

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

**May 19, 2014**

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley & Police Chief Stephen Bell

Also present: Ben & Robyn Haubrich, Jan Hicks, Betty Behrsing, Polly Freese, Lisa Bourbeau, BJ Carbee, Dennis Orsi, Lindsey Arceci from the Monadnock Ledger Transcript, Charlie & Sarah Pyle, John Arnold, Jonathan Nightingale, Guy Tolman, Lisa Bourbeau and Tony Ludwig

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

**Appointments**

1. Swearing in of Jonathan A. Nightingale – Betsy and Elaine performed the swearing in as a part-time police officer.
2. Tony Ludwig – Tony stated he is requesting permission to operate an ATV on Town roads in the area of Muzzey Road. Tony demonstrated knowledge of the relevant state laws related to operation of an ATV. The Board agreed to grant him permission to operate on Woodward Hill, Russell Station, Old County Road South, Stevens, Birdsall, Muzzey, King Hill, Candlewood Hill and Driscoll roads.

**Items to Sign**

1. Building Permit Application for Map 8 Lot 100-2
2. Building Permit Application for Map 5 Lot 10
3. Timber Tax Levy Map 3 Lot 90
4. Payroll Manifest for May 19, 2014
5. Payables Manifest for May 19, 2014
6. Timber Grading for Map 3 Lot 35
7. Appointments to committees approved last week
8. Agreement with Avitar to make our assessing data available online – Mike stated the cost for this year would be prorated.

**New Business**

1. List of properties going to tax deed in June. The Board agreed to have Mike visit each property and report back to the Board their status.
2. Mike stated he would like to get prices to paint the front of the Town Hall. He explained it would be a cash match on the LCHIP grant and there is a little extra money in the warrant article for maintenance because we did not change alarm companies. Mike said we have one estimate of around \$12,000. Scott asked if that would leave enough money to paint the sheds and Mike answered those could most likely be paid for out of the operating budget. The Board agreed this would be a good idea and asked Mike to get additional estimates.

### **Correspondence**

1. Mike's Weekly Update 5/17/14
2. Weekly Police Report 5/9-5/15
3. Letter from the Department of Homeland Security FEMA regarding the Hazard Mitigation Update 2013, which states we are now eligible to apply for mitigation grants administered by FEMA.
4. Letter from Kelly Ayotte in response to the petitioned warrant article from 2014 Town Meeting.
5. Information regarding Crotched Mountain Rehab taxation status. The Board agreed to review the information and discuss at their next meeting.

The Board discussed if they would have a meeting May 26 and decided if a meeting was needed next week they would meet May 28 before the meeting in Bennington regarding the Tri-Town Landfill.

**Motion:** Abigail made a motion to approve payroll for week ending May 24. Scott seconded. All in favor.

6. Letter of resignation from Michael Abel. The Board accepted the resignation with regret and offered best wishes for the future.
7. Email from Lisa Bourbeau sharing her opinions of Cressy Hill Road along with questions regarding it. Scott asked what the Board would like to do and Abigail answered she didn't think we could do anything if we weren't going to answer the State.
8. Contoocook Valley School Board Selectmen's Advisory Committee Agenda for May 22 meeting minutes from April 17. Scott said there will be a Common Core presentation at their meeting on May 22 at 7:00 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.
9. Memo from Gary Paige regarding maintenance activities on Cressy Hill Road.

Mike announced that we received a package from PSNH today for the Planning Board that we assume to be their application for the scenic road hearing.

## **Liaison Reports**

1. Abigail reported on the Water Company annual meeting that there was a vote to amend the bylaws to provide water in an emergency and that it will be the responsibility of the Emergency Management Director to implement this.

## **Old Business**

1. Scott stated the Memorial Day ceremony is scheduled for Friday, May 23 at 1:15 starting at the Francestown Elementary School and he outlined the itinerary.
2. Betsy stated the question regarding the zoning board membership has been resolved.

**MOTION**: Betsy made a motion to appoint Charlie Pyle and Michael Jones as full members and Jan Hicks as an alternate. Seconded by Scott. All in favor.

The Board signed the appointment forms for Michael and Charlie.

The Board discussed the remaining openings and agreed to post for an alternate member to the Zoning Board and a member for the Recreation Commission.

3. Town Hall Update - Betsy stated she and Mike met with Michael Petrovick and Diane Curran last week and discussed potential concerns related to meeting the standards of LCHIP along with Michael's concept. Mike said Michael is going to contact James Garvin. Mike said he had a meeting today with BJ, Elly, Michael and Barbara Miller to discuss writing the grant. Mike said he feels Barbara will be very helpful with this and there will be another conference call next Tuesday with her.

## **Administrative Update**

1. Mike said he and Ed have been working on a revised building permit fee structure and the Board agreed to have Ed come in on June 9 to discuss it.
2. Mike reminded the Board the next Town Hall meeting is June 4 at 7:00 p.m.
3. Mike talked about the Tri-Town Landfill meeting and said Bennington requested the Road Agents to attend. The Board agreed they will all attend.
4. Mike stated we have received the Tax Exempt applications and asked how the Board would like to proceed with them. The Board agreed to have Mike and the Assessor review them and make a recommendation.
5. Mike said he and Sarah have been discussing a solution to improving communication and coordination between the Planning Board and the Selectmen's office.

BJ said she has client that never received the inventory form and asked if the Board has discussed what will be done if people did not receive them because of a problem with the mail. The Board agreed to discuss it at their next meeting.

**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 7:20 p.m.

Sarah stated the Planning Board's minutes clerk resigned. Sarah and Mike discussed possibilities to improve coordination between the Planning Board's office and the Selectmen's office and Wendy is interested in taking on some of their administrative duties. The Board agreed it was worth trying to see how it worked.

At 7:30 p.m. the Board returned to public session.

**NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING:** Wednesday 5/28 if necessary

**ADJOURNMENT:** Betsy adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Wendy Brien-Baker

Approved on June 9, 2014

---

Board of Selectmen Chair Betsy Hardwick

---

Selectman Scott S. Carbee

---

Selectperson Abigail Arnold