

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

July 13, 2015

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

Staff Present: Town Administrator Michael Branley and Officer-in-charge Steve Campbell

Also present: Ben Haubrich, Susan Cripps, James Gann, Polly Freese, BJ Carbee, Jan Hicks, John Arnold, Charlie Pyle, Dennis Orsi, and others

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

Items to Sign

1. Payroll Manifest for 7/13/15
2. Payables Manifest for 7/13/15
3. Building Permit Application for Map 8 Lot 47-2
4. Building Permit Application for Map 3 Lot 37
5. Building Permit Application for Map 6 Lot 32
6. Timber Tax Bills for Map 9 Lot 3
7. Timber Tax Bills for Map 6 Lot 79 and Map 3 Lot 31 & 31-1
8. Timber Tax Bills for Map 6 Lot 59
9. Report of Cut for Map 3 Lots 42 & 42-2

New Business

1. Abigail stated the results of the Police Department Survey were not surprising and the majority of respondents didn't seem to be terribly concerned about crime. The results indicated that most respondents are satisfied with the status quo and are not interested in pursuing regionalization. Mike will post the survey results to the website.
2. Timber grading for Map 3 Lots 42 & 42.2 – Scott stated based on his assessment it was an average cut. He said there was a lot of cord wood and some marketable white pine and oak. He graded the cut with a calculation rate of 3 and the Board agreed.
3. The Board authorized Mike to sign a proposal for perimeter insect treatment around the Town Office building for \$135.00. Mike confirmed that the building has a lot of ants and it should be treated.
4. Additional SOPs from the Police Department with a note from Fred Douglas indicating that he would like to discuss the pistol permit process with the Board. Mike will check

with Fred and schedule a time for him to meet with the Board. Steve Campbell said that the Police Department in Bennington handled the entire process and turned the money over to the Town.

Correspondence

1. Letters of interest from Brian Delahanty, David Jonas, and George Morgan Jr. expressing interest in serving on the police chief screening panel. Scott stated he thought Brian's role with the Fire Department made him a good candidate based on the relationship between the emergency services departments. Abigail stated she felt all three of the candidates are qualified. The Board agreed on balance to select Brian Delahanty to serve on the screening panel.
2. Letter from BJ Carbee regarding an encounter she had with Fred Douglas when he surprised while she was showing a vacant property for sale. OIC Steve Campbell said that what Officer Douglas did was following proper procedure. He saw a suspicious vehicle at a house that is vacant with an open door and stopped to make sure there was no criminal activity going on. He went on to say a courtesy call from an agent planning to show a vacant property would eliminate this from happening again.
3. Letter from Southern NH Planning Commission – the Board agreed they could not discern the information the letter was trying to express.
4. Email from John Thalhauser requesting permission to place a sign at the water spigot by the watering trough – the Board agreed they did not think it was necessary and Scott agreed to speak with John to discuss it. Scott also stated in the past the Village Water Company paid to fix the trough while this year the Town was told it was our responsibility.
5. Two letters from Primex regarding Premium Holidays for the Worker's Compensation Program and Unemployment Insurance indicating amounts of distributions for 2013 through 2015. Abigail stated in the past the Board has sent a letter requesting a check and the Board agreed to do so again.
6. Email from Jessica Morton from NH Health & Human Services regarding renewal of Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer for Kay Anderson and Ed Hunter. Mike will follow-up with them to see if they are still interested.
7. Copy of a proposal from Air Cleaning Specialists for an exhaust treatment system for the Fire Department. Mike noted that the total was a good amount under what we budgeted in the warrant article so that might help offset some of the costs of the maintenance of this building.
8. Email from David Preese advising that there will be a SNHPC sponsored Stormwater Management Workshop on July 24, 2015 from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. at 438 Dubuque St. in Manchester. Mike will forward to Road Agent, Gary Paige.
9. Weekly Police Report for 6/29/2015 through 7/5/2015
10. Reports from Fred Douglas dated July 6 and July 13, 2015
11. Letter from Town Counsel forwarding a copy of the Decision reached by the Board of Tax and Land Appeals in the PSNH case in the Town's favor.
12. Weekly Administrative Report for week ending 7/2/15
13. Weekly Administrative Report for week ending 7/10/15
14. Letter from Barry Brenner from Brenner Associates offering interim administrative services or town administrator recruitment. Mike stated he also spoke to Don Jutton from

MRI who has interim options as well if the Board is interested. The Board agreed to meet with both of them at their earliest convenience.

15. Right to know request from Betty Behrsing regarding Cressy Hill.
16. Results of water testing from Scoby Pond from Public Health Services, no problems.
17. Copy of letter to Pam Finnell from Charles Egbert requesting information from public checklists from 1965 and 1979.
18. May year-to-date budget report and April to May bank records.

Old Business

Scott said that the OIC should be involved in enforcing parking on the sidewalks on Main Street. He complained that people are parking on and blocking the sidewalks. He said that there are sidewalk ordinances in place. Abigail suggested that the Board look at the ordinances and invite Officers Campbell and Douglas to the meeting so they can be part of the discussion.

Proposals for painting of the Town Office building were discussed. Mike said that for re-siding both sides and all the painting CK Landmark was \$800-\$1,000 above Target New England. CK Landmark's proposal included an additional coat of finish. The Board agreed to go with Target New England.

Public questions and comments

James Gann and BJ Carbee spoke at length about real estate showings involving vacant homes and notifying the Police Dept. of the same. They both disagreed that the Police Department should be notified. Officer Campbell responded that it's the Police Department's obligation to stop and check when they see cars parked at vacant properties, especially with out of state plates on the cars. He indicated that if they were notified that the house was being shown then they would not need to stop and investigate.

NEXT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: July 27th at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Abigail adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Branley