

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, October 21, 2013

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 2:00 pm on Monday, October 21, 2013 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Ted Hoyle, John Lachapelle, Bob Montagno, Suzy MacDonald and Sally Small

Guests of the Board-Kim Cowles, Scott Leslie, Jeff Phillips, Ernie Hansberger and Mark Taylor

Ted Hoyle called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 10/14/2013: Formal readings of the October 14, 2013 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of October 14, 2013 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 10/24/13 - The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 10/24/13.

APPOINTMENTS:

2:00 – Kim Cowles/Scott Leslie/Jeff Phillips – SRTS and Sidewalks – Jeff Phillips presented the Select Board with an extensive list of sidewalks here in town. The CIP had asked Jeff to prepare this information so they can better plan for sidewalk improvements. This information is all for existing sidewalks.

Scott Leslie would like to have some direction from the Select Board as to which kind of sidewalk they are looking for. Concrete, Granite, or Asphalt sloped are all options. The estimated cost that Jeff has provided is only the cost of asphalt. This does not include building up the sidewalks.

Most of the Safe Routes to School sidewalk is asphalt with granite curbing. It certainly would be more attractive to have granite curbing in the main areas of town. There are no plans to eliminate any of the current sidewalks in town. There is some money currently in the sidewalk fund, \$23, 200. The State of NH will not provide any funding for sidewalks. Tapering the asphalt versus curbing was discussed. For CIP purposes an estimate of \$90,000 will be used for replacement of sidewalks over a period of time..

Jeff should work on getting a firm price on Academy and Harvard Streets sidewalks and report back to the Select Board.

The Cemetery Pavement was discussed. Can the cost of shimming and paving come from the perpetual care account? Jeff has estimated the cost of this project to be \$25,352. The Trustees need to find out what the funds can be used for.

A monthly report for Safe Routes to School must be filed by Wednesday. Bill from Holden engineering will send a report to the town. The town must include a cover letter prior to filing the report. William Rose from the State of NH wants the town to be responsible for filing the report. New easements from

property owners will be needed to go forward with the project. William Rose says the language in the easement must be changed. Scott Leslie will make contact with both William Rose and Bill Rossignol. Kim Cowles spoke with Bill Rossignol during our meeting. Bill will be sure the Town received the reports prior to 4:30pm on Monday afternoon.

Scott Leslie took a two day class and is the only Town employee who is certified to deal with Safe Routes to School. (Scott is LPA certified.) This project requires a lot of work on Scott's part. He would like to share all of the information with the Select Board. It may be necessary for William Rose to meet with the Select Board. Scott must stay in contact with William Rose.

The Town will have the responsibility of finding a new engineer for the construction phase of this project. The next two engineers from the Request for Qualified Bids should be contacted.

It does not appear that Holden Engineers will be paid any more money for this project.

3:30 – Ernie Hansberger – Museum Improvements – Ernie was referred to the Select Board from the CIP. There are several improvements that need to be done at the Museum totally over \$5000. They would like to do these improvements over a two year period. The Select Board would like to know if the Museum has any money to help defray the costs. In the past they have done some small project using their own money. Next year they would like to see the storm doors and the exterior doors replaced. This year they would like to have a few more urgent items done. This would be approximately \$5700 as a warrant article for the 2014 Town Meeting. Jeff Phillips will be the one to re grade the lawn.

Ernie will discuss with the Museum Board of Directors their financial position. These reports should be available to the public and the Select board. The Town is responsible for the exterior of the building.

A member of the Museum must be present at the Budget Meeting and at Town Meeting. \

The Museum has looked into having the inmates paint the interpretive center. The interpretive center has been renamed after resident Rita Besaw who passed away late summer.

4:00 – Mark Taylor – Hazardous Mitigation Plan – Consider this the public hearing to approve the Hazardous Mitigation Plan. FEMA has looked at the plan and is waiting for us to adopt it. Ted Hoyle made a motion to adopt the Franconia Hazard Mitigation Plan. It was seconded by Bob Montagno. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Sally will contact June Garneau and let her know this has been done.

The Select Board spoke with Mark about fire inspections and the process. Most inspections are done once a year, especially for the place of assembly. This is a requirement for State permits to be issued. You can't charge for an assembly permit. Inspections have always been done as a courtesy. The Select Board would like to know why we pay for a commercial property when a resident has to pay for their inspection.

Harvey Flanders had brought this to the Select Board a few years ago. This is an issue that should be directed to the Fire Chief. The Select Board would like to look into this further as they don't feel the taxpayer should be paying for this. A change in fee schedule may be needed for next year.

The Select Board would also like to visit the Emergency Management Director agreement.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Oil Bids – The oil bids were reviewed. Bids came from Stiles Fuel and Irving Oil. The Select Board discussed the bids and signed a contract to go with Irving Oil. #2 fuel fixed is \$3.361 and diesel variable rate is \$3.348.

The front steps were discussed. Provan & Lorber will engineer the project. An ad was placed in the October 13, 2013 issue of the Union Leader. A pre bid meeting will be held on Wednesday November 6, 2013 at 1pm. Bob Montagno will not be able to attend but would like to have a Select Board member present. Scott Leslie and Jeff Phillips are also required to be here.

Provan and Lorber have also been working on engineering plans for the possible new Safety Services Building. The cost for engineering the building and having everything ready to go to town meeting, including attending public hearings and having presentation documents is approximately \$18,000. The Safety Services Building Committee has agreed and would like to use Provan & Lorber to get to this point.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Selectman Hoyle adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary