

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2013

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley

Also present: Steve Griffin, Mike Tartalis, Betty Behrsing, Robyn Haubrich, Tom Anderson, Judi Miller, John Arnold, Polly Freese, Lisa Bourbeau

CALL TO ORDER: Betsy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Steve Griffin wanted to thank the Board of Selectmen for having the Heritage Museum open on behalf of the Old Meeting House Board of Trustees when they had their Bike event. He also asked the Board to consider revising the sign ordinance to incorporate the Old Meeting House.

Items to Sign

1. Abatement Application for Map14 Lot 23. Recommendation is to grant the abatement. The Board agreed to grant the abatement.
2. Abatement Application for Map 7 Lot 5-11B. Recommendation is to grant the abatement. The Board agreed to grant the abatement.
3. Abatement Application for Map 7 Lot 5-10B. Recommendation is to grant the abatement. The Board agreed to grant the abatement.
4. Abatement Application for Map 7 Lot 5-6B. Recommendation is to grant the abatement. The Board agreed to grant the abatement.
5. Abatement Application for Map 7 Lot 5-9B. Recommendation is to grant the abatement. The Board agreed to grant the abatement.
6. Abatement Application for Map 7 Lot 5-12B . Recommendation is to grant the abatement. The Board agreed to grant the abatement.
7. Abatement Application for Map 8 Lot 59. Recommendation is to grant the abatement. The Board agreed to grant the abatement. Abigail abstained from signing the Shattuck Realty abatement because she is an abutter, although she agrees with the recommendation.
8. Abatement Application for Map 7 Lot 5-6A . Recommendation is to grant the abatement. The Board agreed to grant the abatement.
9. Payroll Manifest for 6/10/13
10. Payables Manifest for 6/10/13
11. Notice of Intent to Cut for Map 8 Lot 4
12. Building Permit for Map 9 Lot 22-3
13. Timber Tax Levy for Map 6 Lot 27 and Map 2 Lot 42
14. Land Use Change Tax for the lot with the cell tower on Dennison Pond Road Map 6 Lot 61-2

New Business

1. Letter from Library Trustees requesting the Board appoint Janet Hicks as an alternate.
MOTION: Betsy made a motion to appoint Janet Hicks as a Library Trustee alternate. Seconded by Abigail. All in favor.
2. Liability waiver for hanging flags on the PSNH telephone poles. Mike stated he had discussions with Primex about it and although they had a minor issue they agreed that it was not a significant exposure.
MOTION: Betsy made a motion to authorize Mike to sign the waiver when it is filled out. Seconded by Scott. All in favor.
3. Constellation Electric Supply Agreement. A five month agreement has been signed and at a meeting in Peterborough it was discussed that the group will look at other vendors as well for better pricing.

There was a discussion regarding the poly spreader and how future truck purchases may impact what type or how many spreaders make the most sense for the Town. The Board agreed to not authorize the purchase of the spreader at this time and that Gary can either make the repair on the larger sander or wait until the Board's next meeting to discuss it further.

4. Scott stated Saturday at 1:00 p.m. is the event to recognize Augustus Bixby at Cemetery #3 and FIHS will be open.
5. The Board discussed their schedule going forward and agreed to continue meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Correspondence

1. Letter from Sansoucy regarding the 2012 abatement recommendations for FairPoint and PSNH.
2. Mike's weekly update for 6/6.
3. Email from New England Relay regarding using the parking lot for the Town Offices to pick up someone as part of their event. The Board agreed to authorize them.
4. Right-to-know request from Kitty Houghton.
5. Order from the Board of Tax and Land Appeals regarding PSNH Appeal.
6. Note from the Kirlin's complimenting the road crew on their work this winter.

Administrative Update

Mike stated he is still working on getting quotations for new storm windows for the Town Office.

Abigail asked for an update on the new defibrillator and Scott explained how the decision was made for the new defibrillator. He said one option was to have the old one refurbished which would have cost more than to purchase a new one. They researched what the area hospitals used and got pricing from two companies. Pricing was met by one of the companies who also offered a better trade-in value on the one currently used. They went through the process by submitting for a warrant article at town meeting and it was voted for.

There was a discussion how this process was different from how the grader was quoted and purchased and purchases needed to be consistent if policies are going to be followed.

There was a discussion regarding fuel pricing. Scott said at this time it would be better to work out fuel prices for the Town on its own with local vendors. The Board asked Mike to get pricing for an upcoming meeting.

Policy Review

The Board reviewed and discussed the “Board of Selectmen Procedures” that Mike created based on current practices and RSA’s. Abigail suggested making it clear under the section of “organization” that any ex-officio positions vote on their own personal opinion and not the Board’s.

The Board reviewed and discussed Personnel Policy suggested changes. Many changes are at the recommendation of Primex. Town Counsel has not reviewed it yet. Mike will submit the policy to Town Counsel to review all changes.

Mike mentioned he would like to work on making all of the town email addresses consistent. At this time there are many different ending exchanges and addresses are inconsistent.

Polly Freese asked for an update on the bridge. Betsy answered they have started with the wood deck today. Mike is estimating a completion within two weeks weather permitting.

The Board discussed meeting with the Budget Advisory Committee and quarterly updates with department heads. They decided scheduling in July would make sense. They will meet with the Solid Waste Committee on July 1.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: 6:30 June 24

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Wendy Brien-Baker

Approved on June 24, 2013

Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

Selectman Scott S. Carbee

Selectperson Abigail Arnold