

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

**June 29, 2015**

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley

Also present: Betty Berhsing, Susan Cripps, James Gann, BJ Carbee, Ben & Robyn Haubrich, Judi Miller, Lisa Bourbeau, Ethel MacStubbs, Dennis Orsi, Charlie Pyle, Polly Freese, Joe & Shirley Ludwig, Guy Tolman, Jan Hicks, Betsy Hardwick, Dennis Orsi, Andrew Demetriou, James Doherty and Camille Biafore

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

**Appointments**

1. Andrew Demetriou from CK Landmark – Andrew said there is a lot of wood rot on the Town Office building that needs to be taken care of before painting. Prep work involves replacing some clapboards and rotted areas, replace missing flashing and scrape and caulk. He indicated the front of the building should be resided as it is in the worst shape and recommended pre-primed cedar. One coat of an oil based primer would be applied followed by 2 coats of finish. The paint would be applied by spray and back brush. He suggested taking the storm windows off the building and then installing the new windows.
2. Charlie Pyle from FIHS for Labor Day – The Board agreed to authorize Abigail to sign the permit for the annual parade. Charlie stated he will need to meet with the police department as we get closer to the event and the Board agreed that made sense. Charlie stated the weekend events are the same except at this time it does not appear there will be a road race on Monday. Charlie agreed to send the schedule to the Board when we get closer. Charlie stated the Eggert family has left FIHS money to pay for a tree in the center area of Town and there was a discussion about some possible locations. It was agreed that it would make sense to do something after the work is done on the Town Hall. Charlie asked the Board to again order the dumpster for Labor Day and the Board agreed.

**Items to Sign**

1. Payroll Manifest for 6/29/15
2. Payables Manifest for 6/29/15
3. Application for Current Use for Rebecca Dawson M5 L4 and M5 L4-3 approved for 2016
4. Report of Cut from Calcutt

5. Timber Tax warrant for Map 6 Lot 65
6. Building Permit Application for Hill

### **Correspondence**

1. Reconciliation Summary for period ending 3/31/15
2. Letter from Granite State Children's Alliance requesting \$500 contribution
3. Weekly report for 6/21/15 – 6/27/15 from Fred Douglas
4. Administrator's Weekly Update for 6/26/15
5. Copy of letter from Attorney Dustin Gauthier to 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court regarding the Estate of Ruth Virginia Miller Ellis regarding Map 3 Lot 3/34-1
6. Town of Francessstown and Arnold Answer to Orsi et al Complaint

### **New Business**

Mike said that he spoke to Chief Sullivan today about Police Chief Recruitment and he has put together a list of 3 current/retired chiefs and he asked about posting for a resident volunteer for the panel. The Board agreed to have him post it like other openings.

Mike indicated that the Joint Loss Safety Committee met last week and areas for inspection were assigned. The next meeting is August 26<sup>th</sup>.

On Wednesday Mike met with Jenna Lapachenski from LCHIP to go over the scope of work for the Town Hall project. Michael Petrovick will incorporate some of her suggestions into his plan.

Thursday Mike attended an electricity buying group meeting in Peterborough. Similar to past years there is a gap between supply contracts and like past years at this time the recommendation looks like it will be to go back to Eversource for supply.

The Town received 6 construction manager proposals for the Town Hall on Thursday. Mike said they will be sifted through. We also received 2 proposals for the fire sprinkler proposals.

### **Liaison Report**

Scott attended a SAC Committee Meeting on Thursday and Gail Cromwell from Temple presented her position on how we come to the 50/50 assessment of the school tax and she wants to upgrade the system from an estimated head count to a firm head count. After a long discussion a vote was held and there will be no change in the formula.

### **Old Business**

Continuation of the RSA 41:14(a) procedure on the acquisition of the Taylor land donation; Map 3 Lot 26. Two public hearings were held and a Petition was submitted requiring the matter be voted on at Town Meeting.

**MOTION:** Abigail made a motion that the Town purchase Map 3 Lot 26 for \$70,000 with the following conditions –

1. That voters affirm this decision at Town Meeting, time and place to be determined;
2. That the buyer be responsible for current use penalty tax;

3. That the land be used by the Town for a future cemetery and in the interim as open space;
4. That funds for purchase be provided by a donation of \$70,000 to the Town for that purpose; and
5. Other terms as negotiated by the Board of Selectmen.

Seconded by Brad. Scott stated he was not in favor of moving forward considering the petition. Scott stated he was not in favor of a special Town Meeting due to the costs and thinks the Town should wait until March 2016. Brad stated the acquisition will need to be voted on by Town Meeting due to the petitions and he thought the acquisition was in the Town's interest. Abigail and Brad in favor, Scott opposed. Motion passes.

James Gann asked if Scott was correct when he said the Town has nothing in writing concerning the Taylor Lot. Abigail stated a draft purchase and sale agreement was received and welcomed Mr. Gann to come to the Town Office to see the document.

BJ asked when the document was received from the Taylors. Mike stated it was Wednesday or Thursday.

The meeting was recessed at 7:08 p.m.

The meeting was resumed at 7:16 p.m.

Jim Dougherty stated that he bid the Town Office painting based on specs and additionally he is proposing to reside the front and the north side below the break using primed spruce siding. He said that water got in behind the clapboards and is causing the paint to peel and the wood to rot and crack. Abigail suggested that because the re-siding is over \$5,000 they should bet another price. The Board agreed and Mike will request proposals accordingly.

Camille Biafore stated one of her abutters had their property logged and used her right-of-way and her property for access. She stated her field has been damaged at a cost of roughly \$3,000. The loggers also removed her stone wall boundary and did a poor job rebuilding it. She stated she would have preferred to have received notification from the Town that the logging operation was going to be happening with a number to call if there were problems. There was a discussion about the Town's role in logging and how matters like this could be handled differently.

**NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING:** July 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Abigail adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Branley