

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

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 27, 2016**

Selectmen Present: Chairman Brad Howell, Abigail Arnold and Henry Kunhardt

Also Present: Town Administrator Jamie A Pike

Also Present: Ruth Behrsing, Betty Behrsing, Polly Freese, Ben Haubrich, Betsy Hardwick, Aaron Williams, Guy Tolman, Peter Jones and others

Chairman Howell called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

**Appointments**

Betsy Hardwick – Land Trust Donation

Betsy indicated that the heir to the Cleaves Estate donated the property on Journeys End Road to the Francestown Land Trust. Ms. Hardwick indicated that it was thought that it could possibly be used for a future town beach but, unfortunately, the property is not suitable for a beach. There are wetlands along the shoreline and the shoreline is somewhat remote and difficult to access. It is also doubted that DES will permit any changes to the area.

Ruth Behrsing – Solar-Up

Ms. Behrsing presented a proposed letter to send to town residents regarding the new Solar Up dual-town initiative with New Boston. The program will run from June 27 to October, 2016. The Selectmen reviewed the letter, made a minor change to the signature line and once the change is made Brad Howell will sign for the Board.

**Consent Agenda**

- A. 06/27/2016 Payroll & Accounts Payable Manifests
- B. Application for payment from Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for \$136,058.75 for purchase and fit-up of the John Deere Loader per Warrant Article #14 approved at Town Meeting

Abigail Arnold made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items A and B, seconded by Henry Kunhardt.

**Motion passes.**

**New Business**

Gary Paige submitted a memo to the Selectmen regarding a driveway permit for James and Linda Roche at 169 Woodward Hill Road. Mr. Paige has approved the application with the condition that the cross pipe is relocated.

Henry Kunhardt made a motion to accept the application for the driveway permit for the Roches on Woodward Hill Road, seconded by Abigail Arnold. **Motion passes.**

Timothy Northcott submitted a 2015 Abatement Recommendation for American Tower Corporation recommending the abatement be granted because the property's equalized assessment exceeds the property's market value.

Abigail Arnold made a motion to accept the recommendation for an abatement, seconded by Henry Kunhardt. **Motion passes.**

Jamie Pike indicated that separate approval by the Board is needed to issue abatement check #5261 for \$112.17 to American Tower because it had been removed from the manifest. Abigail Arnold made the Motion, Mr. Howell seconded. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Howell indicated that the Town has received a donation check in the amount of \$500 from David Gleason for Town Hall restoration.

Henry Kunhardt made a motion to accept the Heritage Commission donation of \$500.00, seconded by Abigail Arnold. **Motion passes.**

#### **Correspondence**

- Police Department Press Release dated 6/13/16 – 6/27/16
- May 2016 Budget Financial Report Memorandum
- Administrative Report dated Friday, June 24, 2016
- Job tasks Report from Chief Douglas for 6/20/16 through 6/23/16
- Letter to Daniel Richer from Reagan Bissonnette of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests indicating they still hold a conservation easement of his property which prohibits the termination of the conservation easement and the subdivision of the property.
- Letter from the Hillsborough County Executive Committee enclosing a legal notice for a public hearing on 6/21/16 at 6:00 p.m. and a meeting of the Hillsborough County Convention on 6/23/16 at the County Complex in Goffstown.
- Weekly Report from the Road Agent, Gary Paige.
- Letters to hometown heroes from the Great Brook Middle School students thanking the Police Department and Fire Department for keeping their town safe. They also thanked the Library.
- Email from Southern NH Planning Commission regarding a Tufts Health Plan Foundation investment of \$45,000 for the Sustainable Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission Foundation to promote the region's age-friendly community initiative.
- Notice of a workshop entitled "A Hard Road to Travel" on July 13, 2016 in Concord. Jamie Pike noted that, if available, the Highway Department crew may attend the workshop.
- Email from Chief Kullgren to Jamie Pike indicating he is working on the Town's Fire Rating. If successful in getting an 8A or 8B rating, it could mean a 10% home insurance reduction for residents within 5 miles of the Fire Station.
- Memorandum from New Hampshire Municipal Association regarding their legislative agenda.
- Letter from NH DRA asking if the Town will be utilizing Form PA-28 "2014 Inventory of Taxable Property" which residents are supposed to fill out indicating changes to their property since April 1, 2013 and other demographic information and send it back to the Town. Discussion ensued.

Abigail Arnold made a motion to not send out form PA 28 to property owners this year, seconded by Henry Kunhardt. **Motion passes.**

### **Liaison Report**

Henry Kunhardt reported that the SAC has tried to have 2 meetings in the past few months but both attempts failed to draw a quorum. There was talk about the strategic plan but no decisions were made.

Brad Howell reported that there is nothing new to report regarding the Heritage Commission but they will be meeting on Wednesday. Mr. Howell stated that the contractors will be starting on the Milfoil treatment in a week or so and indicated they are doing more testing this year.

### **Old Business**

The Board discussed taking another look at the sign ordinance and possibly adding language limiting the number of signs or the size of the signs. Abigail Arnold suggested a conference call with Town Counsel. The Board agreed.

Polly Freese asked if any decisions have been made about the land around the Old Meeting House. She complained that there are two signs on the lawn for upcoming events and one event isn't until September. It was indicated that the September sign is for an ongoing raffle. There was discussion about whether the Town owns the land around the Old Meeting House.

### **Administrative Update**

Mr. Pike indicated the following:

- The Class A Trail signs have been received. Mr. Pike reports that they look great. Mr. Page will put the signs up as soon as all trail town lines are flagged.
- Police Department grants for OHRV Patrols have been sent out to Governor and Counsel for signature.
- Plumbing RFPs and Library window restoration RFPs are due July 7, 2016. Mr. Pike has not seen much interest and thinks they may have to be rebid if the Town doesn't get responses by then.
- Mr. Pike visited some properties with John Kendall regarding zoning complaints including set back violations and a building constructed without a permit.
- Chief Douglas is moving forward with background checks for potential PD hires.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Brad Howell made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2016 June 13, 2016 and June 20, 2016 with revisions noted, seconded by Abigail Arnold. **Motion passes.**

### **Public Questions**

Polly Freese asked what happens to the Police Department Press Releases after they come to the Office.

A motion was made Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Howell to enter a non-public sessions pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(c) at 6:16pm. Roll Call Vote: Howell, Aye; Arnold, Aye; Kunhardt, Aye. **Motion passes.**

A motion was made by Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Howell to exit the non-public session. **Motion passes.**

Public session reconvened at 7:06pm.

A motion was made by Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Howell to seal the minutes of the session, because it was determined that divulgence of its content likely would affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a member of the Board. Roll Call Vote: Howell, Aye; Arnold, Aye; Kunhardt, Aye. **Motion passes.**

A motion was made Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Howell to enter a non-public sessions pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(d) at 7:08pm. Roll Call Vote: Howell, Aye; Arnold, Aye; Kunhardt, Aye. **Motion passes.**

Others Present: Town Administrator Jamie A Pike

The purpose of this session was to review a series of non-public minutes that dealt specifically with matters pertaining to the acquisition or sale of real property.

After review, a motion was made by Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Howell to unseal and release the minutes of 08/21/2006, 07/20/2009, 07/19/2010, 06/30/2014, 07/14/2014, 07/17/2014, 10/13/2014, 10/20/2014, and 08/24/2015. **Motion passes.**

A motion was made by Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Howell to exit the non-public session. **Motion passes.**

Public session reconvened at 7:17pm.

The Board briefly discussed regulation of signs on Town property.

Chairman Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie A Pike

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Brad Howell

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Abigail Arnold

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Henry Kunhardt