Francestown Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes January 17, 2011

The meeting being properly posted, and Hardwick and Carbee present constituting a quorum, Hardwick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Present: Nick Martin, BJ Carbee, Gary Paige and Fire Chief Kullgren.

7:00 p.m. Beth Bradford, Mandy Grenier and Heather Whipple Simard, representing the Grapevine met with the Board to discuss how funding would be handled for the Grapevine appropriation. The Grapevine would like to see funding remain a line item in the operational budget instead of presented as a warrant article. Hardwick explained that the intent is to place as a warrant article so that undesignated funds could possibly be used instead of having a tax burden. Hardwick explained that using undesignated funds is an option that they are looking at. BJ Carbee stated that the question previously came up as to how many people from Francestown actually utilize the Grapevine services. BJ Carbee expressed concern that with only \$3000 coming from Francestown it does represent 15% of their funding and that due to the economy it is critically important to support. Beth Bradford stated that the Grapevine served 179 people from Francestown last year and 153 already this year; the fiscal year is from June to July. Hardwick asked if the increase was due to need or because of awareness. Beth Bradford stated that it is probably both. BJ Carbee felt that if the Town does not support the funding it would increase the Town's welfare budget. BJ asked when the number for undesignated funds would be available. Hardwick said very close to Town Meeting. Hardwick stated that as of right now not final and agreed to talk more as a Board. She suggested that they contact Charlie Pyle (BAC Chairman) to arrange to go before that Board to explain what the Grapevine offers. Beth Bradford invited the Board and anyone else to stop in at the Grapevine and see first hand what their all about.

Fire Chief Kullgren gave the Board the MCH Medical Resource Hospital Service Agreement to review. Has some concerns and suggests sending to Town Council and Primex to review. Chief Kullgren submitted to the Board a revised budget as discussed with the BAC.

Elaine McClary – Rescheduled to next week, January 24, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.

Hardwick stated that the CIP met last week and suggested that since the budget is up the Board may want to consider adjusting Capital Reserves to off set the increase in the budget. Hardwick and S. Carbee agreed to a reduction of \$25,000 to the Capital Reserves.

S. Carbee talked with George C. and George M. and they both felt that they could take 2 hours off of the Wednesday summer hours. Hardwick felt that it would be best to leave

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the hours as they are. If the haul rates increase throughout the year then the Board could adjust to off set.

Hardwick asked Gary if he printed out the road specs. He had, and thought that they were dated. After both Gary and Betsy looked at them it was determined that they are up to date. Gary asked if the Town had in place a plow policy. The Board does not. Hardwick has been reviewing other Towns; she is willing to put something together for the Board and Gary to review.

BJ Carbee inquired if the Town had any no salt areas. Mr. Paige said no, there used to be a request from a Bible Hill Road resident (Jones) for minimal use, but that is no longer in effect.

S. Carbee received the maintenance plan for Bixbly Dam. He would like to meet with the Road Agent and Fire Chief to review. He thinks this will also help Henry Kunhardt with the hydrology study.

S. Carbee upon the recommendation of Cross County Appraisal Group moved to grant the abatement request of Leonard Poole. Hardwick seconded. Approved.

BJ Carbee said that the recreation commission is offering skating at the rec fields but Bixby Dam is still being used for skating and said that a vehicle was plowing it. It was confirmed that it was being plowed by a 4-wheeler.

S. Carbee mentioned that it would be nice to someday change the wording on the sign at Bixby Dam, apparently the sign states "hazardous area". Hardwick said that she has brought this up to prior Boards. It does need to be open to the public for recreation but could have better signage.

Hardwick asked Gary how things went this past storm. Gary advised that things went fine. Hardwick asked how he was doing with salt. Gary stated that the salt barn was full and the sand barn was also full.

S. Carbee asked where the snow is dumped when removed from in front of the horse sheds. Gary said that they usually only moves prior to Town Meeting and they dump it behind the Town Office (is this statement correct???) S. Carbee said that because buses use the Town Hall parking lot as a turn around he might need to do it earlier. He would like to see the transfers take place at the school. S. Carbee will bring this concern up at the next SAC meeting.

Hardwick stated that about three years ago she started a spreadsheet that had a list of road widths and when they were established. She did lose some info when her computer

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crashed; however, she found some notes that contain meets and bounds on some roads but not all.

Hardwick moved to adjourn. S. Carbee seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Miller