

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**AGENDA ITEM XII**



CITY OF FRANKLIN  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

*September 10, 2012 City Council Meeting*

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**Subject: Other Business**

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**A. Committee Reports**

**B. City Manager's Update**



**CITY OF FRANKLIN**  
**COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**  
*City Council Meeting Aug 2012*

**Date:** August 23, 2012  
**From:** Elizabeth Dragon, City Manager  
**Subject:** **Manager's Update**

**Contingency Grant Line Activity:** The City received the following in the contingent grant line this month: \$300 book club donation from the Franklin Rotary.

**Police Department:** Detective/Sgt Ralph Hale is now a member of the New England Clandestine Laboratory Enforcement team. DetSgt Hale completed the Clandestine Lab training (40+ hours) at Quantico, VA the second week of this month. He is now a member of the response team that is activated to respond to specialized calls for service re. illegal drugs and their production. These are the folks who responded to our Meth incidents on Central St. and the apartment across from City Hall. As a condition of the training and receipt of specialized equipment, he can be asked to respond to incidents state-wide. The team is comprised of local, state, and federal officers as well as forensic laboratory personnel from the State Police.

**Employee BBQ-** Council members "save the date" for our annual employee BBQ at Odell Park Wednesday 9/12/12 from 11:30am -1pm. If you plan to come feel free to sign up to bring your favorite dish to share--we have a signup sheet in Sue's office or if cooking is your thing feel free to throw on an apron and help us flip burgers. This BBQ is family style ☺

**Crack down on Code Compliance!-** August 16<sup>th</sup> several of the department heads held a meeting with the Mayor to discuss a resident complaint which then became a discussion about residential code complaints in general, use of service requests, the process, and how to improve compliance in the future. We are hoping to schedule more staff meetings (as well as meetings with the Mayor) and begin what we are calling a "Crack down on Codes"...this includes various codes impacting quality of life as well as city services. One which is under discussion is stricter enforcement efforts relative to solid waste codes as they relate to multi-family units (currently they are some of our biggest violators of the ordinance). We are brainstorming ideas such as hosting meetings with property owners & managers of properties before the stricter enforcement begins-to provide every opportunity for compliance. As a group we discussing our experience with service requests and where we think we can strategically make the most difference. Obviously, we do not have unlimited resources and so any additional efforts have to be strategically planned. However, we all agree-doing business as usual is not good enough! We need to set the bar higher in several areas through enforcement to make a difference in the community. This will take a group effort and strategic thinking. We have not yet scheduled our next meeting with the Mayor but hope to do so in the near future.

**Northern Pass update:** I have attached the latest newsletter from the Northern pass project for your information.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## Gearing up for New Transmission Jobs



# Landowner Newsletter

## Life Goes on At Minot Farm

If there is a family who knows the ebb and flow of life in New Hampshire, with both its long-held traditions and modern technologies, it is the Minots of Bath. The Minots have owned and operated a family farm on a bend in West Bath Road since 1799. Today, with 450 acres and 50 head of Ayrshire and Holstein cattle, this seventh-generation farm does a little bit of everything: dairy, maple products, eggs, hay, forest products, custom work, and bush hogging (rotary mowing).

The farm's setting is quintessential New Hampshire. Not far from the Minot's colonial-era red barn are three covered bridges, a village common with a white-steepled church, and the Brick Store, said to be the oldest general store in America. Through the seasons, the Minot's cows enjoy world-class views of blazing foliage, snow-capped mountain peaks, and blossoming meadows. Their pastures also feature aspects of the modern world, a utility right-of-way (ROW) that includes both high-voltage alternating current (AC) and direct current (DC) transmission lines.



Willie Minot and his father, Alden enjoy a day on their farm.

The cows don't care, and neither do the Minots.

"These lines have been part of my life for all of it so far," says Willie Minot. "I don't even notice them; they are part of the landscape." A sixth generation Minot farmer, Willie manages the farm's fields and also acts as chief of the Bath Fire Department. His father, Alden, is "retired"—if that is possible for a farmer—and Willie's son, Will, manages the cows.

The AC line was built through the farm in the late 1920s, and the DC line was added in the ROW in the late 1980s. As with the proposed Northern Pass project, there was some anxiety in the community about possible adverse effects from the new line when the DC line was proposed. Some people were worried about "the aesthetics of it," Willie recalls. "The poles were going to stick up higher, and the geese were all going to get knocked out of the sky by it."

