

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:00 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Brett Hunter, Leon Holmes Sr, and Gene Cordes (until 6:35 pm); and Town Administrator.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Hall roof work will take place this weekend and there is NO ACCESS to the Town Hall or parking areas throughout the weekend while crews are working.

III. LIAISON REPORTS - None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectmen reviewed the minutes for 21 November 2013. No action was taken.

V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. The Annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony will be held at the Town Hall on Saturday December 14, 2013 at noon. Organizer Gerry Tilley has asked for a Selectman who may want to attend and make some welcoming remarks. Board members will check their schedules and it will be back on the agenda for consideration next week.

2. At the end of the meeting, Selectmen reviewed emails from Bill Knee and Lauren Kras regarding access through the Town Forest by Fred LeClair for the Ladd cutting operation on parcel 04-087.

Bill Knee's email read:

My initial response to your request for feedback from the Conservation Commission is to wait for an official response from the Commission after it's December 2nd meeting. However, if you wish some initial feedback on the matter for tomorrow's Selectmen meeting from one member of the Conservation Commission than you may share the following with them.

In the past, the Fremont Conservation Commission has recommended against allowing timber removal access over Town Forest property as setting an undesirable precedence for the Town. Additional considerations of the Conservation Commission have been to protect the unique primary wetlands in the area from disturbance and to protect the water quality of the aquifer under these wetlands.

Should the Board of Selectmen decide to grant the partitioner, Ms. Ladd, the permission to access her property for the purpose of timber removal over Town Forest land under RSA:231:40-42 then the Conservation Commission advises that the following items be considered: 1) Fremont Town Ordinances for wetland setback and aquifer protection; 2) the State Prime Wetland designation and all its legal ramifications for any violation; 3) the Conservation Easement held by the Society For The Protection of New Hampshire Forests; and 4) the precedent set by said action.

The Conservation Easement held by SPNHF does require that any timber removal done in the Town Forest be under the supervision of a certified forester. Given this requirement, the Conservation Commission recommends to the Fremont Board of Selectmen the following items be adhered to by the partitioning owner and her contracted logger as requirements for access:

1. That Mr. Charlie Moreno (or another certified forester) be retained to determine the best access road over town forest land and that said access road be clearly flagged and followed by the logger;

2. That Mr. Charlie Moreno be engaged to draw up a contract with the logger for any timber removed from town forest land in creation of the access road;
3. That any and all of Mr. Moreno's expenses be paid for by the petitioning owner; and
4. That the owner and logger be duly informed by registered letter from the Selectmen's Office of the Town's wetland setback ordinance, and the primary wetland designation of the area. In addition, that the partitioning owner be notified that any disturbance of wetlands will be mitigated at the expense of the property owner under the supervision of the New Hampshire Wetland Bureau and the Fremont Conservation Commission.

Sincerely,
Bill Knee, Chairman
Fremont Conservation Commission

Lauren Kras, Conservation Easement Steward from SPNHF's email read:

The Forest Society is willing to grant temporary permission, as required by section 2.H. of the conservation easement, for the logger to cross the Town's property. The logger would need to comply with the following for any activities on the easement property:

- *The language in the Easement including but not limited to sections 2.A, 2.C., 2.D, 2.F, 2.G, and 2.I;*
- *The activities need to be supervised/approved of by a licensed forester to ensure that the activities are consistent with the easement;*
- *The logger follows BMP's and the guidelines established in Good Forestry in the Granite State;*
- *Activities are completed and the access way is closed within 30 (or 45?) days.*

Please let the Forest Society know when/if the town moves forward with granting permission.

I have included a copy of the easement attached to this e-mail.

Let me know if you have any questions.

*Lauren Kras
Conservation Easement Steward
Society for the Protection of NH Forests*

With the full Board not present for the discussion, no further action was taken, and the matter will be discussed by the Conservation Commission on Monday December 2, 2013; and the Board of Selectmen following on December 5, 2013.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed a payroll manifest in the amount of \$31,239.44 (including the annual Fire Rescue Points Plan and insurance buyout) and an accounts payable manifest in the amount of \$67,341.13 for the current week dated 26 November 2013. Motion was made by Holmes Sr and seconded by Cordes to approve the manifests. The vote was approved 3-0. A separate payroll manifest for \$3,228.87 for the Police Holiday pay, dated 02 December 2013 was also reviewed. Motion was made by Cordes to approve the manifest. Holmes Sr seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.
2. Selectmen reviewed bills and invoices for payment next week.

3. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence. Board members reviewed and signed outgoing correspondence to copy machine bidders; roof bidders, and trash and recycling bidders.
4. There was discussion about whether it was worthwhile to repair the Police SUV to get through the impending winter season. Carlson provided some photos and information that the Police Department had on file, and after viewing the depth of rust and damage to the aging vehicle, the Board decided it was not safe to pursue the repairs.
5. Carlson updated the Board on a Police PT position which will be available after January 1st as one of the part-time officers has announced his pending resignation to Chief Twiss (due primarily to changes in his full-time work where he received a promotion). The Board advised to move ahead with posting of a position once the letter is received from the Officer. With already one part-time vacancy created by Officer Boissonneault moving from part-time to the open full-time position, the Board felt that it would be prudent to move ahead with a posting process as soon as possible.

Chief Twiss had also advised Carlson that interviews for the part-time Detective Lieutenant position would be conducted by he and Sergeant Larochelle on December 3, 2013.

6. Selectmen reviewed the Fire Rescue Department requests for waivers to the LOSAP program. There were significantly more waiver requests than past years, and there were some questions about what the criteria is for a waiver. The Board would like to meet with the Points appeal board (which consists of the Association Board of Officers) as soon as possible to discuss it. There was discussion about recessing this meeting until Friday morning to try and have checks ready for the Department's annual dinner to be held on Monday December 2, 2013. Carlson explained that she had given the Department as much time as possible to complete the plan, but that there was not time now to get the checks done in time for the dinner on Monday evening December 2nd. Carlson apologized for this, and the Board expressed concern about any problems this would cause at the dinner. The consideration was also in place that this is taxpayer funds, and it must all be done appropriately.

At approximately 6:40 pm Deputy Chief Joe Nichols (President of the Fire Association) phoned Hunter at the meeting. During the conversation Hunter asked Nichols to come down to the meeting. Approximately 15 minute later, Nichols arrived and Carlson explained the board's questions about the waivers and that Selectman Cordes had to leave the meeting early, so no decision could be made this evening. (Hunter needed to abstain as a waiver recipient).

It was decided after further discussion that the matter would be reconsidered at the next Selectmen's meeting on December 5th at 7:00 pm and Nichols said he would contact the Points Board (Association Officers) to be present for the meeting. He stated he completely understood the Board's position and that members had thoroughly reviewed each waiver application on its own merits.

There was further discussion about the Department's expectations of its members in terms of participation, and it runs along the lines of the percentages required to be part of the LOSAP program, which is 50% participation in all training events; 50% participation in meetings; and 25% participation in toned incidents. Members not meeting that criteria are sent a letter at the end of the points year from leadership to determine what their plans are for future participation.

Nichols was thanked for his time and he left the meeting at 7:25 pm.

7. Meredith Bolduc made a request through Carlson for the Board to consider appointing Charles Rand as a Cemetery Trustee to fill the vacancy created by Dick Rand's recent passing. The Selectmen felt that he would be a good candidate if he is interested because he has worked with Dick Rand so long in the

cemetery, and would be a helpful transition as the Town and the Trustees consider what the next steps are with regard to cemetery progress. The Board said they would consider an appointment at their next meeting.

The Town Report was consulted to find that Dick Rand's term would have expired in 2015. Rand would be appointed only until the next election, at which time there would be a one year and a three year term on the ballot.

VIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A

At 6:05 pm motion was made by Hunter to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A:3 (e) to discuss an employee matter. Cordes seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Hunter – aye; Holmes Sr – aye; Cordes – aye.

At 6:15 pm motion was made by Hunter and seconded by Cordes to return to public session. The roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Hunter – aye; Holmes Sr – aye; Cordes – aye.

Motion was made by Cordes to seal the minutes of the non-public session indefinitely. Hunter seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Hunter – aye; Holmes Sr – aye; Cordes – aye.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday December 5, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, motion was made by Holmes Sr to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm. Hunter seconded and the vote was approved 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator