

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

February 3, 2014

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley

Also present: Jan Hicks, Tom Anderson, Ben Haubrich, Robin Haubrich, Betty Behrsing, John Arnold, Silas Little and Theresa Kirouc Little, and Budget Advisory Committee Members Charlie Pyle, Nick Wilder, Abby Dawson,

CALL TO ORDER: Betsy called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Appointments

1. Budget Advisory Committee – Mike stated everyone had in front of them a summary of the budget, the draft warrant, preliminary MS-6, draft purchasing policy and a brief summary of the duties for the proposed maintenance position. Mike said he was notified early today that due to the weather for Wednesday, ConVal has rescheduled their deliberative session to Thursday which will conflict with our Budget Hearing; the only nights we can reschedule to are Friday, Saturday, Monday or Tuesday with the Bond Hearing. After some discussion the Board agreed to have it on Tuesday with the Bond Hearing. The Board agreed Betsy and Abigail will come Thursday night to open the Budget Hearing and will post-pone it to Tuesday, February 11th. Betsy stated the law has been changed so numeric tallies of recommendations can be posted on the warrant by a vote of the governing body.

MOTION: Abigail made a motion to post numerical tallies of the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Advisory Committee on the warrant, seconded by Betsy. All in favor.

Abigail asked if the numeric vote would be done on the zoning amendments also. It was decided it is only for the regular warrant articles.

After some discussion, the Board and BAC agreed to include \$500 to support Contoocook Valley Transportation Company in the budget.

Henry stated he thought we should be able to lower the appropriation considering the unanticipated revenues however he was not sure specifically where to reduce. He stated he felt the funds for Scoby Bridge and the building projects should go into reserves and then be

withdrawn. After some discussion, the Board decided to add the Scoby Bridge Project to the Capital Reserve article. This will now make that article total \$477,200 with \$112,200 from surplus.

Mike said we have received the full milfoil grant. There was a discussion regarding the different treatments. The Board agreed to go with the higher amount and to fund the increase in the Town's share using undesignated fund surplus in the article.

Charlie said he understood that the Town Hall bond article would be written in a way that we would spend money as we received grants. Mike said the Selectmen and Maureen decided not to go with that option but with the understanding that we are applying for grants. There was a discussion regarding the term of the bond.

Voting for the articles were as follows:

Article 2 (Town Hall Bond): Selectmen 2-1 Betsy & Scott in favor and Abigail opposed. BAC 2-2 Charlie & Nick in favor and Abby & Henry opposed

Article 3 (Operating Budget): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 3-1 Charlie, Nick & Henry in favor and Abby opposed

Article 4 (Capital Reserve Funds): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 4-0 Charlie, Nick, Henry & Abby in favor

Article 5 (Maintenance Projects & Upgrades): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 2-2 Charlie & Nick in favor and Henry & Abby opposed

Article 6 (Scoby Bridge): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 4-0 Charlie, Nick, Henry & Abby in favor

Article 7 (Dump Truck): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 3-1 Charlie, Nick & Henry in favor and Abby opposed

Article 8 (Police Cruiser): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 4-0 Charlie, Nick, Henry & Abby in favor

Article 9 (Statistical Revaluation): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 4-0 Charlie, Nick, Henry & Abby in favor

Article 10 (Scoby Pond Milfoil Treatment): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 2-2 Charlie & Nick in favor and Henry & Abby opposed

Article 11 (Pleasant Pond Milfoil Treatment): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 4-0 Charlie, Nick, Henry & Abby in favor

Article 12 (Master Plan Update Fund): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 3-1 Charlie, Nick & Abby in favor and Henry opposed

Article 13 (Traffic Monitoring Device): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC Charlie, Nick, Abby & Henry opposed

Article 14 (Cemetery): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor BAC 4-0 Charlie, Nick, Henry & Abby in favor

Article 15 (Purchasing Policy): Selectmen 3-0 Betsy, Scott & Abigail in favor

2. Silas Little for driveway regulations waiver request – The Planning Board has stated it seems reasonable to grant the waiver. The Road Agent also feels granting the waiver is reasonable.

MOTION: Betsy made a motion to grant the driveway regulation waiver to Silas Little for the property located at Map 5 Lot 10, seconded by Abigail. All in favor.

Items to Sign

1. Payroll Manifest for February 3, 2014
2. Payables Manifest for February 3, 2014
3. Building Permit for Map 8 Lot 47-2 for a dwelling
4. Vacation carry-over request for Steve Bell
5. Building Permit for Map 6 Lot 42-4 for a kitchen remodel
6. Timber Tax Yield for Map 6 Lot 2
7. Tax Deferral for Map 2 Lot 34
8. Contract with Lycott Environmental for herbicide treatment of Scoby Pond – Mike stated the company is aware that the actual award of the contract is contingent on Town Meeting approval. The Board authorized Betsy to sign the contract. Abigail suggested that Mike send a cover letter stating that it is contingent on Town Meeting approval.

New Business

1. Cressy Hill Bridge – Abigail said it has been brought up at a prior meeting that Cressy Hill Bridge is Betsy's responsibility and asked if anyone has seen the petition being circulated, the answer was no. Abigail also asked Scott since he has said he feels that it is Betsy's responsibility why he hasn't brought it to the Board. Scott said he did the night Tom Clark talked about it. There was a discussion regarding how it was classified and the events/documents around whether or not it is a Class VI road or not. Abigail stated she has reviewed everything in the file and there is nothing that suggested Betsy is responsible for the bridge and would like to have Town Counsel look into the status of the road. Scott said he felt Betsy should be recusing herself from the discussion. Betsy and Abigail asked Mike to contact Town Counsel for an opinion and Scott opposed saying he would like it decided at Town Meeting.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: Monday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Wendy Brien-Baker