

**Town of Franconia
Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting
Monday, October 6, 2025
at 4pm at Town Hall**

Board Members Present: Dan Walker, Eric Meth
Board Members Absent: Jill Brewer
Others in Attendance: Libby Staples, Jenny Monahan

The meeting was called to order at 4:00PM. There were no appointments with the board or members of the public in attendance.

To Sign/Approve

The minutes of September 22, 2025 were approved as amended.

The October 3rd through October 9th, 2025 was reviewed and approved.

A septic application for 635 Main Street, Shawn Clark, Map 13 Lot 5 was approved.

To Discuss/Review

Town Treasurer Position – Town Administrator Staples let the selectmen know that Treasurer Steve Plant does not plan to run for reelection and his term expires in March. There was a discussion that the town may wish to consider making this an appointed position in the future rather than an elected one, but that would need to be executed through a warrant article.

Town Hall Phones – This was tabled after a brief discussion informing the selectmen that a new line was installed a new phone line for the water department but does not do the interior work so we are in discussion with RingCentral to hopefully add on to the new service at the Safety Services Building and get a benefit for bundling. This will be revisited later.

Correspondence: The 4th grade class at Lafayette Elementary School wrote asking if the class could tap some town trees along the Riverwalk for a sugaring project. They did this last year as well. Supported by the board unanimously.

Committee Reports

Chamber of Commerce: No update this week, Chamber Director Kevin Johnson met with the board last week.

CIP: Met with Frost Place last, now they will do their recap meeting and prepare their recommendation to the selectboard.

Conservation: Chair Brewer provided an update to Town Administrator Staples that the trees on Main Street in front of the market were evaluated by a forester and deemed dead due to the Emerald Ash Borer Beetle. The next step will be asking the property owner to remove the trees.

Energy Commission: Met in September, Energy Commission Chair Chris Dube will evaluate the Water Department Facility for energy consumption. They are discussing a rooftop solar array at the pavilion. The town renewed a four-year energy contract with Nextera for 11.9 cents per kw hour, which is less than the Community Power Coalition of NH at this time due to some difficulties they have encountered which increased their rates. The solar array received an energy credit from Eversource which will be received as a cash refund and credited to the Unassigned Fund Balance. The left-over PVC piping from the Welcome Center project and proposed project to remove the pole at the library and bury the power line is being evaluated for value to sell so the funds can be returned to the anonymous donor and used towards a different project or potentially the same project that would begin anew as it was not completed previously and several years have passed.

Planning Board: Selectman Meth said the short-term rental project cannot be funded until after the next town meeting as funds would need to be raised to pay for it. There followed a brief discussion about the pros and cons of contracting with a company that provides short-term management software. This will be revisited later.

Additional Business: Town Administrator Staples said a vote taken previously to approve funds for the replacement of the security cameras at the Safety Services Building needed to be redone as the cost was slightly higher than previously approved.

Selectman Walker made a motion to amend the previous vote taken on March 24, 2025 and increase the amount for the security cameras at the Safety Services Building from \$9,405 to \$9,837, which will be expended from the Town Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. Selectman Meth seconds, motion passes unanimously.

The board entered non-public session at 4:54Pm pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II(c). The public session resumed at 4:54PM and with no further discussion, the meeting was immediately adjourned.

Respectfully,

Jenny Monahan
Executive Assistant