

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010
FRANKLIN TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Scott Choiniere, Peter Kittell, Lynn Paradis, Peter Magnant, Lisa Larivee (Town Clerk/Treasurer)

Guests: Dick Gadbois (Planning Commission Chair), Sam DeWahl (Americorps-Watershed).

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Planning Commission: Scott welcomed Dick Gadbois to the meeting. Mr. Gadbois was present to recommend Judith McLaughlin as a member of the Planning Commission due to the vacancy created by the resignation of David Lucey. Scott advised Mr. Gadbois the vacant position must be posted until the May board meeting at which time they will appoint a new member to the P.C. Dick requested authorization by the selectboard to appoint a member to sign a planning grant from NWRP the commission is applying for to aid in rewriting the bylaws. Discussion on the use of the grant. Lynn/Peter M made the motion to appoint Peter K authority to sign this grant on behalf of the selectboard. All in favor, motion approved. Scott thanked Mr. Gadbois for his input.

Watershed:

Scott welcomed Sam DeWahl the meeting. Sam gave a brief of what the Americorps is; a domestic peace corps working locally on projects, his specifically on conservation.

- * Sam will be redesigning the Watershed website to have its own site with a link to the Franklin Town site.
- * Regarding the Better Back Roads grant received for the Swamp Rd work, a press release needs to be done before work begins. Sam will speak with Peter K as Road Commissioner for a quote about the project.
- * Sam has attended a workshop on ditching and drainage. Has gotten a copy of the handbook for the highway dept reference.
- * Heidi and Jim Cameron attended a workshop in Colchester on Septic systems for the lake. Would like to look at options for upgrades locally. Roy Hango is planning to attend the next Planning Commission meeting to discuss the options for year round conversion of camps and the septic requirements.
- * Covercrop meeting with farmers to answer questions on program.
- * Governor's award will be given to the Watershed for their efforts and programs to improve the quality of Lake Carmi on May 3 in Montpelier.
- * Tree planting on the Mike Benjamin Farm will take place on April 21 with the assistance of the 2nd and 3rd grades from Franklin Elementary to aid in erosion.
- * Water testing will continue this year on the lake and tributaries.
- * LCCA is planning to do a clean up day at the North end beach on May 22. They may call the town for assistance.

Scott thanked Sam for attending the meeting to update the board.

Town Clerk's Concerns:

The Selectboard still needs to appoint an Animal Control Officer. Lisa spoke with Denis Demar; he is interested in the position. Scott spoke with Burt Maynard; he is willing to do it if Howard Vansette will assist with feeding and pick up of dogs when needed. A motion was made by Peter

Magnant/Lynn to appoint Burt as animal control officer with assistance from Howard. All in favor, motion approved.

NWRP appointment list to update offices was done by Lisa and needs a signature by the board chair. Peter K/Lynn made the motion to authorize Scott to sign. All in favor, motion approved.

Highway annual plan with VTrans completed by Lisa and reviewed by the board. All members signed.

Town Hall septic is not working well and needs to be looked at as the building will be used more through the summer for programs. Peter Kittell will be in touch with Wright's Excavation for a price on doing the job.

In the fall of 2009 Swanton pumped out our catch basins on Hanna Rd and did not charge the town; they agreed to swap labor with the town in spring of 2010. Lynn will speak with the Swanton road foreman to see what time/labor can be exchanged.

Lisa advised fuel bids should be sent out soon as the budget payments start June 1. Board authorized Lisa to do so with the same vendors as last year for opening at the next meeting.

Minutes of the March 8 meeting need to be approved. Peter K/Peter M made the motion to approve. No discussion, all in favor, minutes approved. Town Meeting minutes, motion by Peter K/Lynn to approve. No discussion, all in favor, minutes approved.

Old Business:

Tri-town Recreation committee was discussed regarding the Highgate Arena project. Scott/Peter Kittell made the motion to appoint Peter Magnant and Kim Gates Maynard to the committee. All in favor, motion approved. The board was asked by Highgate for input on a mission statement, suggestions as follows:

- location
- financing – construction project and future maintenance/operation
- what uses will it serve – hockey only or multipurpose

Peter M asks about our local recreation group, who is in charge and what activities do they do? Lisa suggests speaking with Pierrette Bouchard or Nancy Wilson as they were the people in charge in the past. Scott and the Abbey have a \$100 donation from the Franklin Night gathering that he is willing to donate to the Recreation Department.

