

# **TOWN OF FRANCESTOWN**

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

27 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 5

FRANCESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03043-0005

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**

**June 18, 2012**

**Meeting called to order** at 7:01 PM. Betsy Hardwick, Scott Carbee and Abigail Arnold in attendance and Christine Lavery (taking minutes)

**Waste Disposal Fence Update.** Becky Moul, Waste disposal Committee, sent an email to the BOS concerned about the gates on the new fence at the transfer station. She noted they do not work the way they had intended and do not swing both ways. The BOS agreed to meet Wed. morning at 7:00 AM with some of the Rec committee members at the transfer station so they could see the problems. The BOS requested Gary Paige, road agent, and George Cilley, transfer station, attend the meeting for discussion of the fence.

**Town Hall Update.** Maureen VonRosenvinge, Heritage Commission came in to ask permission to put up a post board covered in Plexiglas on the side of the Town Hall. This will also direct them to the horse stall display for more in depth detail. BOS agreed.

**PA-28 Form Review.** Review of annual request from the DRA to see if the town will be using the PA-28 form, the Taxpayer Inventory Blank in 2013. BJ Carbee noted the form was hard for some for the older folks to understand. The BOS agreed the information would be useful but to skip it this year. All members of the Board agreed not to use the form in 2013.

**Abatement Recommendation/Northern New England Telephone.** The BOS reviewed the abatement recommendation from Cross Country Appraisal to deny the appeal. The BOS agreed with the denial and signed accordingly.

**PSNH Assessment Issue.** Hardwick spoke with Town Counsel regarding Northeast Utilities (PSNH) appeal on their tax assessment. He agrees that this is an important issue to fight and that it makes sense to join other towns in group litigation with Robert Upton (and other attorneys) to reduce costs. The Board agreed to do so. Hardwick will notify counsel and he will take care of notifying Robert Upton as he is a partner.

**Budget Committee Meeting.** BOS discussed the content of what will be covered in the meeting next week with the Advisory Budget Committee. Nick Wilder, Treasurer, noted it was also a good time to discuss our sense of direction and how we should proceed with the budget process to have better communication. They asked the Administrative Assistant to email Charlie Pyle and make sure everyone received a copy of the 5-31-2012 to date budget numbers.

**Driscoll Hill Road Bridge condition.** Hardwick noted that the bridge decking on the logging bridge over Brennan Brook on Driscoll Hill Rd has rotted and a horse fell through, with no reported complications. The BOS discussed putting a cautionary sign up, or alternatively, repairing the decking. This road is a designated emergency lane and as such may be minimally repaired. The Board agreed to ask the road agent to take a look at the bridge and provide an estimate for the repairs before making a decision. Hardwick will follow up on it.

**Timber Bond.** The BOS authorized the release of the Derr timber bond-reported no timber cut.

Polly Freese noted that private properties that contain gravel should be noted on the tax maps. These sites cannot be disturbed without the permission of the current holder/descendent of the grave.

**Correspondence.**

Right to Know response written to Tom Anderson regarding a Right to Know request dated June 16, 2012.

Letter from New Hampshire Retirement System detailing the refund check-refund is due to reporting errors.

Final signed copy of the Septage Agreement with the Town of Allenstown.

Letter from DOT, approving the town's request for a waiver of the Qualifications Basked Selection process for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NH Turnpike S. Bridge #125/077 allowing us to use CLD Consulting Engineers.

Received a Notice of Public Hearing from the County of Hillsborough Executive Committee/Convention detailing the proposed fiscal year 2013 budget to be held on June 19 and June 21, both at 6pm.

Letter from the Library Trustees was received bringing the BOS up to date regarding some landscaping issue and an update on the Library's volunteer policy.

Weekly Police report reviewed

Copy of a Letter from Lycott Environmental that had been sent to Scobie Lake abutters/owners, alerting them when the milfoil treatment will take place-it was noted that the letter was received some time ago and the work has already been done.

**Signature Approvals.**

BOS approved and signed payroll manifest for w/e 6/16/2012

BOS approved and signed accounts payable manifest

BOS approved and signed an appointment for Paul McGrath to the Recreation Committee through 2015

BOS approved two veteran's credits, one for John and one for Lynn Oakes

**Tax Deeded Properties.** Hardwick advised that she followed up with town counsel on the tax deeded condo units and we need to send out a "Notices of Offering Sale" ASAP to the former owners and any lien holders via certified return receipt mail and first class. Counsel has provided a template for the notices – Hardwick advised the Administrative Assistant that this was forwarded to her earlier in the day and asked her to check with the tax collector to get names of any lien holders and to prepare the notices. The Board approved signing them when prepared.

**Miscellaneous.** BOS asked Administrative Assistant to make sure all account #'s were on the invoices to be paid.

**Minutes.** Hardwick noted that there were multiple and significant errors on the 6/1 minutes – too many to easily note on the printed copy – including errors regarding decisions made. Hardwick suggested that in order to minimize errors, and with the Boards agreement, that the minutes be kept very simple, just topics discussed and decisions made. After some discussion the Board agreed. Some of the problems with 6/11 minutes were discussed, and the Administrative Assistant said she would attempt to correct them.

**Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a)**

Motion was made to enter into a non-public session Under RSA 91-A:3II(a) at 8:30 pm.

Back in public session at 8:50 pm.

Noted that the Board voted to seal the non-public minutes.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:51 pm.

Approved on July 30, 2012

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Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

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Selectman Scott Carbee

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Selectperson Abigail Arnold