

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2011
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Scott Choiniere, Peter Kittell, Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Kyle Lothian, Lisa Larivee (Town Clerk/Treasurer)

Guests Present: Bill Ellis, VLCT; John Klesch, Stitzel (phoned in); Larry Myott, Peter Benevento, Ruth-Ann Krayesky, Dick Lang, Helen Dever, Hilda Hendrickson of LCCA; Justin Rainville, Fire Dept.

Scott Choiniere called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Executive Session: Park & Ride

Scott/Peter Kittell made a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing the park & ride lawsuit at 7:10. Scott invited Bill Ellis, attorney from VLCT and John Klesch (phoned in), attorney with Stitzel, Page and Fletcher to join the select board discussion. 5-0 All members voted in favor.

Scott thanked Bill and John for attending. Scott/Peter Kittell made a motion to exit executive session at 8:05. 5-0 All members voted in favor.

LCCA Weed Committee:

The LCCA members entered to review with the select board the proposed weed control plan with herbicides. The committee is looking for the support of the board to move forward with the necessary state permits and grant applications. The equipment we are currently using has been operating since 1985 and appears to not be able to control the milfoil very well any longer. The committee hired a contractor to do a preliminary survey; later another group did a more comprehensive survey and study of the lake. There is approx. 200 acres of milfoil; the use of the herbicide Renovate appears to be the best control option. Ann Bove from VT ANR and Bernie Pienka, a fish biologist, have done much studying of the product and its effects. There appears to be no effect on the fish population. The harvester may still be used to clean up spots but the weeds would become much less dense. Application would be done in late May early June yearly and would close the use of the lake for 2 days.

Town must be the state permit signer which is due in Dec. Cost would be approx. \$1500/acre and application would be a 4-5 year process doing about 50 acres a year. Cost of first year approx. \$85,000; each year thereafter the cost reduces. Studies are done yearly to evaluate the location to treat. Spot treatment may be needed moving forward. LCCA would request the town's financial support of about \$20,000 per year.

The board thanked the members and they exited the meeting. Discussion of board about further details and want to review the reports. Matter tabled until September meeting for time to examine further.

Fire Department:

Justin Rainville entered the meeting to get the support of the board on applying for FEMA grant funds for turn-out gear for the department. Asking for assistance from Sara to complete the application; board members are fine with that. Fire Department parking lot was discussed with regard to paving. The board had agreed to repave the front of the station but work has not been completed. Justin is inquiring on the status. The paving budget did not fit that in this year. Next spring will put on the paving plan to complete.

Town Clerk's Concerns:

- Fish & Game has been contacted about the lease and will be meeting with the Selectboard on August 22 @ 6:00 pm to review the details of the lease.
- Wooden town hall chairs: Lisa has received a bid of \$800 for the entire lot of chairs from John Giroux and he will haul them away. Board approved of sale.
- Chloride on camp roads has been done for Mullen Shore and Blackwoods. They have received bills from the town; Mr. Mullen had concern over other camp roads also receiving chloride and not being billed. Town policy is that chloride is only applied to private camp roads when asked for and the road association is paying for the application.
- Weed harvester operator timesheet was reviewed. Board advised ok to pay.
- Northwest Regional Planning has forwarded an Energy Efficiency agreement for the grant funds of \$7100 that have been awarded to the town for energy efficiency work to the town office. The board must sign the agreement for NWRP to proceed with the bid process for the necessary work. Peter K/Peter M made the motion for Scott to sign the agreement. 5-0 All members voted in favor.

- VLCT Health Trust has joined with Hickok and Boardman for carrier choice options regarding the health insurance available to towns. The board must sign a broker of record letter accepting the Health trust and Hickok and Boardman as our representatives for coverage. Peter K/Peter M made the motion for Scott to sign the letter. 5-0 All members voted in favor.
- Lisa presented a policy for "late filed HS-131" as the changes in legislature have changed the filing process for 2011. The town must send corrected copies of tax bills when HS-131 declarations are filed late to property owners; however the option of charging a penalty for the late filing is up to the town. After discussion the board opts to not have a penalty as this time; will review policy again next year.
- Financial report reviewed: budget discussed for upcoming needs until year end.
- Alarm setup: Lisa has checked with St. Albans Central dispatch about direct dialing into their system with the digital alarm. Will need to look into further.
- Minutes: July 11 minutes reviewed, Peter M/Kyle made the motion to accept as written. 5-0 All members voted in favor.
- Lisa informed the board of the bond vote for the school roof scheduled for Sept 27. Informational meeting will be Sept 20.

Old Business:

- Tri-town committee: Peter Magnant advised that Swanton has approved of the joint application for the MPG with Highgate. Match proposed for each town would be \$1667. Grant will be used for feasibility study to review options of a new facility, rehabilitate and add on to the existing, or just rehabilitate the current facility. Kyle/Peter M made the motion to join in the tri-town MPG for the arena study. 4-1 Peter K voted no, motion passed.
- Discussed the docks that have been installed at the north end of the lake. They are not touching the town beach property; however they must pass over the town property to get to their docks. Lisa will check with VLCT for a legal opinion.
- Signs on Dewing Shore Rd "private property" were discussed. This shore line is in the town right-of-way and should not have these signs posted by the camp owners. They will be removed by the town.
- Webster Road/Hanna Road corner has not been worked on yet and still needs ditching and pavement work on the inside corner.

New Business:

- Tax Rate: Lisa presented the proposed tax rates for 2011 to the board members. Discussed the funding needs and rates. Peter M/Scott made the motion to accept the tax rates as presented at \$1.6585 residential and \$2.1017 non-residential. 5-0 All members voted in favor and signed.

Selectboard Folder:

- FEMA workshop for highway dept./road crews regarding products to use to prevent erosion and washouts. Lisa will look at setting up with surrounding towns.
- VPR-Vermont Public Radio regarding live meetings.
- Prayer lawsuit information regarding status.
- Letter from resident regarding installing railings on the front steps of the town hall. Kyle will look into doing the work and the cost of materials.
- Go VT – energy efficiency forum for towns to get involved with.
- TAC meeting minutes and information regarding the use of Brine on the winter roads in place of sand and salt. St. Albans town currently uses the product. Would like to discuss further the pros/cons with St. Albans.

Executive Session:

Scott/Peter K made the motion to enter executive session at 10:05 to discuss park & ride matter. All members voted in favor. The board discussed park & ride legal issues. Scott/Peter K made the motion to exit executive session at 10:23. All members voted in favor. Sign will be ordered and installed "park & ride closed" per the requirements of the legal decision.

Member Concerns:

- Kyle will have the highway crew pick up the staging on Monday the 15th from Lisa for the AmeriCorps group to paint the outside of the town hall.
- There are limbs on the Barnum Road that hang over the road and need to be trimmed.

Next regular Selectboard meeting is September 12, 2011.

Kyle/Yvon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 5-0 All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
August 9, 2011

These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting. Minutes approved September 12, 2011.