

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

January 26, 2015

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

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

Also present: Also present: Henry Kunhardt, Jan Hicks, Ben & Robyn Haubrich, Sarah & Charlie Pyle, Polly Freese, Lisa Bourbeau, Dennis Orsi, Warren Kiblin, Tom Anderson, Pat and John Thalhauser, Michael Petrovick, Brad Howell, and Heritage Commission Members Elly Miles, Lisa Stewart, Barbara Caskie, and BJ Carbee.

CALL TO ORDER: Abigail called the meeting to order at 6:30. She opened the meeting by saying that the first agenda item has been postponed until next week.

Appointments

1. Police Chief Stephen Bell – Chief Bell stated he had nothing to discuss as it has been quiet. Mike said that he has received information from the Department of Safety about Grant information and asked if Chief Bell wanted to apply for a Grant for a laptop.
2. Mike said the Town Offices will be closed tomorrow due to the impending storm.

Items to Sign

1. Payables Manifest for 1/26/2015
2. Payroll Manifest for 1/26/2015
3. Appointment form for Charlie Pyle as Deputy Treasurer
4. Intent to Cut for Map 6, Lot 32
5. Intent to Cut for Map 9, Lot 3

Correspondence

1. Copy of Reconciliation Report for December. Abigail noted the Auditors are here today and they will be here through Thursday.
2. Chief Bell's Police Logs for 1/8 – 1/14 and 1/15 – 1/21
3. Email from Chief Kullgren (requesting it be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen) with a copy of a letter from the State Fire Marshall's Office regarding fireworks and samples of

fireworks ordinance language. Chief asked for the Board's position in this matter. Scott said he thought that should be referred to the Fire and Police Departments.

4. Email from the Conservation Commission indicating that they have voted to allow the Hillsborough snowmobile club to use Shattuck Pond, Dinsmore Brook and Crotched Mountain conservation properties for snowmobile trails.
5. Letter from Scott Rolfe introducing himself as the new Community Forester with the NH Division of Forests and Lands.
6. Email from NH Department of Environmental Services regarding 2015 milfoil treatment grant award for Scoby Pond. The total cost is approximately \$24,000, an increase from last year and a 25% state match as opposed to 40%. The Board agreed they wanted to go forward with the full program.
7. An email inquiry from Hillside Farm asking why the flag had not been lowered in honor of the death of William Blake Marston. Scott stated the flags had been lowered to half-staff and did not want to receive this type of email again.
8. List of 2014 Capital Assets of the Town to be a new addition to the annual report.
9. Treasurer's Report for the Town Report
10. Thank-you letter from Meals on Wheels for the Town's charitable donation of \$75.00 for 2014.
11. The preliminary Budget-to-Actuals report through 12/31/14
12. Letter to Chief Bell from NH Highway Safety Agency regarding 2016 Financial Assistance to Towns previously discussed.

Old Business

Mike Branley discussed some budget issues with the Board. The Board agreed to move forward with the budget and warrant as reflected in the current draft.

Administrative Update

Mike said that the auditors are here this week and should finish up by Thursday; information is still being gathered for the Annual Report.

Liaison Report

Scott said that the Selectmen's Advisory Committee met with the School Board last Thursday and they went over the School Warrant. They discussed ways to save money using more efficient transportation/fuel and using vans instead of busses for students in the outlying areas. They voted to support the Warrant as printed. Mike asked about additional warrants that were voted down last year. Scott said they are being addressed in the CIP using reserves. Abigail asked about the teacher contract. Scott said that the teachers now will be getting performance raises. He also said this it would be cost effective for the food service to be privatized.

Appointments (continued)

3. Heritage Commission and Michael Petrovick – Abigail stated she was hoping to identify the major items that needed to be accomplished to move forward on the Town Hall project and distributed a proposed list of action items and tasks. Abigail stated that Michael Petrovick has recommended that construction begin when all of the money is secured. There was a discussion about advancing funds prior to issuing the bond to get to

the point where the project can go out for requests for proposals. Michael Petrovick stated he thought \$12,500 was the amount of money needed to get to that point. There was a discussion about where the funds would come from; \$5,000 from the building and grounds budget and \$7,500 from the Heritage Fund was discussed. The time frame for the progression of planning and target dates were discussed:

- 3/2 - selection of owner's rep and review design
- 3/23 – meet to determine what type of construction contract is best

Mike Petrovich stated he will research codes and parameters and have the information for the Board on February 16th.

School Board Representative Stephan Morrissey indicated the teachers' contract is one of the first contracts in the State with a performance clause. He discussed some of the warrant articles, demographics and costs included in the budget and contract. The deliberative session at ConVal is on Saturday, January 31st at 10:00 a.m. in the gymnasium. He asked for everyone's support.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: February 2, 2015

ADJOURNMENT: Betsy adjourned the meeting at 7:45.

Respectfully Submitted by Martha Callahan

Approved on March 9, 2015

Board of Selectmen Chair, Abigail Arnold

Selectmen Scott S. Carbee

Selectperson Betsy Hardwick