

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

October 20, 2014

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley, Librarian Carol Brock and Administrative Assistant Marti Callahan

Also present: Deborah Rogers, Stewart Brock, Tom Anderson, Betty Behrsing, Polly Freese, Ben & Robyn Haubrich, Elizabeth Hunter Lavalee

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

Appointments

Abigail announced Chief Bell had another commitment and may be in later.

Items to Sign

1. Payroll Manifest for 10/20/2014
2. Payables Manifest for 10/20/2014
3. Timber tax levy for Map 08 Lot 048 & 048-2
4. Building Permit for Map 8 Lot 47-2, which came with a memo from Ed Hunter indicating "There will be a condition on the permit that the existing structure on the lot will become an accessory building before the CO will be issued." Signing conditional on that notation being added to the permit/application.
5. Form for the road closure of Main Street for Halloween on 10/31/2014 at 6:00 p.m. – the Board authorized Abigail to sign the form.
6. General election warrant for November 4, 2014 between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

New Business

1. Library water issue. The area in front has been dug up and there were some voids that have been filled and sealed on the right side. Some of the bricks above the left window are loose. It is recommended that the windows be bricked up and the estimate received is not to exceed \$750.00 and the Board agreed to do so. Despite recent heavy rains no water has been detected in basement. Deb Rogers suggested that granite matching the foundation be used for a consistent appearance. Gary recommends moving the Rose of

Sharon. Where to move it will be determined after grading work has been finished. There was discussion regarding rain-gutter cleaning and routine maintenance.

2. Abigail stated Bill McAuley submitted an estimate for putting in a concrete floor in the basement of the Heritage Museum at a cost of \$4,975.00. It will be considered in the upcoming budget.
3. Thulander Building Advisory Committee Final Report contains a Curator Summary of Duties, Item Donation and Loan Form, Policy for Accessions, Policies for Deaccessions and Policy for Loans. Abigail suggested Michael send a thank you letter to the members of the Committee.

MOTION: Scott made a motion to approve the Advisory Committee forms and policies submitted, seconded by Betsy. All in favor.

4. Scott stated, after attending Wednesday's CIP meeting and going through the amortization schedule on heavy equipment, he thinks the schedule is a little short for the heavy equipment. He stated that when they were getting rid of the old second hand trucks, the idea was to buy new so they would have longevity. He thought they were supposed to be turned in after 20-25 years. Abigail stated that, based on the recommendation of the committee, there was a fifteen year life on the trucks but there is no intention to replace them before needed. Money is being reserved for when they need to be replaced. There was further discussion regarding mandates, life expectancy of trucks and cost. Abigail stated it is subject to regular review and it will be looked into. The Board agreed Scott could discuss his thoughts with Gary.

Correspondence

1. Copy of form sent by the Cultural Resources Staff to the NH Division of Historical Resources for Transportation Projects related to the bridge replacement on Woodward Hill Road and Juniper Hill Road
2. Letter from Nancy Mayville/DOT indicating that the engineering estimates for the Woodard Hill Bridge are high and she has asked CLD to take another look at that.
3. Letter from Nancy Mayville/DOT indicating that the engineering estimates for the Juniper Hill Bridge are adequate and the consultant is approved to proceed to final design.
4. Letter and Bridge Inspection Report from Nancy Mayville/DOT indicating there is no remaining safe calculated live load capacity for the Scoby Bridge, resulting in the required posting of the bridge closed, which was done last week and the Bridge closed as of last Friday.
5. General Fund Bank Reconciliations for August and September.
6. Letter from Lycott Environmental enclosing final report submitted to the State of NH summarizing the Management of Variable Milfoil in Scoby Pond during the 2014 season.
7. Letter from the Grapevine requesting funding in 2015 at a \$4,000 level, which is the same as last year.
8. Weekly Police Report 10/10 - 10/16.
9. Mike's weekly update of 10/17/14.

Liaison Reports

Mike indicated that, as he discussed with the Board, he has some building projects planned in each year of the CIP. The best way to proceed without resulting in significant tax increases is to project using surplus; based on current balance and what the budget revenues are looking like to apply surplus of \$70,000 - \$75,000 to those projects in each year. It should be understood that, in the out years, if the surplus is not there, we will not proceed with the projects. The Board agreed to support this proposal. Abigail noted that by the end of the Conservation Bond we will be over the hurdle of the \$700,000 fire truck expense and will be partially past the replacement of the dump trucks.

Betsy stated she received a notice someone, who said that he went up to Crotched Mountain cell tower three times this year and every time the gate has been open. The resident also noted that someone had started a fire in the middle of the road and trash was strewn around the area. The managers of the cell tower were previously sent a letter regarding the gate and it still remains open at times. Betsy is going to visit the site over the next few weeks to take photos and see if the gate is open. If the gate is open another letter will be sent.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the 9/29 Minutes as amended.

The Board approved the 10/13 Minutes as amended.

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

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 7:05 p.m.

At 7:10 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 render a proposed action ineffective, until – in the opinion of a majority of the members – the aforesaid circumstances no longer apply.

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

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 7:10 p.m.

At 7:20 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: Monday, October 27, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Abigail adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Branley

Approved on October 27, 2014

Board of Selectmen Chair Abigail Arnold

Selectman Scott S. Carbee

Selectperson Betsy Hardwick