Other opponents warned that cattle wouldn't breed or milk beneath the lines and that farmers would go bankrupt, or that they would be harmed by electric and magnetic fields (EMF), or that they would receive shocks from equipment left under the line for a long time.

None of this has come to pass for the Minots. "We had absolutely no change whatsoever as far as a drop in production," Willie says. "There was no change in anything around here—other than having to make a few more passes around the structures with our mower when we hay."

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# NP Landowner Update

D & A

(continued from page 1)

If anything, Willie says, he has enjoyed the power lines for the snowmobile trails the ROW provides. "My wife and I have been avid snowmobilers since back in the '60s. These power lines make a fantastic way for us to get from point A to point B."

The eighth generation of Minots is barely in grade school, but when his time comes to work on the farm, the lines will still be there—and, presumably, so will the maple trees and hay and cows, just as they have been for more than 200 years.

"Nature seems to go on as usual," Willie says.

## Understanding Transmission Line Design—Reading Cross Sections

Why does a transmission line look the way it does? What determines the height and design of the structures, or the width of a right-of-way (ROW)?

The major driver of all of these decisions is the need to provide adequate clearance around the power lines—including between the wire and the ground, between wires of adjacent lines, and between a wire and the edge of the ROW. The National Electric Safety Code (NESC) sets these clearance requirements. The proposed Northern Pass transmission project will be designed to comply with all NESC code requirements to ensure the line's safe and reliable operation.

A right-of-way "cross section" is a drawing that illustrates clearances in a particular ROW, showing what a power line would look like if you were standing in the middle of the ROW.

Pictured below is an illustration of a typical transmission cross section.

A. Shows the distance that the wire will sag. Because a wire is made of metal, and metal expands when heated, a wire will sag from the heat generated by the electrical current flowing through it. The sag distance is determined by the temperature and weather conditions and the maximum temperature the wire can reach while operating.

B. Shows the lowest distance that the wire can be above the ground. This usually occurs at the midpoint between two structures.

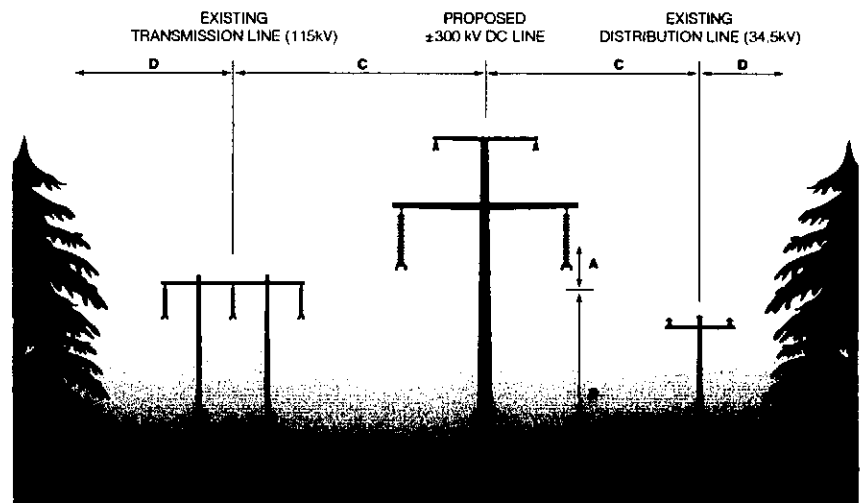
These two distances (A and B) and the operating voltage of the line determine how high the structure has to be.

The next two distances are determined by the line's voltage, and influence the distance required between structures and the overall width of the ROW:

C. Shows the distance between adjacent lines.

D. Shows the clearance to the edge of the ROW.

### Sample Cross Section



## Landowner Outreach Specialists:

Ashland • Bridgewater • Bristol •  
Campton • Easton • Hill • Holderness •  
Lincoln • New Hampton • Sugar Hill •  
Thornton • Woodstock

Allenstown • Canterbury • Concord •  
Deerfield • Franklin • Northfield •  
Pembroke

Bethlehem • Dalton • Lancaster •  
Northumberland • Whitefield