

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

**March 12, 2015**

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley

Also present: Polly Freese, Dennis Orsi, Lisa Bourbeau, John Thalhauser, James Gan, Betty Behrsing, and others unknown

**CALL TO ORDER:** Abigail called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m.

Abigail announced that the Board of Selectmen has received a letter of resignation from Police Chief Stephen Bell and that she has a release regarding the resignation for the Board to sign. There is also a Payroll Manifest for the Board to sign in connection with the Chief's separation from the Town. She read a press release that will be forwarded to newspapers and posted on the website:

*"At their meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> the Francestown Board of Selectmen accepted the resignation of Chief of Police Stephen Bell, who has served as Chief since 2007 after working for the Town as a police officer since 2003. In accepting his resignation, the Board expressed appreciation for his service to the Town and wished him well going forward."*

Mike stated that he has been in with contact several current and former chiefs from neighboring police departments to assist the Town and to serve as officer in charge in the interim. He asked if he could invite three candidates to at the next meeting to meet with the Board and the Board agreed.

Scott said that Gary Paige wanted the roads posted due to mud season. This will be noticed today and go into effect on Monday. The Board agreed to accept his recommendation and post all Town roads with a 6-ton weight limit effective 3/16 until further notice.

Scott wants to challenge the election of Tom Anderson for Welfare Officer and does not want him sworn in as an officer of the Town. James Gan commented that at the Meet the Candidates night Tom Anderson was parked in the handicapped parking space and he felt that this was a poor demonstration of public welfare.

Dennis asked the Board to read the Payroll Manifest. Mike stated the Payroll Manifest was for vacation pay in the amount of \$3,294.58. Dennis asked to see the other documents the Board signed. Abigail said they were public and could be viewed upstairs.

John Thalhauser asked if the resignation of Chief Bell was forced. Abigail Stated the information relevant to this issue is in the Agreement, which he was welcome to read.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 a.m. Betsy seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by Marti Callahan

Approved on April 13, 2015

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Board of Selectmen Chair, Abigail Arnold

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Selectmen Scott S. Carbee

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Selectperson Brad Howell