

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
MONDAY MAY 1, 2017 @ 7:30 P.M.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Brooks Sturtevant, Ed Rainville and Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk/Treasurer.

Guests: Howard Vansette, Road Foreman and Jeremy Barnum, Road Crew

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.; pledge of allegiance was said.

Public Comments: none

FY17 budget/financial review:

- Pete wanted to meet to discuss budget items; would like to understand how the budget may be over \$30,000. Lisa reviewed the anticipated expenses until year end, June 30. Want to figure out how overages can be dealt with and how to predict for the future; if there are any areas where the town can save until year end. All the money allocated for FY17 paving grant has been reimbursed.
- Howard thought the gravel budget was \$30,000, same as last year. Pete states needs to be better communication between the board and highway dept on budgets. Reviewed the three year comparison for gravel expenses. Howard is concerned about limestone from Swanton Line being heavier this time of year due to water in it. Pete asked how come the town purchased more gravel this year; Howard advised due to soft spots, pot holes, Gallup Rd project, heavier trucks affecting roads. Howard advised the loader at Leach's continues to be an issue with not working; hard to get gravel loaded quickly. Need to find another place for gravel. Pete asked what the status of our inventory is currently; Howard thinks we can get by.
- Ed is concerned that the tax rate is going up; the board is held accountable for the budget, need to follow as close as possible. Need to communicate with Andy better on budget.
- Jeremy states it would be good to understand what we have for budget concerns; find areas where we can save money. Lisa will give the highway crew a monthly spreadsheet of budget expenses and bills paid.
- Pete advised we need to hold off on big expenditures, hold off on work from Jake Dandurand until next fiscal year. The highway crew needs to let the board know of any large expenditures in the future.
- Jeremy advised the harvester engine has been changed and is in the water. Would like to have Delbert come try it out before deciding to make more adjustments or changes.
- Yvon has attended many meeting regarding the clean water act and new regulations for towns. We are going to have some big mandates from the State of VT that will make more work for the town regarding roads. Will have to change how culverts are put in. Howard would like to see money from FWC for culvert work.
- Discussed the driveway culvert policy; Ed feels the town should not be responsible for fixing multiple culverts, one driveway culvert per property. Should draft a policy for such.
- Jeremy stated that Harvey Bushey has brought up concerns about mud/manure in roads causing safety concerns. Lisa stated there is a State of VT policy as we were copied on a letter sent last year regarding a state road concern; she will look into how to properly deal with these issues. Ed states need to have a town policy to back up intervention with farmers about road cleanup and the need for the dirt to be removed from the shoulders as well as this keeps the water setting on the roads.
- Pete discussed paving for FY18; need to finish Morses Line Rd from Donald Rainville to Highgate town line. With the state grant funding if we do smaller projects may allow us to get money more often than we have been. Discussed Gallup Rd, finish Stanley Rd from Towle Neighborhood Rd toward State Park Rd. Invite Jeff Hutchins, paver, to the next meeting on May 17th.
- Ed stated that Jim Cota suggested the need for sealing and patching before paving as well. Need to look at roads as to where we need to seal.

Brooks/Ed made a motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. All members voted in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
May 2, 2017

These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting.
These minutes were approved at the May 17, 2017 Selectboard meeting.