

**THE PLANNING BOARD
TOWN OF FRANCESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

December 4, 2013

MINUTES

Planning Board Members Present: L. Kunhardt, S. Pyle, L.Ames, A. Arnold, H. Camirand, B. Lindgren, B. McNeil, L. Borbeau

Barb Martin is taking the minutes.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:02pm.

CIP continued:

Police: Chief Bell advises the board about the replacement of the cruiser due in 2014. Looking at 2 different vehicles --- a sedan and an SUV. There is a \$2000 difference in the cost of the 2 vehicles. SUV is bigger, both have AWD. Bell believes the SUV is the better way to go.

Discussion ensues regarding the 2 vehicles, mileage, up-fitting and the ability to use any existing equipment. Bell advises current equipment is 15 years old and will not work in the new vehicle.

Discussion ensues regarding the police radios, band-width and number of radios the PD has (6 portable and 1 base).

Trade-in value on the current cruiser is \$1500. Town has done both trade-in and private sale in the past.

Discussion ensues regarding possible Town use of old cruiser, the time between new purchases and if it can be extended.

Discussion ensues regarding traffic counters and grants available for their purchase. Grants still available with 50/50 matching grants. Bell describes what information the counters could provide.

Arnold discloses that her family owns property on Pleasant Pond and she has no interest in the dam issues.

Highway Roads and Bridges: Gary Paige advises the current schedule works. He believes the Town needs to purchase a backhoe and would like to get more aggressive on bridge repairs.

Arnold advises there is no money for the backhoe in the current plan, but there is money for Scoby and Old County North bridges.

Estimate for a used backhoe is \$50k, a new one is \$126k - \$131k.

Gary advises the 2005 plow truck has 60k – 65k miles on it and it is in good shape. He would like to replace the 2004 Chevy with another dual-wheel 1 ton. Price for that is in the \$70k range -- \$48kn for cab & chassis and \$19k to outfit it with a plow and sander.

Discussion ensues regarding the 2004 Chevy, its possible use for town employees, as employees do not currently get reimbursed for use of personal vehicles.

Discussion ensues regarding a multi-task machine (rubber tire excavator).

Bridges: Bridge State crew came to inspect and have downgraded Juniper Hill and Cressy Hill. Degradation at Russell Station is noteworthy. Juniper Hill corrosion is now at 60%. Discussion ensues regarding the downgrades to the bridges. Juniper Hill is a culvert and Russell Station and Cressy Hill are bridges.

Gary believes local talent can take care of the problem.

Discussion ensues regarding securing a bond(s) for repairs of all the bridges and how to get the projects paid for.

Discussion ensues regarding culverts, bridge study group and coming up with a plan to repair and possible bond money.

Discussion ensues regarding bridge study from 2012 and the recommendations from that study.

Discussion regarding options for bridge repairs.

Paige and H. Kunhardt will develop a more substantive report on the bridges and will bring it to the board in January.

Discussion ensues regarding possible Federal funding of bridge repairs, and about the one lane wood bridges.

Conservation: Nothing at this time.

Selectman/Town Buildings: Warrant Article for deferred maintenance of \$95k to take care of miscellaneous projects: \$20k for Fire Department heating, \$35k for resurfacing of Meeting House Clock and partial painting of Town Hall, \$15k for Town building alarm system upgrades, the balance for library windows and trim. This is to be funded from undesignated funds.

Discussion ensues regarding the resurfacing of the Meeting House Clock and why and how it needs to be done.

Discussion ensues regarding coordinating different repair/maintenance issues to maximize the use of the equipment.

Town Hall: Discussion ensues regarding work that needs to be done and the costs associated with it. Maureen VonRosenvinge provides an overview to the board.

Discussion ensues regarding the L-Chip grant, the Town's portion (\$300k), the total cost (\$800k), preservation, repairs and contingency costs.

Discussion ensues regarding a Warrant Article tied to L-Chip funding and a potential conditional bond.

Discussion ensues regarding a project manager for the Town Hall project.

Next Meeting on December 10, 2013 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Barb Martin