

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

March 3, 2014

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley

Also present: Janet Quilty, Judi Miller, Herb and Rosa Bromberg, Tom Anderson, Ben & Robin Haubrich, Polly Freese, Jeff Tarr, Betty Behrsing, Jan Hicks, Lisa Bourbeau, John Arnold, Sarah & Charlie Pyle, Sue & David Jonas, Chris Rogers, Dennis Orsi and BJ Carbee

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

Scott announced that Alan Thulander had passed away last night and the meeting observed a moment of silent reflection.

Items to Sign

1. Payables Manifest for 3/3/14
2. Payroll Manifest 3/3/14

New Business

1. Betsy stated she has a conservation easement for Journeys End Road that was approved at the 2005 Town Meeting. Betsy stated the property was 10 acres of swampy wetlands that would remain open space, would not be subdivided, and would be open to public access, among other restrictions. She stated it has been approved by Town Counsel and the Land Trust. The Board signed the easement and Town Clerk Elaine McClary notarized it.
2. Mike stated there are flags on trees on the Turnpike for upcoming trimming of trees by PSNH. Mike said he received a letter from Bill McAuley regarding the need for a Scenic Road Hearing and PSNH is aware one is needed. Mike said they also asked about trimming trees on the common and asked the Board if they wanted to meet with them or have them flag the trees for the Board to look at. The Board agreed to have them flag the trees they want to trim on the common. Scott said he has been working with the forester from Asplundh and they have been working on flagging 2nd NH Turnpike South and will be coming to the Planning Board for a Scenic Road Hearing, but he has to flag the trees before the hearing. Scott said after the ice storms the aerial right of way has been widened to a "V" shape.

Correspondence

1. Mike's weekly update March 2, 2014– Betsy reminded the Board that they are having a meeting on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. for personnel evaluations. Betsy also stated that Jack Munn from Southern NH Regional Planning will be coming in on 3/31 because they had a conflict on the 24th. Betsy stated she received correspondence from John Magee from NH Fish & Game with concern regarding the proposed Scoby Pond milfoil treatment. The Board agreed to forward his comments on to NHDES for them to take into account.
2. Wetland Permit for the 2nd NH Turnpike Bridge.
3. Letter from Bill McAuley & Elly Miles that Mike previously mentioned.
4. Recommendation of the Library Trustees for Janet Hicks as Library Trustee Alternate.
5. Copy of a letter from NHDES to Crotched Mountain Golf Course regarding the Irrigation Pond Dam.
6. Memo from John Byatt regarding the 2nd NH Turnpike Bridge project timeline. The Board agreed they did not have any issues with the proposed dates.
7. Road Inventory Form from NHDOT for the 2014 Block Grant Aid. The Board asked Mike to send to Gary.

Old Business

1. Mike said he received an email from Steve Griffin regarding the Town's bulk permit asking if the Town would want to share the permit and split the cost between the Old Meeting House and FIHS. Mike said the total cost per year is \$220. Scott said he felt it should remain just the Town's permit to not cause confusion. The Board agreed to keep it for the Town only.
2. Mike said Town Reports are in and will be going out in the mail tomorrow.
3. Mike said the Town is scheduled to go to the BTLA this Thursday with the Francestown Village Water Company. Mike said previously it was discussed to revise their value and reduce their 2013 tax payment from approximately \$3,400 to approximately \$1,400 for a six year term to include 2013 and the next 5 years to the next revaluation. Mike said after speaking with Dennis Orsi, the water company's preference would be a PILOT Agreement on a year-to-year basis with a tax payment of around \$750. They arrived at that value by taking the 2003 tax payment amount and did a rough increase of 2.5% per year. There was a discussion regarding whether they qualify or not for a PILOT. The Board agreed to stay with the original settlement offer and if that was not accepted to continue at the BTLA on Thursday.
4. Memo Mike sent to Town Counsel regarding Cressy Hill Road. The Board agreed to make the document public.

Administrative Update

1. Scott stated Mike discovered meeting minutes from January 28, 2002 where it was discussed by O. Alan Thulander and Paul St. Cyr to have a handyman to do odd jobs around town.

Approval of Minutes

Scott made a motion to approve the following minutes as written and Abigail seconded. All in favor.

February 3, 2014

February 10, 2014

February 11, 2014

Sue Jonas asked how long the Francestown Village Water Company taxation question has been discussed and if the Board was unanimous in supporting the denial. Abigail stated that all three Selectmen signed the denial in mid August 2013. Scott stated since signing he has retracted his denial and feels that the Francestown Village Water Company is a charitable organization. There was a discussion regarding PILOT programs.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: March 6th at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 7:10 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