

**TOWN OF FRANCONIA  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 26, 2020 AT 3PM AT TOWN HALL**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kim Cowles, Jenny Monahan, Peter Grote & Mary Grote.

**The meeting was called to order at 3:02pm.**

**APPOINTMENTS:**

None.

**TO SIGN/APPROVE:**

The October 19, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as written.

The October 26, 2020 transaction list was signed by the Selectmen.

A Driveway Permit Application for Map 29 Lot 4-7 was reviewed and approved by the Selectmen.

The revised Overtime Criteria Policy that was discussed and approved on October 19<sup>th</sup> was signed by the Selectmen.

**TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:**

**State Municipal Aid Payment:** Municipal aid was received by the town in the amount of \$11,535. After a brief discussion, the Selectmen decided to apply the funds to the Fund Balance to be used to offset resident's property taxes.

**Town Administrator Update:** Town Administrator Cowles said she met with Katie Lavelle of Certified Computers to discuss our five year contract. Katie proposed that the town upgrade its contract to include new computers that would increase our five year contract expense from \$19,500 to \$31,500. The new contract would include a total of twelve new computers for all departments. Selectman Blodgett said he would prefer that the cost of the contract was less.

Town Administrator Cowles also let the Selectmen know that two roads previously approved by voters for adoption by the town, Balancing Rock Road and Park View Drive are not yet up to the required specifications for the town to take them over this year.

A law regarding tax deeded properties has changed; whereas formerly a tax deeded property could be sold by the municipality after three years and any profits above the owed taxes could be retained by the municipality, the new law states that any profit over the owed taxes is returned to the former property owner. Town Administrator Cowles said that considering this change, the town may wish to sell its tax deeded properties to return them to the tax rolls. The board briefly discussed 192 Main Street and the possibilities for the property based on its location and size.

There is a sign ordinance violation which has been complained about by a neighbor of the offending property. Town Administrator Cowles said she spoke with the property owner that posted the sign and they said they would not take it down. The property owner was granted a sign permit in 2015 but for a different sign. The board said Kim could send the property owner an official letter asking him to remove the sign and see if he complies.

With the election next Tuesday, there will be no Board of Selectmen meeting on Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. As it is required that a selectman be present at the election at all times, Selectman Blodgett will be present from 8am-12pm and Kim and Jenny will be present until Chairman Brewer arrives at 3pm.

Chairman Brewer made a motion to appoint Kim Cowles and Jenny Monahan as designees of the selectmen for the election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Selectman Meth seconded the motion with all voting in favor. **Motion passes.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Cable Consortium:** Selectman Meth said the state's Director of Broadband Technology, Carol Miller, has agreed to attend a meeting with the consortium. Selectman Meth is in the process of getting her scheduled.

**Chamber of Commerce:** Selectman Blodgett said the chamber has some new candidates for membership at this time.

**Conservation Commission:** No update at this time.

**Energy Commission:** The Energy Commission will have Megan Schleck of Raising Green do a presentation at their meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Planning Board:** No update at this time.

**CIP:** No update at this time.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

Mary Grote suggested that the town's computers should have a Capital Improvement Plan for future purchases.

Mary also commented that she would like to see 192 Main Street be a senior housing property.

Peter Grote suggested that the board check with legal counsel regarding the sign violation.

The board entered nonpublic session at 3:37pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II(a)(c). The board left nonpublic session at 3:56pm. Chairman Brewer made a motion to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Selectman Blodgett seconded the motion with all voting in favor. **Motion passes.**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan  
Administrative Secretary