

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2015

Selectmen Present: Chairperson Abigail Arnold, Brad Howell, and Scott Carbee

Staff Present: Town Administrator Jamie A Pike

Also present: Becky Moul, Tom Anderson, Polly Freese, Ben and Robin Haubrich, James Gann, Guy Tolman, Betty and Ruth Behrsing and others.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Arnold called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Brian Christiansen, Comcast

Brian Christiansen was here to discuss and answer any questions about renewal of the franchise license to supply Francestown with Cable TV and internet services. He answered a few questions about high speed internet, high-def television, home security, equipment and how the franchise free works.

Jack Munn, SNHPC

Jack Munn of Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission was present to discuss the Solar Up program. He outlined the objectives of the program and indicated that all of the objectives have been met. Francestown had 4 existing solar installations before the program and added 8 new installations through the program. He said the average cost in the region is \$4 per kilowatt and in Francestown the cost will be \$3.45 per kilowatt. Ruth Behrsing spoke about some towns that have a warrant article indicating that solar installations would not increase the taxed value of the property. The Board didn't think the Town was currently assessing for solar installations. The Board asked for information for consideration.

Consent Agenda

- A. 11/3/2015 and 11/09/2015 Check Manifest
- B. Building Permit for Krysztof Kolodziejczyk on Scoby Road
- C. 2015 Equalization Municipal Assessment Data Certificate: Projected Median Ratio of 99.6%
- D. Application for payment from the Town Building Improvement Trust for 2015 Warrant Article #8

A motion was made by Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Carbee to approve the consent agenda A through D as presented. **Motion passes.**

Correspondence

1. Weekly Report from Chief Douglas 11/2 – 11/78
2. Notice of Annual Meeting from NH Municipal Association scheduled on 11/19/2015 at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester
3. Email from Jeff Harrison of The Blake Group providing an assessment of the geo-thermal system at the Library and providing some suggestions for better efficiency. Paul Lawrence and Henry Kunhardt have been asked to attend next week's meeting to address some of the suggestions made.

NRRA Contract and Becky Moul

Jamie Pike re-negotiated the Contract with NRRA. He said the termination clause has been amended for both parties to 90 days, no fault. The original language is in case of default the Town has to notify them in writing for them to correct. The rest of the contract remains the same except for price change of co-mingle and paper. NRRA has agreed to all changes and has signed the contract. Mr. Pike indicated that the City of Keene said if our paper or co-mingles show up wet at the transfer station in Keene, they will charge \$125 per ton to accept it. Mr. Pike reported that he has researched covers for the containers to keep the contents dry. The plastic covers are available at a cost of \$1,000 per container. It was suggested that paper be put in the compactor until a decision can be reached on the covers or the possibility of building a structure to provide coverage for the containers. Ms. Moul mentioned that there was a possibility that one of the attendants at the transfer station may be out for medical reasons. A discussion about a temporary replacement took place.

A motion was made by Mr. Carbee to accept the NRRA Contract as amended and seconded by Mr. Howell. **Motion passes.**

Administrative Update

Mr. Pike updated the Board on the following items:

- Tri-Town Landfill Meeting – Antrim is calling for the meeting, December 1st at 6:30 p.m.
- Numbers on Campbell Hill Road – they have Mountain Hill Road numbers and should be changed to Campbell Hill Road numbering; problem for public services to find address
- The water has been turned off at the Town Hall – labor is needed to go in and empty sink drains and toilets
- Pre-constriction asbestos testing contract for Town Hall from M. Bruss for \$2880 for 60 samples, Mr. Howell signed the contract.
- Fred Douglas has asked for 2 caution signs for saddle horses. There have been complaints of speeding vehicles around the houses. One sign will be posted at Route 136 and Dennison Pond Road and the other at 751 Candlewood Hill Road. The road agent has been made aware. Mr. Carbee suggested moving existing caution signs from Candlewood Hill Road. Mr. Pike will discuss with Mr. Douglas and Mr. Paige.
- The working party for the Town Hill move will take place Saturday after the Heritage Commission meeting. Furniture will be moved into the horse sheds. Mr. Pike asked the Board how they wanted to keep the furniture off the ground.

- Barry Brenner contacted Mr. Pike with information on a streaming video company that will stream video of town meetings. The cost is \$200 per month. Mr. Pike recommended putting it to a town vote. The Board liked the idea and it will be a warrant article at Town Meeting.
- Horse trough letter. The town pays \$360/year for the connection that is rarely used. Mr. Pike drafted a letter from the Board of Selectmen to Frankestown Village Water Company asking for a discounted or reduced rate. The Board signed the letter.
- Health Insurance – Mr. Pike is trying to set up a meeting with the Health Insurance provider to negotiate a lower rate or select a less expensive plan for the Highway Department.
- Next week is a Public Hearing on accepting storm related funds from FEMA – CIP meetings start tomorrow night at 6:00 and the following Tuesday at 6:30
- Mr. Pike will attend the NRRA Workshop Wednesday afternoon at 12:00 with Mrs. Moul
- Mr. Pike will attend the NHMA Conference next week on November 19th and 20th.

Ms. Arnold suggested that the Board consider cancelling the Monday night Selectmen's meeting on November 23rd due to the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday.

- A Sign Webinar that Mr. Pike and Ms. Arnold viewed, explaining the recent Supreme Court Decision, indicated that Towns may not regulate signs for content, for non-commercial speech. Bart is reviewing and he will send a recommended template.
- Mr. Pike asked for a non-public session to discuss a personnel issue.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for October 19th, 22nd, 26th and November 2nd were reviewed by the Board and all were approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Arnold to accept the above minutes as written and seconded by Mr. Howell. **Motion passes.**

The Board took questions for the public

Ben Haubrich asked what the cost is for a ton of dry paper brought to the Keene transfer station. Mr. Arnold responded \$15. Ms. Arnold noted that up until last August the Town was being paid \$35 per ton for paper. James Gann asked the Town to contact the State and ask for a stop sign on Rte. 136 by the Police Station and another one coming up from Greenfield. The intersection is blind in the winter with high snow banks. The Board agreed it's a bad intersection and thought it would be a good idea to ask Gary to talk to the State about a stop sign. Mr. Pike is also working to get the State to reconsider the cross walk that they denied over the summer. One resident asked if it would be possible to make fire bricks out of the waste paper or do something with the paper rather than paying Keene to dispose of it. Poly Freese asked about the water at the horse trough and thought it was a high price to pay for a little used spigot. Guy Tolman asked if the Town has plans to increase the size of the transfer station platform and suggested lowering the floor instead of rebuilding walls. He went on to suggest that horse signs should be paid for by the property owners who own and/or ride the horses. Jim announced that there is a Medicare Part D presentation on the open enrollment section on November 15, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Howell and seconded by Mr. Carbee to enter a non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A;3, II(c). Roll Call Vote: Arnold, Aye; Howell, Aye; Carbee, Aye. **Motion passes unanimously.**

Mr. Pike brought forward a request from Chief Douglas for an unpaid leave of absence for one week. The Board approved the request. Further, in an effort to reduce non-public sessions, Mr. Pike was directed to accept such requests on behalf of the Board, so long as each member was informed of the situation.

The Board agreed that there was not sufficient cause to seal the minutes.

A motion was made by Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Carbee to exit the nonpublic session at 7:54 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Arnold, Aye; Carbee, Aye; Howell, Aye. **Motion passes.**

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: Monday, November 16, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairperson Arnold adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie A Pike

Not approved until signed.

Abigail Arnold

Scott Carbee

Brad Howell