

**Town of Franklin
SELECTBOARD Meeting
February 1, 2017 at 7:00p.m.
Franklin Town Clerk's Office**

At 7:03p.m. Peter M called the meeting to order.

Present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Brooks Sturtevant, Ed Rainville and Sandi Murphy (Minute Taker)

Guests: Howard Vansette, Jay Denault, Robert Irish re: Schoolboard business and Act 46, Tim Smith from FDIDC, Inc.

Agenda amendments- None

Public Comments - None

Approval of Minutes of January 18, 2017 – Brook S/Yvon D made the motion to accept the minutes with one correction on Line 53 taking off 'change to'. Vote taken. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2017 (Budget meeting) – Brook S/Ed R made the motion to approve with the following corrections: Line 35 –gravel increase due to “the decision” to purchase; Line 30, cost “reduced”; Line 43 engineered should be engineering; Line 64 as is the zero turn mower; Line 49 "and is concerned" should be added; Line 76 Peter M advised if the vote is No, the Selectboard will look at changing to AmCare for the Ambulance contract. Vote taken, All in favor, motion carried.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Howard V is present and stated they have been busy plowing and sanding; lots of ice this winter. The school is needing salt for the sidewalks. Howard V thought we could buy some in bulk and share it with the school. Peter M mentioned that Jeremy has expressed concerns about folks trying to get sand while the road crew is busy loading trucks. Howard V said he could make a separate pile of sand for the townspeople. We have approximately one-third to one-half of the sand left. Discussion of how best to plow the sidewalks ensued.

Adopt Certificate of standards highway and bridge - Peter M wants Lisa to get a copy to Howard V for his review, then the Selectboard can take it up again at the next meeting.

Since Tim Smith is not present yet, Peter moved on to Town Clerk concerns.

TOWN CLERK CONCERNS

Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in- Aid Grants Project FY17 - otherwise referred to as the weed harvester grant. Lisa has it prepared for review and signature. After careful review Ed R/Brook S made a motion to sign the Grant application. Vote taken, All in favor, motion carried. Grant Application signed.

Ed R spoke about the millfoil and phosphorus problem. His son thought if they could find a use for the millfoil, then we could privatize the use of the harvester to someone that would harvest and sell the product. Ed R is willing to check with UVM's Agronomy Department.

JAY DENAULT AND ROBERT IRISH

Concerning MVU Budget and Act 46 – Peter advised he was told that they could ask to be put on the next MVU school board meeting agenda. Peter wants to be sure decisions being made are done legal. Jay D has been active on school issues, especially Act 46. Jay D mentioned that Act 46 requires “continuous improvement plans” and that the superintendent and/ or the principal do not have these plans as required in 24VSA.

Jay D has concerns about the wording of Articles for use of Reserve Funds vs Dedicated Funds. They are different Funds and have different uses. He has spoken to VLCT folks and they concur with his understanding on this matter. After much discussion the Selectboard agreed to set up a meeting with the

Superintendent to further discuss the matter, as the Selectboard has an oversight fiduciary responsibility here.

TIM SMITH - FROM FCIDC (FRANKLIN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION)

Good evening. Good stuff is happening in our County. In 2016-2017 approximately \$115 million of new construction is planned. One hundred new jobs projected. However, Tim S is hearing there is a shortage of qualified people to fill these jobs.

Farms are at risk - milk prices are low.

Peter M asked about renewable energy issues. Tim S said he is a wind guy, but siting the solar farms is OK if done in the right places. Tim S suggested the SB invite the CEO of Vermont Electric Co-Operative to come and speak to the Selectboard about current energy issues.

Tim S is usually looking and thinking about 10 years out. Tim S passed out several handouts for the Selectboard to review.

REVIEW AND SIGN BILLS

All Selectboard members did so.

OLD BUSINESS - NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Lease of Town Land- 2016 thru 2018. The original lease states there is 25 acres of tillable land, but in reality there is 17.9 acres of tillable land. The original lease amount called for \$1250 annually and based on the new information the Selectboard agreed to reduce the annual lease amount down to \$900. All were in agreement.

SELECTBOARD FOLDER

Peter M went over the info with Selectboard members present.

MEMBER CONCERNS

Books S - should we look into having Daycare at Town Meeting?

Yvon D - wants to research how best to deal with the moisture problem at the town garage.

Peter M - any thoughts on what Jay D had to say? Peter will set up a meeting with the Superintendent.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A 9:40 p.m. Ed R/Yvon D made a motion to adjourn. Vote taken, All in favor, motion carried.

NEXT MEETING DATE IS FEBRUARY 15, 2017 AT 7:00 PM AT TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
SANDI MURPHY, MINUTE TAKER**

**These minutes are not official until approved at the next regular selectboard meeting.
These minutes were approved at the February 15, 2017 Selectboard meeting.**