

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, September 23, 2013

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday, September 23, 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-Chuck Lovett, Dinny Richmond, Thad Presby and Trevor Presby

Also attending were – Steven Carter and Chris Hodge

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

SELECTMEN’S TIME:

BOS Minutes 9/16/2013: Formal readings of the September 16, 2013 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of September 16, 2013 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 9/26/13 - The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 9/26/13.

Intent to Cut – Fowler – Supplemental – The Supplemental Intent to Cut for Fowler was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00 – Roof Bids – The Flat Roof Bids – The Bids were opened and read: Eastern Construction Management LLC - \$22,648, Bondd Construction - \$13,777 and Kevin W Smith & Sons Inc - \$29,300.

Steven Carter and Chris Hodge both attended the opening of the bids. Both voiced the reason for their bids reading the way they did. The Select Board will take this into consideration. The bids will now be reviewed by Scott Leslie, DWP and Jeff Phillips, Building & Grounds. The possible asbestos issues were discussed. Bids will be awarded at the Select Board meeting on Monday September 30, 2013.

Bob realizes the importance of having a pre bid meeting as each bid was different and many questions or points were brought up at the opening.

Steven Carter admits to not following the bid procedure.

3:30 – Chuck Lovett & Dinny Richmond – Library Grant – The Library has received a \$10,000 “Moose Plate” grants thru the State of NH and have received a \$10,000 donation toward the repair of the façade of the Library Building. The bid for the work is for \$26, 200. They are asking the Select Board for \$6, 200 to be taken out of the Town Buildings Maintenance Fund so they may complete this project. After some discussion they will get a price for re pointing the back of the building.

Ted Hoyle made a motion to take \$6,200 from the Town Buildings Maintenance Fund to do the façade repair at the Library.

The Library has also given Jeff Phillips a list of Library Building items that need attention. No single item goes over \$5000 therefore they are unable to present this to the CIP.

Using the inmates from Grafton County Jail was discussed for some painting at the Library. This will be kept on the back burner until the front of the building is complete.

3:45 – Presby’s – Gas Station – Trevor and Thad Presby approached the Select Board regarding the property on Main Street they are considering buying, Bob’s Mobil. This is currently a non working gas station business. Selling gas does not have a lot of money in it. There is no other gas station in Franconia so people are not being directed into Franconia for gas. This is hurting several of the Main Street businesses. The Bob’s Mobil building and site are in need of some attention. The Presby’s are asking the town for a tax abatement or deferral of taxes to make this a lucrative proposition from the start. They are looking to demolish the building and put in new underground tanks and offer 24 hour gas and diesel using a self service card system. It will cost over a half million dollars for purchase and tanks.

John thanks Presby’s for the thorough presentation. The Select Board would like a little time to mull this over. The current taxes on the property are \$3113 per year. The Select Board would like to further explore deferral.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Underground Tanks- Will be discussed next week.

Cistern & Fire Hydrant Area Maintenance - Will be discussed next week.

The Select Board is hoping to hear from the Grote’s this week.

Sally will be writing a letter to Mr. King on behalf of the Select Board.

The Fire Pond Easement paperwork should be sent to the Town’s Attorney for review.

The water supply at the Highway Garage will be discussed next week.

Fuel prices for bid should be obtained soon.

A letter from Jewel Friedman will be deferred to the Franconia Heritage Society.

The Tax Liens were discussed in the Auditors Reports. Marilyn Knowlton, Tax Collector will be in to discuss this with the Select Board.

Long term cost of employment benefits were discussed and explained by Sally Small. Sally discussed with the Select Board bumping the amount of retirement dollars that the Town gives employees from \$17.00. It has been at \$17.00 for several years now. The Select Board will take this into consideration.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Time Warner Cable – seeks renewal of its cable television franchise

Pike Industries – Interstate work next 4 weeks – ramp closures exits 35, 36, 37, 38, 39

Selectman Hoyle adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary