

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, June 9, 2014

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 3:00 pm on Monday June 9, 2014 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were John Lachapelle, Ted Hoyle, and Suzy MacDonald

Guests of the Board – Scott Leslie, Jeff Phillips, John Monaghan, Kin Cowles, Peter Holden

John Lachapelle called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 5/27/2014 & 6/2/2014: Formal readings of the May 27, 2014 and June 2, 2014 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of May 27, 2014 and June 2, 2014 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 6/12/14 - The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 6/12/14.

Resilient Building Group Contract – A contract with Resilient Building Group was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

Ricci Letter of Intent – This document was reviewed but was not signed by the Select Board at this time.

Tax Abatement – M14/Lot 30-3 (Trailer removed prior to April 1st) – A Tax Abatement for M14/Lot 30-3 was signed as the trailer had been removed prior to April 1, 2014.

Huggett Building Permit – Will be reviewed by Allan Clark prior to the Select Board signing.

Clarke Building Permit – This document was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

Cantlon & Steele Building Permit – This Building Permit will be reviewed by Allan Clark prior to the Select Board signing.

APPOINTMENTS:

2:00 – Department Head Meeting & Wells Road Hazardous Mitigation Application – Mark Taylor has been in contact with Resident Red McCarthy, Engineer. Red will take a look at the Wells Road area in reference to Hazard Mitigation. Scott Leslie will also be included in these conversations. The culvert at the Horse and Hound as well as the culver on the other end of the road near Meadow Brook needs to be discussed. Mark Taylor has also been in touch with Paul Hatch from Emergency Management also who may be able to provide guidance with grant funding. Wells Road is a scenic road and all parties involved should be aware of that.

Homeland is revamping their grant system so this could negatively affect the Safety Services Building.

Chief John Monaghan provided Police presence for traffic control during a triathlon over the weekend.

The crosswalks in Town have been painted. School is out on Wednesday.

John and Jeff will be working on the “dog poop” around town especially at the Dow and the Cemetery.

Jeff Phillips has been approached by Richard Morris about cutting some trees at the far end of the Cemetery. These are Richard’s trees. The Town of Franconia is OK with these trees being removed.

The water line at the Elmwood Cemetery is not working. Jeff has put up signs directing people to use the hose and the water up near his shop.

The Chevy one ton needs wheel seals and bearings. Jeff will take the truck to Arrow Express Lube to fix.

Jeff needs to put in some drainage out back at the Frost Place.

John Monaghan will be over in the cruiser maintenance budget. Both vehicles are nearing the end of their life cycle.

Scott would like to sign a contract for some crack sealing on various roads thru town. A contract was signed by the Select Board allowing Nicom Crack Sealers to do the work. Scott has the money in his budget to do this work.

Scott would like to sign a contract with Central Paving to do some sidewalk work in town. The contract has not been received yet.

The fountain bubbler at the Dow has not worked properly since installation nearly three years ago. Kim is trying to get the part she thinks will fix the problem. Is there a representative from the company who may be able to help us?

The Safety Committee will hold CRP/AED training on June 18, 2014 from 8am – 11:30am at the Lafayette School.

Kim discussed the tunnel on far end of the Dow which goes under Route 116. She has been approached by someone who would like to paint a mural there. This is State of NH property. Scott Leslie will contact the NH DOT.

Kim has a big event scheduled on the Dow to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Recreation Department here in Franconia. She has many things planned including demonstrations by NH Fish and Game, Trout Unlimited, Ammonoosuc Conservation Commission and much more. The Wicked Smart Horn Band will play at 7pm. Food will also be available.

John Lachapelle updated the group on the trees needing to be cut. This focuses on the Conservation Commission so he is hoping for Kim to pass the information along. Also under consideration is merging Lot 38 with Lot 39, both town owned lots. Sally has sent the original easement with Jim Walker to the Town’s Attorney.

John Lachapelle said if improvement were made to the outside bathroom it must be ADA accessible. An option to this would be to rent a handicapped accessible port a potty.

The Select Board signed a change order for the steps adding \$21—to cover a drainage issue discovered once the old steps were pulled out.

3:00 – SRTS – Kim Cowles/Scott Leslie/Peter Holden – Kim has been working on the Easement for Safe Routes to School. She will have this item complete by the end of June. A meeting has held with Peter Holden and three residents that came armed with some good questions. The progress on the agenda from the last meeting was discussed.

Federal Funding reimbursement to the Town was discussed. Holden will invoice the Town for the Balanced owed and the State will be reimbursing the Town. This should keep us off the “dead” list. The State does need further information from Holden before they are reimbursed. Holden will provide this information in the next few days.

The section of sidewalks to be done was discussed. Also discussed was the flashing lights that are shown on the plans. This item may be eliminated if cost is too high for the projected costs. Holden asked the Town if they could either come up with more money or offer “services” such as traffic control. In order for more money to be added to the project it would need to be included in the 2015 Warrant. Last year’s article is no longer valid. The bid would be subject to the Town appropriating the money. State financing is historically received in the fall.

3:30 – Mark Evans – State Senate Candidate – Mark Evans introduced himself as a State Senate Candidate in our district. He is concerned with a no plan government and lack of fiscal responsibility.

The Select Board mentioned regionalizing Fire/Police/Ems services as younger people are not getting involved as volunteers. It would be nice to have a blue print to work from.

3:45 – Elizabeth Andrews & Keith Batchelder – Building Permit – Elizabeth and Keith are now full time residents at 31 Plantation Road. They would like to have a carport type portable garage however they don’t meet the 50 foot Zoning Setbacks. The Zoning Board has sent this item back to the Select Board looking for a definition of Portable Structure. The house is on a non conforming lot which is grandfathered and they are now asking for a non conforming garage. Elizabeth and Keith are happy to take a risk and remove the portable structure if need be. It will have no plumbing, no heat, and no foundation. Allan Clark will need to take a look at it.

John Lachapelle will ask the Town’s Attorney for a definition of portable.

3:50 – Jim Walker – Safety Services Building – Jim wanted to look at the minutes of the June 2, 2014 Special Select Board Meeting. Jim also wanted to see the proposals that the Town of Franconia received on the Safety Services Building. Suzy showed him this information. He is asking the Select Board to reconsider their decision to choose Ricci Construction. He would like to ask for another special meeting.

John Lachapelle did tell him that all meeting up to this date have been public and properly noticed.

4:00 –Thad Presby – Water Line at Gas Station - It has come to Thad Presby's attention that there is no recorded easement and nothing in the deed for the water line at the old gas station now owned by them. The current water line runs thru a large portion of their land. This could pose problems when they start renovating the area for new gas tanks. Richard McLachlin and Peter Hilton are aware of the issues.

Presby's are proposing that the water line on their property be relocated. They are looking to get the line as close to the property line as possible.

The easement was not recorded. Presby's would encourage the water department to take care of this situation. Thad will again meet with our Water Operator, Peter Hilton. The Select Board does support getting this resolved.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Blaktop, Inc. Quote for Sidewalk Paving on Harvard & Academy Street

Citizen Member to the Tri-Town Northern Pass Committee – Bob Montagno would like to have a member on this Committee that would represent Franconia. Chris Nicodemous will be the representative for Franconia.

All information requested by Passumpsic Savings Bank should be ready for them so they can do a comparison for all accounts.

The Audit Report has not been received by the Town of Franconia. Sally will check on the status.

Marilyn Knowlton, Tax Collector, should be scheduled with the Select Board to come in and discuss deeded property and tax liens.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Selectman Lachapelle adjourned the meeting at 4:58 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary