

THE PLANNING BOARD
TOWN OF FRANCESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

January 17, 2012

MINUTES

Planning Board Members Present: Bob Lindgren (Chair), Mike Tartalis, Prescott Tolman, Lisa Stewart, Bill McNeil and Abigail Arnold.

Members of the Public Present: BJ Carbee, A. Dawson, H. Kunhardt, L. Bourbeau, T. Anderson, B. Moul, B. Hardwick, S. Carbee, C. Pyle, S. Pyle, C. Lavery, L. Ames, K. Camirand, M. von Rosenvinge, A. Suari (Ledger-Transcript), J. Vadney, L. Kulgren.

Barb Martin takes the minutes.

The meeting is brought to order at 6:35 pm.

CIP Workshop Overview

B. Lindgren advises that this is a workshop in which the Planning Board may question the various department heads as to their plans and expenditures for the future. The Planning Board then presents this plan to the voters at Town Meeting.

Advises Abigail Arnold has been the town's CIP consultant in the past. Arnold is also a member of the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board.

Arnold introduces the new Administrative Assistant for the Selectmen --- Christine Lavery.

Arnold provides an overview. Advises the town is now at a point we many projects are being eliminated --- recreation, conservation, fire ponds, etc.

Current plan is adequate to provide necessary funding for scheduled fire equipment, highway department vehicles and bridges. Does not provide for building needs. Not enough money to address maintenance of buildings. There is a need to look long and hard at some infrastructure expenditures, such as roads & bridges.

Board members and members of the public are provided with copies of the CIP spreadsheet developed by Arnold. The first four sheets are a discussion point projecting expenditures out to 2017. Most expenditure is drawn from reserves, or grant and state funding.

In 2013 a road grader is to be purchased. This purchase has been getting pushed back. Need enough funds to purchase the road grader as well as for funding bridge repairs/replacement.

Arnold has not had an opportunity to get enough information on county and school budgets.

Advises Frankestown is in the State Bridge Program --- State offers to pay 80% of reconstruction. Currently pushed off for 1 year.

Town bridges currently on the state list:

2nd New Hampshire Turnpike: 2015
Juniper Hill & Woodward Hill: 2016
So. New Boston Road: 2020

These may be pushed back again if the state doesn't have the funding.

Other item getting attention is the Town Hall. Glen Dodge gave some preliminary numbers. There are two proposals. First is for \$100,000 --- four pillars to provide support for upper floors. Second is for \$155,000 --- two steel girders. Selectmen will likely recommend the first proposal. Scott Carbee advises he prefers the second.

Maureen vonRosenvinge brings the Board up to date on what has been found at the Town Hall.

Any work on the Town Hall will totally drain reserves. Arnold advises that Torrey Pines (a significant tax source) has been granted tax abatement. This will adversely effect funding.

Discussion of various 2012 maintenance projects and funding for them, including grant possibilities.

Two pending projects are discussed: new furnaces for the fire department and the Town Hall roof leak.

Arnold advises the Selectmen are recommending a tax increase of about 2.9%, or \$40,000.

Emergency Management

Nothing planned at this time.

Fire Department

L. Kulgren advises the board the next fire vehicle to be purchased is a rescue truck in 2015. Discussion on possible recycling of poly-body on the vehicle. May be able to push it off. Next big item is a pumper truck in 2020. Fire department is looking at recycling various parts and vehicles. Look at replacing the furnaces in the station - currently have four furnaces. Fire department is requesting 10 new pagers at a cost of \$5,000 to put department in compliance with narrow band. Defibrillator

is coming up on reaching its life expectancy. Department is working on fund raising for that.

Kulgren advises the Fire Department is trying to refurbish and recycle to extend the life of equipment.

BJ Carbee questions the \$90,000 in reserves for 2014 --- not requesting \$50,000, then suddenly needing it. Is the economy going to be such to ensure that?

Discussions regarding pushing some expenditures off to the future, or funding them now.

Kulgren would like the furnaces replaced in the next five years. Discussion concerning viability of pellet stove options and grant money available for them.

Solid Waste

B. Moul: The fence at the Transfer Station needs to be brought in compliance with DES regulations. Solid Waste is going forward with a Warrant Article at Town Meeting. Will cost approximately \$8,300 to put a fence up (quote of \$7,800 to put the fence in, and an additional \$200 - \$500 to shore up the wall). If not in DES compliance, state can't shut it down, but can levy a fine. Also presents a liability issue, as it is currently open.

Discussions about hazardous waste. Currently running the program every other year instead of every year.

Lindgren questions past anticipated projects such as the shed, roof, etc. Where do they stand now? Moul advises they are not off the table, just on hold.

Library

No projects at this time.

Discussions concerning the water leak in the basement. That problem has been taken care of, however, there is a leak (water condensation) on the geothermal pipes that needs to be fixed. CIP currently has \$1000 set aside for this.

C. Pyle questions who is responsible for fixing this. Discussions regarding history of and responsible party. Library Trustees may be responsible for this expense.

Cemetery Commission

No money requested for this year.

Conservation Commission

B. Hardwick advises there are no plans for this year. There are two milfoil projects: Scoby Pond is down \$10,000 due to an alternative treatment plan. Up to 50% of this may be covered by DES. Pleasant Pond Lake Host program is working. Always looking for volunteers to this program.

Planning and Zoning

Currently working on non-capital projects. Master Plan, update maps --- working them as budget items, not CIP.

Discussions regarding Annex roof and heating systems.

CIP Meeting to be continued to Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barb Martin