Lisa discussed the Highway Dept record keeping for the road work done and equipment costs. The clerk's office has started entering the data into a spreadsheet format the info given to us by the Highway crew. It may be more efficient and complete information if the highway crew did the data entry themselves. The board agreed and Lisa will train the crew how to enter.

Peter Kittell will remind the highway crew of the importance of wearing their safety equipment when necessary.

Executive Session:

Scott/Lynn made the motion to enter into executive session at 7:55. All in favor, motion approved. Discussion regarding the Park & Ride issue. Scott/Peter Kittell made the motion to exit executive session at 8:10. No action taken.

The selectboard would like to invite Judy McLaughlin to the next board meeting to speak with her regarding her interest in being on the Planning Commission.

New Business:

Peter Magnant asks what the town has for an emergency management plan. He suggests that if board members are out of town for an extended period of time on vacation the clerk's office and other members should be made aware in case of an emergency. Scott advised Lisa to check with NWRP on a 911 plan that they should have on file. The board will have further discussion on updating the plan at the May meeting.

Selectboard Folder:

- Thank you letters for board review to the community members that were witnesses in the Reighley dog hearing. Scott was authorized to sign them.
- SWIP 2010 grant application – motion by Lynn/Peter K to authorize Scott to sign the grant.
- State Permit 1111 which was applied for by Peter K for the repair of the Square Rd/Rte 120 intersection where the water line caused a dip in the road. The permit has been approved by VTrans. Peter has also looked into the water/drainage issue by the Bullis property on Square Rd to repair and tie into the new drainage while the sidewalk work is being done.
- NW Counseling course in June on Mental Health training.
- Two applications for Weed Harvester operators reviewed. Peter K/Lynn motion to hire Kyle Lothian for the 2010 work. All members in favor.
- Zumba has paid \$100 for the March use of the town hall.
- Bernie Sanders brochure on how his office can help community members.
- Homestead/Carriage House would like a web page on the town website. The board approved this and Lisa will advise Stacey at the Homestead.
- Correspondence from VT Forest, Park & Rec on reclassification of highways.
- State permit from James Mullen on installation of a solar panel on his property.
- Correspondence from Dept of Environmental Conservation on the weed harvester permit for expanded harvesting areas. Will need to do review and study this summer before the permit is approved.
- St. Albans Coop permit for plant waste discharge at Franklin farms.
- Dry hydrant grant, Scott will give to the Fire Dept.

Member Concerns:

- Website work should be done interoffice to keep up to date with minutes and agendas should be posted as well. Scott will train Lisa and Sara to do the website work.
- Scott handed out a list of contacts regarding the Rte 120 work. He suggests that the board members do letters to each of these people and urge community members to do the same. More complaints to the state may make this more of a priority project. Peter Magnant question if a traffic study was done and when. He will inquire at the next TAC meeting.
- Scott has received correspondence from Amanda Lafferty about prayer at town meeting.
- Scott signed letters that Polly has done to 4 residents regarding the Junk Yard ordinance for cleaning up their properties. The letters were sent certified on April 7. The board will need to approve issuing of tickets if these cleanups are not done.
- Peter K spoke with Leach's about more blue rock. The cost would be \$9-\$10 per yard. Would like to put on north end of Towle Neighborhood Rd and Middle Rd. Plans for future work are:
 - Ditching/culverts on Beaver Meadow Rd
 - 3 culverts on Towle Neighborhood Rd
 - Culverts on Colton Rd
 - Gallup Rd ditching where left off last year.
 - Richard Rd needs gravel
- Scott advised that the stop signs on TH#3/Beaver Meadow Rd and Corner of TH#3 and Durkee need to be reset.

- Discussion of future purchase of a small 1-2 ton truck for village work or other small jobs as mentioned at town meeting. Peter K will look into prices and feasibility of buying for 2011 town meeting.
- Peter M stressed that all town business should be using the town e-mail accts only.

The next regular Selectboard meeting is May 10, 2010.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Scott/Peter Magnant. All in favor, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
April 15, 2010

These minutes are not official until approved at the Selectboard's next regular meeting on May 10, 2010. These minutes were approve on May 10, 2010.