

TOWN OF FRANCESTOWN

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

27 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 5

FRANCESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03043-0005

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

January 7, 2013

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

Also present: Brandon from the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript, Mike Tartalis, Henry Kunhardt, Charlie Pyle, Tom Anderson, Polly Freese, Chris Danforth, Gary Paige, Bruce Harrington, Danielle Harrington, Abby Dawson, George Morgan, Carol Brock, Mary Farrell, Guy Tolman, Library Trustees Gloria Normile, Nancy Hibbard, Kelly Marshall, Mike Petrovick, and others unknown to the minute taker

CALL TO ORDER: Betsy called the meeting to order at 6:00

Items to Sign

1. Payables Manifest for 1/7/13
2. Payroll Manifest for 1/7/13
3. Deputy Health Officer Appointment for Ed Hunter
4. Milfoil Grant for Scobie Pond in 2013

MOTION: Betsy made a motion, seconded by Scott to accept the funds related to the DES Grant for milfoil. All in favor.

Correspondence

1. Letter from Ricoh regarding our service agreement – they will no longer be offering Cannon equipment.
2. Right to know request from Tom Anderson for Quarter 4 police department time cards – Mike stated these are prepared for review
3. Letter from PSNH regarding the two new street lights on Main Street and 2nd NH Turnpike. Scott stated he had spoken to a PSNH representative and if the Board approves the work the new lights can be put in next week. The Board agreed to authorize this work.
4. Letter from the New England Relay race requesting permission to travel through Francetown in 2013 – the Board agreed to approve their request.

Mike stated the auction for Unit 11 is scheduled for Saturday the 12th at 10 a.m. and said the Board needed to authorize someone to sign the purchase and sale agreement.

MOTION: Betsy made a motion, seconded by Scott, to authorize Mike or Abigail to sign the purchase and sale agreement for Unit 11. All in favor.

Mike stated he was going to ask Chief Bell to have an officer present to ensure there are no issues.

Appointments

Road Agent Gary Paige – Gary informed the Board that while previously there appeared to be several viable options to repair the bridge on Second NH Turnpike, according to our engineering firm CLD Engineers at this time the solutions are insufficient to meet current standards in terms of hydraulic capacity. He went on to say that any of the affordable repairs that could be made on either bridge would be considered temporary and would not change the need for the full replacement on our current schedule. The Board discussed if it would be viable to look at options to repair Woodward Hill Road and they could not see a way it would be cost effective at this time. The Board agreed to have Mike put a synopsis of the findings on the Town website.

Guy Tolman asked what the load for the bridge on Cross Road is – Gary stated it is posted E-2 by the state and there is nothing the Town can do to direct traffic away from that area. There was discussion about the intersection at the end of Red House Road and what additional signage may be able to be put on Route 136. There was discussion about what caused the bridges to degrade quicker than anticipated; the Board agreed that they could not be linked to any events where FEMA funds are available. Bruce Harrington stated that Crotched Mountain's directions still send traffic down 2nd NH Turnpike; Betsy stated the Town had spoken to the mountain about redirecting traffic and would try to follow up with them. Gary will follow up again with the state about getting a sign in Mont Vernon to direct traffic away from the Turnpike entirely. There was also a discussion about how the detours are narrow for big trucks although everyone agreed there were no other options for them at this time.

Old Business

Betsy stated that she had investigated if the Board of Selectmen could change recommendations of departments' requested budgets and it can.

Abigail stated that she spoke to Welfare Administrator Phyllis Naegeli and she is recommending that we increase the welfare assistance line by \$15,000 based on current caseload.

John Swain from Capitol Well – Scott stated that John is here to discuss an issue with the geothermal well at the Library. John stated that the well was installed in 2008 and the filter on the well has been getting clogged with sediment for some time. At the current status, the pump is working harder than normal and will fail prematurely. John stated this is not a new problem with the well at the library. A lakos can be mounted on the well and would remove the sediment. John stated there was no way to anticipate this issue before the well was put in. There was discussion about if the well was installed with a bleed line that allows water to flow out of the system. The cost to make the needed repairs is about \$3,000, assuming it was originally installed

with a bleed line. The Board unanimously approved the contract with Capital Well to install a lakos and fix this issue.

The Board discussed the removal and demolition of the pump house on East Road. Scott stated representatives from Shaw are going to be looking at the rental shop to put together a price for the Town to use in the future.

Betsy stated she wanted to make sure the Board leaves time to schedule meetings with the department heads who will be impacted by proposed changes.

The Board agreed to schedule the budget public hearing for February 6th at 7 p.m. in the Lower Level of the Town Offices.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the 12/3 minutes as written

The Board approved the 1/2/13 minutes as amended

Polly Freese presented the Board a copy of the Town Warrant from 1948 that the Cemetery Trustees had come across.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: January 14 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Branley

Approved on January 28, 2013

Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

Selectman Scott S. Carbee

Selectperson Abigail Arnold