

**MINUTES
FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Monday, October 20, 2014

A meeting of the Franconia Board of Selectmen was held at 1:45 pm on Monday October 20, 2014 at the Franconia Town Hall. Regular members in attendance were John Lachapelle, Ted Hoyle, Bob Montagno, Suzy MacDonald and Sally Small

Guests of the Board: Rick Treiss, Allan Clark, John Monaghan, Jeff Phillips, Scott Leslie, Greg Wells, Kim Cowles, Red McCarthy

John Lachapelle called the meeting to order at 1:45 pm.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

BOS Minutes 10/13/2014: Formal readings of the October 13, 2014 BOS meeting minutes were waived. The minutes of October 13, 2014 were approved.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL:

Transaction List for 10/23/14 - The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 10/23/14.

Safety Services Building Project Transaction List for 10/23/14 – The Board reviewed and signed the transaction list for 10/23/14.

Building Permit – Brewer – Map 15/Lot 3 – Renovation – This Building Permit was reviewed and signed by the Select Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

1:45 –Rick Treiss – NHDES / Allan Clark – Building Inspector/ – Septic Failure – Rick was contacted several months ago regarding a possible septic failure at 793 Main Street. This situation has been in the works for about 18 months. The failure now is located right on the property at 793 Main Street, not across the street.

Paperwork regarding this was hand delivered to the property owner by our Officer Pilotte. Paperwork included a certified envelope that had been refused pick up at the Post Office. Since that time, the tank has been pumped. Rick took samples of a puddle and the reading was 3076 e coli per 100 ml. Rick can say he visually saw this area overflowing again last week. Rick is confident with the sampling results. The facts should be accepted.

A failed system will require the hiring of a septic designer and the system must be updated.

Rick would like to know which direction the town will head in regarding this location. RSA 147 refers to the Health Officer Laws which must be followed. This location has become a health hazard and a nuisance. The next step in 30 days would be a 30 day Health Officer Order. The process outlined is very specific.

Rick has observed kids and animals playing in puddles. All inquiries should be directed to the Health Officer.

The Select Board will take all this information under advisement and will contact the Town Attorney for further understanding in how to proceed. Sally Small will provide a packet of information collected to date. Sally will also see if the Town's Health Officer is in Town.

Allan Clark is willing to give an affidavit as to what he has seen at that location.

2:15 –Department Head Meeting – 3rd Q Budgets – John Monaghan discussed his budget. He is concerned with the many unknowns of the new building and how it will affect his budget in 2015. Propane costs, electric costs, and cleaning are things to look at. He would like to see an increase in personnel for next year also. John is looking to add a part-timer help position as well as an administrative person, which could be the same person. Vehicle repairs are up due to the poor condition of the Expedition. The Expedition is due to be replaced in 2015 and has a 5 year life expectancy. John would like to increase income by increasing the costs of police reports. The Select Board urges John to get an estimate now for cleaning of the new building for the 2015 budget. It was also mentioned that he should look into the maintenance costs, if any, of the security system.

The Town Building and Grounds and/or Highway is asked to be sure to keep the area at and around the Safety Services Building clear from snow and ice; even while under construction.

The Halloween Cup is on Saturday of this week. Kim is letting the Police know that we expect about 1500 extra people in Town. October 31 is the Halloween parade from the school and nighttime festivities will follow. Thanksgiving Day will be the Wobble Gobble.

Jeff Phillips discussed his budgets for Building & Grounds as well as the Cemetery. The tractor bill is coming in for labor and parts at about \$2,500 for repairs. There was discussion of using the funds from the Highway Heavy Equipment Fund. The Select Board will look into this. The truck is scheduled to be traded in 2015. Sally would like for Jeff to clean the foyer before the State Elections. John would like the town to have emergency money available for large ticket items such as the unforeseen repairs on the tractor. Jeff was asked why he was over budget in over time.

Sally reminded each department they will benefit from the rebates to the Health Insurance as far as the budget goes.

The cemetery stone washing and straightening will not be done this year due to injury of the person who does this work. The water line at the cemetery has not been fixed yet.

Jeff asked to remove the old bulletin board located at the Town Hall. After some discussion he was given permission to take it down.

Scott Leslie discussed the Highway Department budget. The vehicle repairs are over. He got a little extra sand but got a little less salt so it equals out. Scott's department is working to fix the Delage Farm Road Bridge. Funding is coming from the Bridge Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. Sally will see how the fund was set up. Funds coming from the Highway Block Grant include about \$9800 for tree removal and \$16,000 for the truck. Scott has an estimate of \$150 per hour to grind stumps on Harvard Street. This will be considered for next year's budget.

Greg Wells discussed the Transfer Station Budget. The \$3500 in the contingency fund will be used for curtains and snow guards. He is still working on pricing for the doors. It can't be taken from the Tri

Town Transfer Station Special Revenue Fund because it was not voted on at Town Meeting. The heating costs for the building are over. The heating system from the old Safety Services Building has been installed at the Transfer Station.

The Select Board would like to have a key to access the Mittersill Fire Station. The Water Department should not control the building. Scott would like to put the water truck up there. The Select Board would like to speak with someone from the Water Department regarding access.

Not much in the Recreation Budget has changed since the Tri Town met with the Select Board. Kim would like to see the plants thinned out at the island in the center of town. This is a project that Jeff and the Highway Department could help her with.

Scott wanted to discuss the “on call pay” policy that has recently been put into place. He would like to see a set amount from November 1 thru April 1. The Select Board will revisit the current policy.

Scott would like to use his personal phone for business use so he can carry only one phone. Sally will speak with our representative from Verizon. It’s possible that the Town could give him \$28 per month as compensation which is what the town pays on the governmental contract for the department phone he has now.

3:00 – Red McCarthy – Wells Road – The Select Board wanted to see what could be done in the interim to the Wells Road culvert near the Horse and Hounds. Red explained that the current culvert is undersized. He would suggest that the water from the brook be diverted back into the brook before it goes down the road. You could possibly raise or lower the road down from this location. Use wing walls? Train the water to go back into the culvert? Snagging and clearing the path way during calm times? Maybe another culvert in between? Many ways to accomplish some of this using town resources. Red will look a little further into this. Red thinks a good estimate for a bridge at this location would be \$42,500.

Red would suggest starting to put away money for this project now.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW:

Clarification was given by Allan Clark as to the internal changes to the building for future use.

John Lachapelle would like to see the same dollar budget as last year for each department.

The Select Board discussed the open house date for the Safety Services Committee. The subcommittee assigned to the planning of this has looked at January 25, 2015 as the date. There is now some concern about the date due to weather conditions. Ted Hoyle is adamant that the opening not be held until May of 2015. Bob Montagno and John Lachapelle would like to see the opening be held prior to Town Meeting but not necessarily in January. John Lachapelle would like for the Safety Services Building Committee to be poled on their thoughts of an opening date. He feels it’s a mistake to do the opening in January but would really like to see the opening before Town Meeting. The date being looked at would be March 8, 2015.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

UNH Forest Laws for Municipal Officials

Selectman Lachapelle adjourned the meeting at 4:13 pm

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne MacDonald, Executive Secretary