

TOWN OF FRANCESTOWN
OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
27 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 5
FRANCESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03043-0005
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2012

Selectmen Present: Betsy Hardwick, Scott Carbee, and Abigail Arnold

Also present: Dave Marazoff, Charlie Pyle, and Henry Kunhardt

CALL TO ORDER: Betsy called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Appointments

1. David Marazoff from Marazoff Assessing – David stated he has been a certified New Hampshire assessing supervisor since 2005. He stated he helped to found Cross Country Appraisal and left last year for business reasons. The Board asked if additional staff worked for his company and David said he had a few people who assist him. The Board asked Dave if he would do the utility values and he responded he was qualified to do them but said utilities have become increasingly complicated in recent years. He recommends that if the Town is going to end up using Skip Sansoucy to defend the values it should just use him to create the values. Mike stated a positive of Dave's proposal is that it is a flat cost to cover the services outlined, rather than an hourly rate. He also stated that the current use update would be done with a blended approach of Town staff time and Dave's firm. The Board unanimously agreed to engage with Marazoff Assessing for 2013 and 2014 General Assessing and the 2014 Statistical Revaluation. Mike and Dave will finalize the contract and bring it before the Board to be signed.

Charlie Pyle stated that the Christmas Tree lighting will be on December 2. Charlie and the Board discussed the budget schedule and the Board agreed to meet with the Budget Advisory Committee at 6:30 PM next Monday.

Items to Sign

1. 11/19 Payables Manifest
2. 11/19 Payroll Manifest
3. Yield Tax Warrant for Map 6 Lot 29.

Correspondence

1. Letter from George “Skip” Sansoucy responding to the BTLA’s request for information regarding the PSNH Appeal
2. Letter from Contoocook Valley Transportation Co. requesting funding
3. Letter from Harry Woodbury requesting \$2,500 for the Lake Host program
4. Email from Amherst Town Administrator James O’Mara thanking the Francetown for allowing Glen Dodge to assist Amherst with their emergency issue with their Town Hall

MOTION: Betsy made a motion to appoint Donna Barbalato to be a Trustee of the Trust Funds until March election seconded by Abigail. All in favor.

Appointments continued

2. Firewards – Chief Kullgren and the Firewards brought invoices to the Board requesting clarification about what is needed for supporting documentation. The Board discussed what information is needed for a reimbursement. The Firewards also clarified to the Board their membership for correspondence. The Board agreed to approve the two check requests to be paid out on 11/20.

New Business

Mike stated that Lyndeborough had contacted him about perambulating the Town lines either December 1st or December 8th. Betsy would like to participate and will let Perambulation Agent Ben Haubrich know.

2013 Budget discussion – The Board discussed what level of operating budget increases they can live with. Mike outlined to the Board the Departments’ Requested budgets and his recommendations. The departments’ overall requested operating budget is \$1,518,333, an unadjusted increase of 7.24%. Mike stated he recommends an operating budget of \$1,469,479, an unadjusted increase of 3.97%. He outlined some of the major increases and decreases in each of the budgets and changes he recommends. A major adjustment in this year’s budget is he is recommending that the Town include expenditures that are offset by revenues be included in the budget. The Town’s auditor and the Department of Revenue Administration agree with this recommendation. The Board discussed removing the old ski shop as a warrant article next year and if an adjustment will need to be made to the operating budget to cover this expense. The Board also discussed the possibility of waiting until 2014 to deal with this building. The Board agreed to continue budget discussions next week with the Budget Advisory Committee.

Old Business

Mike stated he spoke to Town Counsel on Friday and Bart is still waiting to hear back from the Condo Association’s lawyer about the condo fee lien release negotiation.

The Board discussed debris on Journey's End road and agreed to have a Transfer Station Attendant pick it up. Mike will also ask them to pick up and dispose of the old gutters at the Town Hall Annex.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: 5 PM on November 26th

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 8 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Branley

Approved on December 3, 2012

Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

Selectman Scott S. Carbee

Selectperson Abigail Arnold