

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, October 7, 2013

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, October 7, 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-Scott Leslie, Peter Grote, John Monaghan, Gregg Wells

Ted Hoyle called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 9/30/2013: Formal readings of the September 30, 2013 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of September 30, 2013 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

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

Pole License – Wells Road – A Pole License for Wells Road was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 –Scott Leslie & Peter Grote – Gravel, 3rd Q Highway Budget –The gravel bill was presented to Sally Small from Peter Grote. Peter and Scott have talked about storing gravel. In order for Scott to move gravel from the current “pasture” location he would need to have a loader at that location as well as at a new storage location. The stone that is piled with gravel is not usable for us. There is approximately 3248 yards in the pasture of gravel.

Mary Grote would like to know why the material can't be kept in their pasture. She would rather not see the planes flying. The planes have broken her fence and she can no longer use the area for horses. The area is an eye sore for neighbors with the gravel there. Once the material is moved it will not be replaced. Mary would also like to know how much it would cost the town to move the material to the McGowan pit for storage and then back to the Highway Garage for their use. Peter is willing to put up a barrier which he thinks could solve the problem. There was no time according to Peter to go to the Planning Board. All of a sudden there was a fury of activity and 1000 yards of gravel was coming from the pit each day. This has effected how a beautiful area has looked. Why is it required to have a fence, can't it be a gravel berm, asked Mary Grote. The Grote's are willing to make further efforts for aesthetics, but keep in mind this is a commercially zoned property. It is the Grote's intention to mitigate this issue without further problem. This is planned to be there over the next two years. The Grote's have the option to close the pit or take another 6,000 yards of gravel.

The Town would like to purchase at least 2000 yards of gravel more. Mary is concerned and would like to have a written arrangement. The Town is not sure they can enter into any agreement now as they don't have any funds to pay for more gravel. Any material needed this fall and spring of 2014 will be taken

from the pasture and will not be billed until next year. The Select Board would like to see the crushed stone piles be knocked down. The Town can commit to 2,000 yards for next year. The Town will continue to discuss what future needs will be.

Sally Small brought an error in the billing to Peter's attention. Peter will redo the bill and get together with Sally to review.

The 3rd Q Highway Budget was discussed. It appears Scott will be over with gas and diesel. Scott has ordered salt. Scott will need about \$7000 from the Highway Block Grant to do some paving at Mittersill. The bill has not been received yet for the mower that was purchased for roadside mowing. Breakdowns on truck are costing lots of money. Currently the 5500 truck needs a new gas tank.

The water issue at the Transfer and the Highway Garage was discussed. The Transfer Station has drinkable/usable water. The Highway Department does not have drinkable water. Scott Leslie has gotten a quote for hooking onto the Transfer Station water at the Highway Garage. A new well will not be drilled. The Select Board would like for Scott Leslie to get this done before winter.

3:30 – John Monaghan – Police 3rd Q Budget – The 3rdQ Budget was reviewed with Chief John Monaghan. The vehicles are on the right replacement schedule. He may have to up the maintenance budget though. Everything else looks good.

4:00 – Greg Wells – Transfer Station 3rd Q Budget – Greg and the Select Board discussed the 3rd Q Budget for the Transfer Station. Casella has bought the 2 containers that we replaced. The maintenance of the compactor was discussed. Next year's budget needs to reflect overtime and part time wages more accurately.

Paving at the Transfer Station has made a big difference. Greg would like to schedule power York raking as this made a big improvement last year.

One of the balers is broken and is on the CIP schedule for replacement. The Select Board would like to vote at Town Meeting to use funds from the Transfer Station Special Revenue Fund

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Underground Tanks- The Town has two full of oil underground. The underground tanks need to be dug up. The Select Board will see if the Mittersill Resort is interested in transferring and purchasing the oil in the tank.

Cistern & Fire Hydrant Area Maintenance – Were briefly discussed. John Lachapelle would like to discuss again when all signed easement have been updated and signed. Sally can get Scott a list of the location of the Cisterns. Sally has sent easement paperwork to the Towns Attorney for review. Mowing maintenance is considered a "once a year". Scott Leslie feels the maintenance of the Fire Hydrants should be done by the Water Department. This is how it is in many surrounding towns. The Water Department and the Fire Department are all volunteers, not full time employees. Jeff Phillips will be asked to keep the fire hydrants clear of snow.

Provan & Lorber - Anticipated Construction Schedule – Front Steps – The Select Board reviewed the anticipated construction schedule presented by Provan & Lorber for the front steps of the Town Hall.

It's recommended to start the bidding process now for a better pricing. The funds will be coming from the Town Buildings Maintenance Fund.

Jeff Phillips and Scott Leslie should work on a temporary fix for the steps to get us thru the winter. Jeff and Scott are asked to attend the pre bid meeting. Bob Montagno will discuss this with them.

We did discuss the purchase of fuel and propane and at this point the Town will not be entering into a fixed price agreement to purchase heating fuel this winter due to the Town Office staff being too busy to perform this task. If possible they should look further into this.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Delay in Setting Tax Rate – Revised

Cooley-Jericho Community forest Celebration 10/13/2013

Selectman Hoyle adjourned the meeting at 4:52 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary