

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:30 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gene Cordes, Neal Janvrin, and Leon Holmes Sr; and Town Administrator Heidi Carlson. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. No further comments were received on the Town's Draft Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2015. Theresa Walker is preparing the document to send it off to NH HSEM and to FEMA.
2. This meeting is live broadcast on Channel 22 and will be rebroadcast throughout the week ahead.
3. The annual Santa Parade will take place on Saturday December 19, 2015 beginning at 10:00 am. The route is posted in the December Town Newsletter, available at the Town Hall, and is on the Town's website.
4. The next Budget Committee meeting on January 6, 2016 will be the last work session prior to the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday January 12, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Fremont Public Library. The snowdate is Wednesday January 13th.
5. Petition Warrant Articles are due no later than Tuesday January 12, 2016 – by noon for Town Petitions at the Selectmen's Office; and by 4:00 pm for School District Petitions at the Superintendent's Office
6. Tuesday January 19, 2016 is the last day for new registrants who want to register prior to Candidate Declaration Period. Supervisors of Checklist will meet from 7:00 to 7:30 pm at the Fremont Public Library. The Town Clerk is open 7:30 am to 3:00 pm.
7. The annual sign-up period for Town and School District positions begins on Wednesday January 20, 2016 when the Town Clerk's Office opens at noon. It runs through Friday January 29, 2015 with hours on the final day from 9:00 am to noon and 3:00 to 5:00 pm. The positions available are posted in the December Newsletter and on the Town Website.
8. The Supervisors of Checklist will meet on Saturday January 23, 2016 at the Fremont Public Library from 11:00 – 11:30 am to correct the checklist before the Deliberative Sessions. This is the last time to register to vote prior to the Deliberative Sessions. If you are not registered, you cannot vote at Deliberative Session, and same day voter registration is NOT AVAILABLE for Deliberative Sessions.

DELIBERATIVE SESSIONS – Held at Ellis School, 432 Main Street

School District Deliberative Session: Saturday January 30, 2016 at 9:00 am
Snowdate: Monday February 1, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Town Deliberative Session: Tuesday February 2, 2016 at 7:00 pm
Snowdate: Wednesday February 3, 2016 at 7:00 pm

All of this information, including the positions open for Town and School Officers, is listed on the Town's website on the home page.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

12/12/2015 Wreaths Across America – Holmes Sr reported that it was a wonderful ceremony. Selectmen thought that a microphone would help at the event due to the traffic noise. This will be mentioned to organizers for consideration at a future event.

12/15/2015 Zoning Board of Adjustment – Janvrin reported on an approved Special Exception and Equitable Waiver that were approved for the Forster property at 28 Main Street.

12/16/2015 Budget Committee – No meetings on 12/23 or 12/30. The next meeting is Wednesday January 6th to review final information. They continued their work on the school budget. The school proposed spending is up and the Committee is looking at ways to recommend less spending. Their revenues are also down and the fund balance from prior year is expected to be less than the past couple of years. The overall result of this is about \$1,000,000 impact on the tax rate. Approximately \$100,000 in reduced recommendations were made last evening. They are also trying to figure out the way to least impact education.

Per pupil costs at Ellis School is just at the State of NH average. At Sanborn, it is higher than average, but not excessively so. There is still a significant impact on the local tax rate.

The Committee would like a place to receive emails. The Town does not have a capability for this through the website without additional cost. It was suggested that perhaps anyone who wishes to send email to the Committee should use the Town Administrator's email (FremontTA@comcast.net) and then they will be forwarded to the Committee, and Selectmen for Town matters/questions and the School Board/Superintendent for School matters. These emails can then be part of the record and Town's file for the Budget Committee.

12/16/2015 Planning Board – Holmes Sr reported on the work session. Galloway has posted \$2,000 for engineering escrow; and they discussed the CIP program.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members had reviewed the minutes of 10 December 2015. Motion was made by Janvrin to approve them as written. Holmes Sr seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

6:45 pm Public Input - none

7:00 pm Department Heads - none

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. A budget report to date was reviewed. Several year-end projects are being completed and it looks like the Town will have sufficient funding to complete the heating contract work for the Town Hall as well as encumber funds to replace the necessary tank on the fire truck. A final review of items to encumber will be done at the meeting on 12/29; along with updates on the status of contracts already signed.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed payroll \$21,386.84 and accounts payable manifest \$1,524,063.60 (\$1,500,000 paid to the Fremont School District) for the current week dated 18 December 2015. Holmes Sr moved to approve the 12/18/ 15 payroll manifest in the amount of \$21,386.84. Janvrin seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0. Holmes Sr moved to approve the 12/18/15 accounts payable manifest in the amount of \$1,524,063.60. Janvrin seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

2. A Cemetery Deed for lot A 32 in the new section at Leavitt Cemetery has been prepared for sale to Jon DellaPenna. Janvrin moved to execute the deed for Lot A32. Holmes Sr seconded and the vote was approved 3-0. Holmes said that he had some questions about lots and was referred to Jeanne Nygren, who is doing a great deal of work to organize cemetery records and get things in order more efficiently.

3. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence. It was noted that there were two nice letters written to officers of the Fremont Police Department thanking them for their assistance at two separate incidents recently.

It was noted that election training is coming up, one session is on January 21, 2016 (a Thursday) resulting in some Selectmen's meeting dates begin changed for January. Carlson indicated she needs to also work around a mandatory training class in January, also some Thursday evenings in January.

4. Selectmen reviewed a Veteran Tax Credit application ready for approval for the 04/01/2016 tax year:
Brian McGinn parcel 05-005

With all in order, motion was made by Janvrin to approve the credit. Holmes Sr seconded and the vote was approved 3-0. A new signature page needs to be added to the application package, but the Board voted and will simply sign when the new page is available at the next meeting.

5. Selectmen discussed the bond reduction for Thunder Road, but more questions need to be answered prior to making a decision, relative to the bond amount needed. The Planning Board has recommended the engineer's current number or 20% of the original bond, whichever is greater.

6. The Board discussed arrangements for the AP manifest for next week. Janvrin moved to continue with our past practice that the Town Administrator and one Selectman can review and approve the manifest prior to release of checks, and the Board will formally vote to approve it the following week at the regular meeting.

7. Selectmen discussed a request from FCTV to add a new stipend to their pay schedule to cover the cost of setup and takedown for meetings off site (such as at the School or Fremont Public Library), similar to the rate used for Deliberative Sessions.

The Cable Committee has voted the stipend to be paid for all live Board and Committee meetings done outside the Town Hall be the same as Town and School Deliberative Session, a \$40 flat rate, with an additional \$10 for 3 hours or more. This is due to the additional time to set up the equipment and the room [tables, chairs, and microphones] and the breakdown of same at meetings end. As usual all Town and School events remain volunteer time only.

The Board felt this was in line with current practice. Janvrin moved to add a new stipend to the FCTV pay schedule to cover the cost of setup and takedown of meetings not at the town Hall at a flat \$40 rate, with an additional \$10 for any meeting that goes more than 3 hours. Holmes Sr seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

8. Selectmen discussed the disrepair of the sign out in front of the Town Hall, and said that if it can not be repaired, that it needs to be removed. Carlson will make these arrangements next week.

VIII. WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. Consider budget review schedule and budgets submitted to date – ongoing.
2. Any follow-up questions on YTD spending or projects or needs the Town should be addressing. Work continues on the basement door replacement, and some other building repairs are being completed at the Safety Complex and Historic Museum. A lawnmower at the Complex and snowblower at the Library are still pending.
3. KTM updates on timing of Library roof section – silicone work is done and information on the chimney repair is still pending.
4. Currently the Town is in need of members interested in joining the Zoning Board of Adjustment, and a Rockingham Planning Commission Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee member representative, as well as a Parks & Recreation Commission member. Anyone interested could begin by contacting Heidi Carlson for more information or attend an upcoming meeting.

IX. NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A

At 8:15 pm motion was made by Janvrin to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA91-A:3 II (c) and (e) to discuss a legal matter and personnel matter. Holmes Sr seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0. Cordes – yes; Holmes Sr – yes; Janvrin – yes

Carlson left the meeting at 8:18 pm following discussion of the legal matter. Richard Butler joined the meeting at this time.

At 8:29 pm motion was made by Janvrin to return to public session. Holmes Sr seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0. Cordes – yes; Janvrin – yes; Holmes Sr – yes.

The next regular Board meeting will be Tuesday December 29, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

X. ADJOURNMENT – by 9:00 pm

Selectmen discussed payment for some of the excess hours worked for Planning and Zoning by Heidi Carlson.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Janvrin and seconded by Holmes Sr to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. The vote was approved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator