

**MINUTES**  
**FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

**Monday, September 14, 2015**

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:11 pm on Monday, September 14, 2015 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Eric Meth, Bernie Costa, Sally Small and Herbie Bartlett.

Also attending – Dick Reinhold, Scott Leslie, Kim Cowles, Peter Grote, Mary Grote, Karen Foss, Dawn Steele

<b>SELECTMEN’S TIME:</b>
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**BOS Minutes 08/31/2015:** Formal readings of the August 31, 2015 BOS meeting Minutes were waived. The minutes were not approved.

<b>FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:</b>
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**Transaction List for 09/17/15** – Approved and signed by the Board.

**Deputy Health Officer Appointment** – Approved and signed by the Board.

**Avitar Mapping Maintenance Agreement** - 3 years and \$1350/year. We will receive changes only. Saves \$1000 a year.

<b>APPOINTMENTS:</b>
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**3:00 – Closed Session**

Closed Session – Bernie made the motion to go into non-public Closed Session per RSA 91-A3, II(c); We went into closed session at 3:00pm.

Returned to Public Session at 3:32 pm.

**3:30 – Dick Reinhold – Scragg Mt Road** – Dick said, “that three years ago the power company came to Dick Reinhold and wanted an additional 10 foot row to put up pole lines. Dick said no. They mapped out the location of where they wanted to put the poles. Attorney Ransmeier said the poles were illegal and they couldn’t do it. They came to the Selectmen gave them authorization to put in an underground cable. They were then going to put in a subsurface conduit. They were to stay to the left side as you came in. The ROW was originally put in from Route 93 to all along 93 to access the interior lots and that was all. They found they were going thru swamp and couldn’t do that because of disturbing wetlands. At the bottom of Dick’s 94 acres a tote road was used and that became the location of the 40 foot row. Dick had seen them trenching in the traveled way. They put the spoils into the center of the road. Arthur Chase had the first 900 feet. Dick asked for a map when they began that work. They pulled out where the poles were going in. There was no map. They had an approval from the selectmen. He

complained to the selectmen in regards to the due process. Ransmeier said the selectmen had no authority for that due action. Dick had a meeting and the minutes were sanitized. Dick said previous selectmen said that they had made a mistake. On 9/12/2015 Dick noticed an excavator trenching on Scragg Mountain Road. At the beginning there is a paved section where the telephone company is. The paving is the edge of the 94 acres. There used to be a pin 125 feet in. There used to be a pin down at the very end but he couldn't see it there. There is no one who knows where it is. Dick knows this because AHEAD wanted to buy a piece of land. He was interested in selling 30-40 acres. AHEAD drafted a crazy map, a checkered map, and he told them they were full of it. The travelled way is the defining situation. Is it over the side of the hill or is it up the hill? The contractor was told not to trench on the south side of the road because this is where the underground conduit was put in. They were dumping spoils on Dicks land. The three foot depth was reduced and spoils were spread around. There was a lack of identifiable boundaries. In the end it is wetland. Scott Leslie heard Dick tell him. You cannot take and disturb wetlands without state approval. He has gone thru and trenched into the side. He replaced a steel culvert with a plastic one. You need a state permit to do this. It is being done without DES knowledge or approval. His excavator is around the corner in Sugar Hill on the access into Rows property. Disturbed earth permits are required if you disturb over 100,000SF. 127,000SF has been disturbed and he has not gotten his other permits.

A couple other things have occurred. You have to shape or crown the road. If you cannot dig on this side he will now shim all the water to the uphill side. When the Red Coach was built they put the septic in front. When Arthur Chase subdivided he put a culvert 135' in by the road to drain off the stream. This area has been expanded. The Selectmen should address this it is your problem. Your predecessors caused this. Dick will want to sell his property and build closer to town. He will subdivide his property. When DES finds out about a problem the contractor and owner get into trouble. Dick had nothing to do with this. He does not want anyone to come after him. He did not authorize this. This is for the Verizon tower. PSNH would not let them use their tower. Eric Meth said that we will have to take this under advisement. Dick said the contractor hasn't done any work for a couple days up there. DES should be notified. There is no way they should be doing any work without a defined map where the property is. The contractor is Kennison. Verizon rents space on the tower. Dick did not push on it before. The selectmen signed it. So he didn't pursue it. They are doing this for drainage. The tower company contracted the work. His excavator is sitting at Roes driveway on the state ROW. There are two easements there. The state has a 40' piece of land. Over the bottom is a 40' ROW to the back properties in order to access the properties that lost their frontage in 1953. Jack Russell has his own grader. He bought Lee's house. There is an apartment near the tower in the garage. He plows it. Peck has plowed it. When the Planning Board approved Chases 2<sup>nd</sup> subdivision Dick stopped him from pulling the stone off."

**Scott Leslie** – timetable for sidewalk? He is not sure if he will be back tomorrow. They will put a new curbing and asphalt sidewalks. Lawns may need to be fixed. It won't take long to finish.

He got the STOP AHEAD Stencil.

He had to order a spare tire and rim...the last two trucks didn't have spares. \$540 for tire and rim. Scott ordered it. They have been ditching roads before winter. Our part time helper, Chuck

Hebert, is working out well. We saw Jr. last week. Tell Jeff the ceiling leaked in the office. In regards to the railing, Jeff got a hold of the guy. Jeff has this list too. The pressure washing of the walls and painting the trim of the town building was put that out to bid. We need to receive the sealed bids by the 25<sup>th</sup> to open on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

We lost the grant on the Wells road for mitigation. Scott got the blue prints from Red McCarthy. We will continue to document the damage for next time. Scott will give them to Trevor and Frank Dodge and Paul Pinkham. The job will cost \$100K to do the work. Culvert is near Kerr Road right after the Horse & Hound. This culvert takes all the water from the mountain. If there was more documentation we may have gotten the grant.

<b>TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:</b>
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**New Building Permit Application/Fee Structure** - Reviewed but will be reviewed again when Bob gets back.

**North Country Council Annual Dinner** – Sally can make reservation and pay for them to go.

**The Frost Place's Letter to the NHDOT- signs for the Frost Place.** Making them pay for them \$500/year by a non-profit is ridiculous. There was a letter to the Selectmen. They sent to DOT. The Heritage Museum will not pay for that. It impacted the number of people that came to the Frost place. It will eventually impact the town.

**Sign at Peabody & Smith** - We have a problem with our information sign. The sign obstructs the view coming off the end of Wallace Hill Road. The sign is not in compliance with our sign regulations under our ordinance. No interior or neon lighting. There was a sign there earlier. We may want to look at the placement. The sign at the DT also is an obstruction but it is grandfathered. It was there before the ordinance.

We will have the Police look at it and see what they think. Sally will talk to John.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE** – Town Clerk Salary. Bob will share with the Board his information regarding salaries. Dawn Steele and Russ Cumbee are on the committee. Reactive maybe?

**Paramedic Meeting here at the Town building on 9/24/15 @ 6pm.** Re: Interruption of the Paramedics.

**Clock – October 20<sup>th</sup>....9am.** A 45 minute hearing.

**Packet from Northern Pass** – lines being buried and coming thru town. They will be here on 19 October At 330pm to meet with the Selectmen. Go to their website. Baker Brook Miller Pond...under by the Rocks Estate...by the school...comes back up in Ashland.

**October 15<sup>th</sup> about SEC** ....maybe we should be attending this. Keep the towns interest at heart. Have separate contract for each town.

<b>ITEMS TO REVISIT</b>
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<b>FOR YOUR INFORMATION:</b>
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**Cemetery Trustees Meeting Minutes 8/10/15 & 8/28/15 – Sets of minutes for the Selectmen to peruse.**

**NHDOT 2017-2026 Transportation Projects Public Meetings** – Plymouth Monday 26<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm...Berlin this Wednesday at 6pm at City Hall. Are there any proposed projects that will affect this area?

**There May Be a Closed Session.**

Bernie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Eric Meth seconded the motion and all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbie Bartlett  
Executive Secretary