

TOWN OF FRANCESTOWN

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

27 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 5

FRANCESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03043-0005

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

August 19, 2013

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley

Also present: Ben Haubrich, Robyn Haubrich, Tom Anderson, Judi Miller, Polly Freese, BJ Carbee, Betty Berhsing, Lisa Bourbeau, Mike Tartalis, Maureen von Rosenvinge, Abby Dawson, Dennis Calcutt, Fire Chief Larry Kullgren, and Diane Curren

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

Betsy stated she understood that Becky would not be coming in this evening. Scott stated the feeling of the employees at the Transfer Station was to stay with the current company for refrigeration appliances, where there is no charge to the Town or the residents. Scott stated the program collecting plastic bags has been working well however we have already filled the boxes they sent and they cost \$25 per box. He feels the cost of the program potentially needs to be looked at. The Board agreed no decisions need to be made at this time.

Items to Sign

1. Payables Manifest for 8/19/13
2. Payroll Manifest for 8/19/13

Appointments

1. Dennis Calcutt asked if the Board would allow a biking event to go over Woodward Hill Road on September 21st. Dennis stated he thought on one side of the bridge the barriers needed to be moved a little further apart for the bikes to go through safely. The Board agreed to allow the event to go forward and have the road agent make accommodations to allow the bikes to travel through safely.

Items to Sign (continued)

3. Property tax exemption application for Francestown Improvement & Historical Society; the recommendation is to grant the exemption and the Board agreed.
4. Property tax exemption application for Old Meeting House; the recommendation is to grant the exemption and the Board agreed.
5. Property tax exemption application for Community Church of Francestown; the recommendation is to grant the exemption and the Board agreed.
6. Property tax exemption application for Francestown Village Water Company; the recommendation is to deny because to qualify the organization's purpose must apply to the public generally, not just the members of the organization and the Board agreed.
7. Property tax exemption application for Contoocook Valley School District; the recommendation is to grant the exemption and the Board agreed.

Appointments (continued)

2. Thulander Heritage Museum Stewardship Discussion – Betsy stated Charlie spoke to Alan and he wants to have the building coordinated by a committee with representatives of the selectmen, Fracestown Improvement and Historical Society, and the Fire Department. Larry stated he spoke to the Fire Department officers and they would like to be represented in the oversight of the museum. Betsy stated she thought the committee system would make sense however one person should be the curator to act as the day-to-day coordinator of the facility. Scott stated in his 33 years in Town he did not think FIHS ever had a role in the thought process for the museum and he thinks it is a power grab. He feels the Heritage Commission is the correct organization to manage the museum based on RSA. Scott stated the building and the items were given to the Town, not FIHS. Scott stated he has not seen any vast improvements in FIHS projects such as the Beehive and the work done by the Heritage Commission has been excellent. Maureen read through the state statute outlining Heritage Commissions and stated this was one of the purposes for Heritage Commissions. Maureen stated she thought control of the building should not be taken away from the duly authorized commission and that she felt the cache for the building should go to the Heritage Commission and the Town. Betsy asked who said anything about giving the responsibility or the cache away from the Town? Maureen stated she thought the committee as discussed could work however ultimately someone needs to be in charge day to day. Betsy stated that is what the curator's role will be; the point of having the committee is to get people involved in the management of the museum other than the selectmen. Abigail stated in her opinion the responsibility is currently with the Town through the Board of Selectmen. Abigail asked and Maureen responded that the Heritage Commission did see themselves in the future serving as the caretakers of the historical aspects of the Town Hall. Abby Dawson stated she is here to represent Charlie because he could not be here. Betsy reiterated that Alan's feeling is to have a committee represented by the Town, the FIHS, and the Fire Department. Abigail stated she agreed with Scott that long term a separate committee for this purpose was not a good option. The Board discussed having a member of the Heritage Commission on the committee. Abigail stated assuming the selectmen retain ultimate authority she did not see an issue with having a Heritage Commission member on the committee. Abigail stated she felt Mike should be the Board's representative and the Board agreed. Abigail asked a question about how the building will be set up when the foyer is complete and Larry explained the plan. The Board agreed to have a four-person committee with representatives of the Board of Selectmen, the Heritage Commission, FIHS, and the Fire Department. Abigail asked if the Town has keys to the building yet and Larry responded that he would bring them in this week. The Board agreed to have the Heritage Museum open for the event on September 21. The Board agreed to have the museum open from ten to two on Labor Day. Larry agreed to serve as the representative on the committee for the Fire Department. Mike stated he would review the land lease with FIHS and put together a charge for the committee for the Board to review.

Items to Sign (continued)

MOTION: Betsy made a motion to approve and sign the statistical update contract with Marazoff Assessing, seconded by Scott. All in favor.

MOTION: Betsy made a motion to approve and sign the revised personnel policy, seconded by Scott. All in favor.

New Business

1. July reconciliation summary for the General Fund

2. July reconciliation summary for the Heritage Fund
3. July reconciliation summary for the Conservation Fund
4. Treasurer's Report for July
5. Notification from DOT that they are going to be replacing a culvert on Route 47.
6. Budget-to-actuals Report for July

Correspondence

1. Letter from Comcast that accompanied the franchise check
2. Mike's weekly memo
3. Right-to-know request from Tom Anderson
4. Budget and Finance workshop – Mike stated Wendy is going this year. Mike asked and the Board agreed to let the budget advisory committee know about it in case they are interested in attending.
5. Driveway permit from DOT for Map 1 Lot 1.
6. Letter from LGC about their new executive director.
7. Notice from NH Homeland Security about our FEMA reimbursement for winter storm NEMO – we should have a check by the end of September.

Scott stated Millers had excavated the septic system pump area for the Annex and it was ready to be pumped. The Board agreed to have the loader remove the old phone booth by the Annex. There was a discussion about adding a manhole cover similar to what is at the town offices at the Annex so it is easier to access in the future.

Liaison Reports

Scott stated the Selectmen's Advisory Committee met last week. The school board has decided to accept a check for the LGC refund and they are not planning to do the parking lot repairs this year.

Old Business

Betsy stated Jack Curren had spoken to her about the "No Parking" signs on Pleasant Pond Road. She and Mike had done some research and although there is a signed ordinance on file there is no record that a public hearing was held or when the ordinance was approved. As such, the no parking zone is not enforceable. Mike stated his suggestion was that once the road is reconstructed the Board could take up whether to relocate the no parking zone.

Administrative Update

Mike stated he had someone contact him about their inability to pay the fees associated with their dog licensing and he is looking for general direction from the Board about how to handle these situations. The Board agreed to have people go through Mike and he will discuss the matter with the Board in nonpublic and they will decide how to handle it.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes for their July 1 meeting as written.
The Board approved the minutes for their July 8 meeting as amended.

Mike Tartalis asked what the progress on Pleasant Pond Road was and the Board stated they had requested an expedited review of the permit, which was denied. DES stated they expected to review the permit by late August. Mike T. asked and the Board agreed that if it does not look like reconstruction will go forward this year they will address the large pot hole near his beach.

MOTION: Betsy made a motion to enter nonpublic session seconded by Abigail pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c) reputation.

Roll Call vote to enter nonpublic session:	Betsy Hardwick	Aye
	Scott Carbee	Aye
	Abigail Arnold	Aye

The meeting room was cleared and the Board entered nonpublic session at 7:55 p.m.

At 8:05 p.m. the Board returned to public session having decided to seal the minutes having voted by a vote of 2/3's or greater of the members present to not disclose the minutes and decisions reached therein to the public, as divulgence of the information discussed likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the public body itself, until – in the opinion of a majority of the members – the aforesaid circumstances no longer apply.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: August 26 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Branley

Approved on September 16, 2013

Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

Selectman Scott S. Carbee

Selectperson Abigail Arnold