

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2020 AT 3PM AT TOWN HALL**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Meth, Jill Brewer, Jeff Blodgett.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Cowles, Jenny Monahan, Dawn Steele, Lynn Terres, Peter Grote, Chief Cashin, Keith Batchelder.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm.

TO SIGN/APPROVE:

The October 5, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as amended.

The October 19, 2020 transaction list was signed by the Selectmen.

APPOINTMENTS:

Keith Batchelder – Short Term Rental Policies, Transfer Station Economics: Keith shared his thoughts with the Selectmen on short term rentals and some ways to make the Transfer Station more profitable. He recommends that short term rental properties be required to register with the town annually for a fee and that they would have to agree to some safety requirements from the town. Regarding the Transfer Station, he suggests having a member sticker for resident's vehicles as well as using the PAYT bags. He also suggested investing in a scale to ensure accurate charges and that the board look into how much some recyclables are costing the town rather than bringing in revenue.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Chief Cashin – Periodic Update to the Board: Chief Cashin said there have been some thefts at the Transfer Station after hours and instances of scrap metal and catalytic converters stolen off of vehicles in town. The Transfer Station thefts has been solved and the other cases in progress. Chief Cashin will be hosting an intelligence meeting with other officers from the area on the 22nd to share information towards solving the catalytic converter case.

Chief Cashin is also working on his budget with Town Administrator Cowles.

Town Administrator Update: Kim said she's met with Trevor Presby and Greg Russell about plans for the Welcome Center. She's also been looking into how the town's Zoning Ordinance could be amended to have some oversight over short term rentals.

Kim also discussed the town's overtime policy with the selectmen. After the highway crew was called in on Saturday the 17th due to the snowfall, she realized that they would not receive overtime pay because of being off for the holiday on the 12th. The policy states that overtime hours would not be paid if part of an employee's weekly 40 hours had vacation, sick, holiday or personal hours. Kim requested that the "holiday" portion of the policy be removed as it doesn't seem fair to employees that are called in during

their weekend to not receive overtime pay because there was a paid holiday in the same week. The selectmen were in agreement.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to amend the portion of the town's overtime policy that reads "*However, paid time off (vacation, sick, holiday or personal) does not constitute hours worked for the purpose of overtime*" by removing "holiday". Selectman Meth seconded the motion. All were in favor.
Motion passes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cable Consortium: Selectman Meth said the Energy Commission is trying to arrange another meeting with Carol Miller, the state's Director of Broadband Technology.

Chamber of Commerce: Selectman Blodgett said the Chamber is meeting this Wednesday at town hall.

Conservation Commission: Chairman Brewer said the Conservation Commission is still working towards getting the Van Peltz property into conservation

Energy Commission: Selectman Meth said there is a meeting tomorrow at town hall at 4:45.

Planning Board: Selectman Meth said the PB met for a Voluntary Lot Merger on September 29th.

CIP: Selectman Blodgett said the CIP committee has been meeting with department heads and will meet this Wednesday at town hall at 4:00pm.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Brewer she has recently received emails about the sewer odor issue at an area of Mittersill. Building Official Allan Clark said this should be checked to ensure there is no blockage.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Dawn Steele asked if budget printouts could be made available to the public at meetings when budgets are being reviewed.

The board entered non public session at 3:50pm for reasons of reputation. The board left non public session at 4:54pm.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary

