

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, February 3, 2014

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 2:00 pm on Monday, February 3, 2014 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were Ted Hoyle, John Lachapelle, Bob Montagno, Sally Small and Suzy MacDonald

Guests of the Board – Department Heads and Jack Cook

Ted Hoyle called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 1/27/2014: Formal readings of the January 27, 2014 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of January 27, 2014 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 2/6/14 - The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 2/6/14.

Abatement - Taylor – abatement for Taylor was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

2:00 - Department Head Meeting – Scott Leslie, Kim Cowles, Sally Small, Jeff Phillips and Chief John Monaghan were all present at the Department Head Meeting. Scott informed the board that the white 5500 Highway Department truck has a “rear end” problem. The truck is being looked at by a mechanic and Scott will have more to report on cost later. Jeff also mentioned that the tractor is leaking fluid from the front end. The tractor is 4 year old and may still be under warranty. Chief Monaghan reports that all Police Vehicles are in good working order.

John Lachapelle was hoping Greg would be present to discuss the requiring of flattening cardboard to make the installation of a wind wall possible.

The Select Board talked about the cleaning of the Town’s buildings. If an outside company is hired the company should be insured and bonded. Currently the person cleaning the Safety Services building is neither. That raised a question by the Select Board? Why is she now being paid \$25 per hour as was submitted on her bill? She had asked for a raise in the 4th quarter of 2013. Bob has been in touch with a company who will clean for \$20 per hour and they are insured and bonded. The Select Board agrees to pay the current cleaner the regular rate of \$20. If she would like to talk with them regarding this matter she is welcome to.

Jeff Phillips would still like to recommend raising of the fees at the Cemetery. Sally has the information and will type it up for the Select Board meeting on Monday.

The Highway and the Police Department discussed the parking situation at Mittersill and the problems it is causing with plowing of the roads. This is a public road and it could be posted if necessary. We could start to ticket vehicles. The Select Board could meet with the Association at Mittersill. Deere Pass and Alpen Hill seem to be the biggest offenders. How expensive would it be to post the roads? John Monaghan will initiate the first contact with the homeowners and with the rental agency.

The van seatbelt is not working and they are fixing it today. It is still under warranty.

Curling in Franconia on the rink is going strong. There is no scheduled time, keep your eyes on when traveling by.

Currently Wednesday nights are “Family Skate Night” at the rink. All are invited.

The Police Department is in the process of training two new part time officers.

The Budget Hearing is on Monday night at 7pm (2/10/14) and all Department Heads are expected to attend.

The Coley Jericho forest report will be included in the Annual Report for 2013.

The notice for the Safety Services Public Meeting on the proposed building will be posted this afternoon.

3:00 – Jack Cook would like to present two nominations for the Energy Commission, James “Fitz” Fitzpatrick and Chandler “Chip” Stowell. Jack presented a short bio of each person and will let the Select Board decide on the appointments. Sally will have the appointments ready for the Select Board to sign on Monday. The conflict of interest should be reviewed.

Jack will be retiring midyear from the Commission.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Bridge Report – Bob Montagno has called the person who supplied the Town of Franconia with the Bridge Report. He was inquiring as to how a bridge become red listed and why. When weight limits are reduced, the bridge must be inspected yearly instead of by-yearly. The number was discussed and the bridge must become a 4 before it must have required maintenance. All along you should be planning for repairs as it can cost \$700-800 hundred thousand dollars for replacement. The state of NH plans for 80% of that cost. There is a very long wait list currently. The Town of Franconia can arrange for a Bridge Inspector to work with the town.

Safety Services Building Public Hearing is still scheduled to be held on Wednesday February 5, 2014 at the Town Hall. A pending winter storm may cause this meeting to be rescheduled.

P&R Warrant Article will be reworded to the suggestion from the Town Attorney.

Budget Preparation was discussed. The Select Board chose who would be speaking to the articles. The Select Board reviewed the dedication of the Annual Report.

Steps at Town Hall – Bob Montagno will speak with Scott Leslie regarding the demolition of the current steps. Any cost to do that, including rental of equipment should come from the Building Maintenance fund. Bob will talk with the engineering firm more about this.

There will not be a Select Board meeting next week – 2/10/2014.

John Lachapelle would like to have all the salaries listed in the Annual Report by position. Sally will breakout by base and lump the overtime.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

The Public Budget Hearing will be held on Monday February 10, 2014 at 7pm.

Selectman Hoyle adjourned the meeting at 4:11 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary