

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

**January 16, 2014**

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley and Police Chief Steve Bell

Also present: None

**CALL TO ORDER:** Betsy called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**MOTION:** Betsy made a motion to enter nonpublic session seconded by Scott pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel.

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 4:30 p.m.

At 6:10 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.

Also present: Tom Anderson

The Board discussed with Chief Bell the proposed additional hours for the Police Department. The Board and Chief Bell discussed several factors that impact his department's payroll budget, including possible administrative staffing. Mike stated based on the information available at this time he would be in favor of going with Chief Bell's original recommendation and the Board agreed. There was a discussion about the traffic monitoring device on the warrant. Abigail asked and Steve confirmed that he could not apply for the grant until the money was appropriated. The Board asked Chief Bell to have the grant application paperwork filled out and ready for Town Meeting and he agreed. The Board discussed the warrant article for a police cruiser and Chief Bell agreed he did not say he could wait a year, he said the Town could continue using the cruiser however maintenance expenses would increase significantly. The Board discussed the aluminum that Ford is now experimenting using with new vehicles and

agreed that it was not something the Town should pursue at this time. Tom asked if there was statistical evidence that supported the need for the additional shift and Chief Bell responded that he could not provide statistics to support it because there was no data for when officers were not working.

The Board discussed and reviewed the proposed capital improvement program. Abigail stated the current CIP includes funding for potential improvements to Old County Road North and Cressy Hill Road bridges and the exhaust system at the Fire Department. The total increases are roughly \$10,000 more per year and the Board agreed they supported it.

Scott stated he felt the ConVal budget needed to be reduced. He attended the ConVal Budget Hearing and the School Board did not budge on their budget. Scott discussed some of the proposed warrant articles and their impacts.

The Board discussed and agreed that the Town needs a new server for data security purposes. Mike asked and the Board agreed that he could send out the budget with the only change being the police shifts.

Mike stated Dennis Orsi asked him to ask the Board if the Town would jointly request an extension with the BTLA to give more time to continue negotiations. After a discussion the Board agreed to support the request.

Mike stated we do not have the amount but we will need to be able to make out a check to accompany the DES permit for the Turnpike Bridge Project. The Board agreed to authorize Mike to create the check. The Board authorized Betsy to send a letter requesting an expedited permit.

**NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING:** January 27, 2014

**ADJOURNMENT:** Betsy adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Branley

Approved on March 31, 2014

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Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

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Selectman Scott S. Carbee

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Selectperson Abigail Arnold