

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

January 28, 2013

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

Also present: Brandon Lawrence, Bob Lindgren, BJ Carbee, Tom Anderson

CALL TO ORDER: Betsy called the meeting to order at 5:30

Items to Sign

1. The Board signed a thank you note to Ben Haubrich for donating his time and expenses related to perambulating the Town lines with Bennington, New Boston, and Lyndeborough
2. Congratulatory letter to Jason St. Cyr on achieving the distinction of Master Roads Scholar
3. Congratulatory letter to George Morgan Jr. on achieving the distinction of Master Roads Scholar
4. Federal diesel excise tax waiver – the Board authorized Betsy to sign this
5. Proposal for Francestown Sand and Gravel to demolish the pump house on East Road for \$3,098.75
6. Payables manifest for January 28th
7. Payroll manifest for January 28th

New Business

1. Proposed resident letter from the area Boards of Selectmen – the Board discussed a revised draft presented by Abigail. The Board agreed to approve this draft and if the other Towns wanted to use the original draft we would send this one out on our own.
2. Revised Treasurer's reports for October, November, and December.
3. Certificates of completion for Primex training on the importance of performance evaluations for Gary Paige and Michael Branley; Mike stated Chief Bell also attended the course but Mike was not able to get a copy of his certificate yet.
4. There was a discussion about hydraulic closing mechanisms for the doors at the Town Hall Annex that are needed. Scott will get a quote.
5. Scott stated he is still working with the contractors regarding the geothermal well at the library – since there is no bleed line we may need a new quote from Capital Well.

6. Abigail stated that she filled in for Betsy at a meeting with CLD Engineers and expressed the Town's dissatisfaction with the current situation. CLD has a new structural engineer that will be working on the project.

Correspondence

1. Weekly Administrative Report
2. Dismissal of the EEOC case filed by Christine Lavery against the Town for gender discrimination
3. Correspondence from George Sansoucy to FairPoint and PSNH on behalf of the Town
4. Letter from PSNH notifying the Town that they have paid their taxes under protest due to their appeal of their abatement request denial
5. Notice from Xfinity
6. Informational breakfast and luncheons for PSNH on energy related topics
7. Request for abatement from Tax Collector Elaine McClary regarding Map 6 Lot 70-3 – the taxpayer placed his tax payment in the drop box on the outside of the Town Offices and it was not discovered until about a month later. The outside box was immediately removed to prevent this from happening in the future. The Board agreed to abate the interest in the amount of \$44.28.

Old Business

The Board reviewed the current draft warrant. There was discussion about the merits of changing to an appointed Town Treasurer and how the duties of the job have expanded significantly, which makes it difficult to find residents who are qualified.

The Board announced that they had moved the budget public hearing to February 7th at 7 p.m. to allow Frankestown's residents to attend the ConVal Deliberative Session.

The Board discussed some of the highlights Betsy had identified for the draft Selectmen's report for the Annual Report. The Board approved Wendy's proposed cover to the annual report. The Board agreed to recognize the late Harry Varnum and Lou Wiederhold in the annual report. The Board agreed to insert Henry's bridge report after the Highway reports and have a "bridge closed" picture. The Board also agreed to recognize the Fire Department's 75th anniversary just before the Fire Chief's annual report. The Board agreed to order the same number of reports as last year.

The Board discussed preparations that need to be made for Town Meeting; Mike will coordinate.

The Board discussed adding additional open office hours at the Selectmen's Office. Mike stated he thought Wednesday afternoon made sense considering that is when building inspector Ed Hunter has his office hour. Mike stated Ed has had a good amount of traffic so far. The Board agreed that after the audit is complete to add to the normal office hours 12:00-4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Approval of Minutes

1. The Board approved the January 7th minutes as amended
2. The Board approved the January 14th minutes as amended
3. The Board approved the January 22nd minutes as amended

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: Monday February 4th at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 6:45.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Branley

Approved on February 18, 2013

Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

Selectman Scott S. Carbee

Selectperson Abigail Arnold