets. Each department has a different time sheet. After Herbie reviewed the time sheets, each department is different because they all have different things to record weekly in each individual department. This should be reviewed further.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Russ Cumbee - is concerned about the minutes regarding Jim Alden. He still does not like the minutes. Mr. Alden had submitted an email to the town but it was after hours. Russ Cumbee brought a copy to share with the board. Russ said what Bernie stated was put in the minutes but not what Jim or Russ had stated about the minutes. He said the minutes were not put up on the web. Herbie stated that the minutes were posted on time. When she reviewed them she had Monday, 10/11/2016 instead of Tuesday 10/11/2016. She took the minutes down and when she went to repost she put the agenda up instead of the minutes. Herbie apologized. Herbie also stated that she was doing the best she could in regards to the minutes. Lydia Cumbee had been helping her to perfect her minute taking for the Planning Board. It is a work in progress. She promised to do a better job in regards to this task. She does feel like a beaten dog after every meeting with the criticism at every meeting. She takes the minutes for just about every other department and the people who attend the BOS meeting are the only ones really criticizing the minutes.

In the future Russ will write his comments down and submit them to the board for approval.

Russ asked Kim about the town insurance for Kim and any volunteer to drive the van. She said he did not need a special license. Russ is volunteering to drive the special van.

Bernie asked if there was any other public comment and there was none.

The Board adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbie Bartlett
Executive Secretary