

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

February 17, 2014

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley & Road Agent Gary Paige

Also present: Henry Kunhardt, Thomas Clark, Betty Behrsing, Tom Paige, Jeff Tarr, Judi Miller, Janet Quilty, Tom Anderson, Lisa Bourbou, Charlie Pyle, Sarah Pyle and John Arnold.

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

Appointments

1. Thomas Clark – Thomas stated he submitted a Right to Know Request to the Town Office, he received a response from the Town Administrator, that an answer would be provided by February 7th, a month later, and then received a response on February 10th. He said he was told he could come to the Town Office to look through files for the answers, which he feels is not a common practice of the Right to Know Law. Thomas said that because he has received a late response in the past and now this late response that the Town Administrator should be reprimanded and have a write-up in his personnel file instead of commending him as he was the previous week. There was a discussion regarding Mr. Clark acting respectfully. Scott said he felt an apology should be given since the deadline was not met. Betsy asked what the date on the letter was and Mike answered the letter was dated February 7th and was put in the mail that day. Thomas asked why it took a month for an answer to his request and Mike answered due to the broad nature of the request for all documents related to the maintenance work of a road that it would take that long to review the files for them. Once he reviewed the files, he realized he could not possibly provide all documents related to the Cressy Hill Road so the only way to satisfy the request was to let Thomas review all of the Town's records.
2. Road Agent Gary Paige – Gary said he would like to request the Board add a couple of bridges to the State Bridge Aid List. He said he spoke with Nancy Mayville learned the State is scheduling out to 2020-2021 and feels it would be to the Town's benefit to add Old County Road North and Bicknell's Bridge on Russell Station Road. Gary said they investigated County Road North and the span is going to be longer than what can be done with a timber bridge. Discussions continued regarding moving forward with this. The

Board agreed to have Gary call the State to get the applications for the two mentioned bridges to be added to the State Bridge Aid Program.

Betsy asked Gary if he had concerns with going over in his salt budget and Gary answered he was starting to have concerns. There was a discussion regarding current salt supply conditions. The Board agreed to monitor the Highway Department budget with Gary and potentially meet before Town Meeting to discuss increasing it. Mike said we received the information from CLD regarding the Turnpike Bridge project and there are some dates to be aware of. Upcoming dates are the local pre-bid meeting on April 7th at 10:00 a.m., bids being due April 22nd, a projected start date of the project in late May, and the bridge being open to traffic late September. Gary said CLD has started preliminary engineering on Woodward Hill and Juniper Hill.

There was a discussion about a seminar on stream crossing in New Boston at the Library.

Items to Sign

1. Payables Manifest for 2/17/14
2. Payroll Manifest 2/17/14
3. Registration for the Fire Department boat – Betsy signed it for the Board
4. Building Permit Application for Map 9 Lot 20-2 – the Board agreed not to sign it because it is not signed by the owner
5. Landscaping Contract for 2014 – this includes the Cemeteries and must be signed by the Cemetery Trustees.

New Business

1. Mike stated he would like the Board to take a look at the draft purchasing policy next week and they agreed.

Correspondence

1. Letter from Elizabeth Hunter Lavalley complimenting the Highway Department on their winter maintenance.
2. Mike's weekly update February 16, 2014
3. Memo from ConVal with revised 2013-2014 payment schedule
4. Letter from Sulloway & Hollis regarding PSNH
5. Notice from UNH Cooperative Extension regarding a current use class being offered March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in Goffstown.
6. Long-Term Variable Milfoil Management Plan for Scoby Pond
7. Report of the Treasurer for the Conservation Fund ending December 31, 2013

Liaison Report

1. Scott said SAC is meeting on February 20th at 7:00 p.m. and tomorrow the School Board has their monthly meeting here in Frankestown.

Old Business

1. Mike said we received the Draft Audit today and he will review it and let the Board know if he sees anything in it needing discussion.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: Monday February 24th at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Wendy Brien-Baker

Approved on March 31, 2014

Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

Selectman Scott S. Carbee

Selectperson Abigail Arnold