

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016 @ 7:00 P.M.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members present:

Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Brooks Sturtevant, Ed Rainville and Andy Godin.
Sandi Murphy -minute recorder

Guests:

Dennis Demar - Dog Catcher for the town of Franklin

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda Amendments:

Zoning Permit fees will be discussed under Old Business; Warrant check will be discussed under New Business; the truck purchase will be taken up under Old Business.

Public Comment Period: no public present

Minute Approvals:

Yvon/ Ed made the motion to accept the minutes of March 16, 2016. Discussion followed. Peter wanted to be clear that Yvon, Peter and Ed were present when the previous minutes were approved and Brooks had arrived that evening after these minutes were approved. With this minor change the minutes were approved with four ayes and Andy abstained.

Yvon/ Brooks made a motion to approve the Town Meeting minutes of March 01, 2016. There was no further discussion; the motion was approved with all in favor.

Highway Department:

- Highway crew/ FFD participation: There are workers comp insurance concerns when a town road crew employee goes to aid in a fire call unless it is for road work. If the road crew employee wishes to be placed on the Fire Dept.roster, they will then be covered by the fire dept. workers comp insurance. They will be considered "off the clock" while helping the fire dept..
- Steam Jenny bid - only one bid came in and was opened by Brooks. It was from Howard Vansette for \$50. Brooks/Yvon made the motion to accept this bid. All in favor and the motion carried.

Leash law update:

Denis Demar (animal control officer) was at the meeting to discuss the last dog complaint and have input on the leash law proposed changes. The Thompson's received the letter from the SELECTBOARD with a copy of the current dog ordinance. Denis Demar also paid the Thompson's a visit to discuss the possible ways to resolve the problem. He made it clear that if nothing was done to improve the situation, penalties may be forthcoming. Peter said that this was protocol and the SELECTBOARD would follow up. Next a discussion of the proposed changes to the current Dog and Wolf hybrid leash law ordinance ensued. This ordinance will extend to the Shoreline Zoning District as shown on the current Zoning Map which includes the Lake Carmi area and Mill Pond. Denis Demar is on board with these changes. Ed/Yvon made a motion to accept the changes as presented. All in favor and the motion carried. Peter mentioned the SELECTBOARD will notify the LLCA and put the notice on the Town website and on Facebook.

Town Clerk concerns:

- Town Hall bid opening - Brooks opened Bid #1 from Casavant Building and Remodeling (Chris Casavant) for \$1550. This was the only bid received. Discussion followed. Ed thought the bid was high. Yvon asked if cleanup was included. Peter mentioned that because this is for a Grant, requests for proposals are required and they may need to rebid. Peter will check with Lisa on this. Ed wanted everyone to know he spoke with Master electrician David Barnum about inspecting the Town Hall rewiring on Friday. Peter said they will revisit the wiring issue next meeting. Andy/ Brooks made a motion to decline the bid for \$1550. and rebid the job including glass in the side door. All in favor and the motion carried.
- Weed Harvester grant notice - \$3570. was granted from the Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant as noted in their letter of March 18, 2016. Yvon told everyone that the Harvester does not meet EPA specs for VT and may need a new bigger fuel pump. The warranty is good for five years from the purchase date.
- Sign Better Back Roads Grant application- two grants are being applied for 1) Webster Road culvert replacement and ditching and 2) erosion prevention on Morses Line road needs a concrete culvert to

be reset. This is a Class 2 paved road. Ed/ Brooks made a motion to sign the applications. All in favor, motion carried and Peter signed the applications.

Old Business:

- Personal Policy amendment - Brooks had a report on what the neighboring towns were doing to handle an emergency call in for road crew employees. Highgate pays a minimum of 4 hours; Swanton pays 3 hours min.; Berkshire and Enosburg have no policy; and AOT pays 4 hours. Discussion followed. Yvon/ Brooks made a motion to pay a minimum of 2 hours for an emergency call in with the Road Commissioner's approval. All in favor and the motion carried.
- School tractor/mower agreement- some changes have been made by both sides and Peter suggested the SELECTBOARD attend the next School Board meeting on April, 19, 2016 and they can all sign the agreement at that time. (This needs to be put on the School Board's agenda.)
- Highway Dept. water concerns- water at the town garage seems to be corroding things. Peter mentioned they may need a water softener. Do we need to provide bottled water until this is resolved? Has a water test been done? Ed said maybe the line needs to be replaced. Brooks will ask Marshall Ploof to have this addressed at the next Water meeting on April 11, 2016.
- Zoning Permit fee changes- the after-the-fact fee is \$100 currently. Discussion. Brooks/ Andy made a motion to increase the fee to \$500. plus the applicant must pay the original fee of \$45. Vote taken; all in favor, motion carried.
- New plow truck is ready. Yvon said Clark's wants the old truck as soon as possible. Peter believes the new truck payments start in July, 2016. Peter wants to look into this timeline further.

New Business:

- Ambulance coverage discussion- Franklin town is covered until 6-30-2017. Peter said we need to start looking at the options for future coverage this fall. Peter asked Polly Gadbois to attend a meeting in Highgate where the options will be discussed.
- DRB discussion- Peter handed out an explanation from Regional Planning on what the difference between a ZBA and DRB are. The current Planning Commission has seven members. Peter said maybe a meeting with the PC, the ZBA and Bob Irish (the current Zoning Administrator) and someone from Regional Planning in June or July would be helpful in discussing this further.
- Warrant check discussion- Brooks/ Yvon made a motion to sign the warrant for \$210,000 on the Fire Truck. Vote taken. All in favor and the motion carried.

SELECTBOARD Folder:

Three letters of support for the Franklin Watershed Grants were reviewed. Peter signed the letters. There was an updated list of people serving on various boards/posts in Franklin for Regional Planning. The paving grant table of funding to towns was reviewed, as well as other mail.

Member concerns/ Other Business:

- Ed has marked the trees that need cutting and/ or trimming.
- Polly Gadbois had asked about the speed limit study at the lake. Polly suggested it be done in July.
- Polly is interested in the town land being used for recreation and cross country skiing. The snowmobile club could groom the trails.
- Andy mentioned the fuel tank at the town garage appears to have been vandalized and all the fuel is gone; the lock broken. They now have a game camera in place.
- Andy mentioned a culvert by Clark's needs work or replacement.
- Yvon said that Franklin Town is now on the TAC list at Northwest Regional Planning regarding the intersection of Main St/Middle/Morses Line Rd.
- Peter asked Andy if there was any plan in place on the sand shed. Andy said he would check on this.

-Peter asked Yvon what was going on with the pillars on the Town Clerk/ Library building. Yvon will check on this with Henry.

-There was a brief discussion on the Act 46 school issue.

At 9:37 p.m. Brook/Yvon made a motion to adjourn. All in favor and the motion carried.

The next SELECTBOARD meeting will be on April 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sandi Murphy, minute recorder.

These minutes not official until approved at the next board meeting.

These minutes were approved at the April 19, 2016 board meeting.