

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2011  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

**Members Present:** Peter Kittell, Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Kyle Lothian, Sara Rainville (Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer)

**Guests Present:** Heidi Britch-Valenta, Joey Fournier

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

**Franklin Watershed Committee:**

Board welcomed Heidi Britch-Valenta from the Franklin Watershed Committer to the meeting.

Heidi wanted to hear the board's thoughts on the AmeriCorps work crew that was in Franklin this summer and did some work at the Town Hall (scrapping, cleaning, painting, etc.). The board thought it went well but there were some communication issues and that it should be more organized if they did work for the Town again. Heidi advised that the FWC may apply for the work crew again.

Heidi updated the board on the Septic Study progress. She advised that only about 50% of the village surveys have been received back to date; there was a much better response from the lake shore surveys. There is a meeting on Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at the FELCO Room to discuss village responses; she encouraged the board to attend.

Heidi informed the board that the FWC is working on culverts on Patton Shore and Mullen Shore to stabilize and prevent future erosion issues.

Heidi stated that the Enosburg Lions has agreed to donate the necessary trees for the Dewing Shore Road, Better Back Roads project. The trees will replace any that were removed during construction as well add more. The Town needs to get a tree "wish list" to them before the project starts. Heidi inquired as to the status of the permit for the project. Peter K advised that due to flooding in central Vermont, all the paper work was lost and had to be sent again. May not get the permit until next year, also the lake is still very high to do any work in. Heidi thought that the permit was being held up because of the tree replanting plan, Peter advised that is not the case. The board discussed the possibility of returning the funding and applying for next year's grant or rolling over the funding to complete the project in 2012. Sara informed the board that Lisa received a call from the Army Corp stating that the project will need a permit from them as well. The board will discuss and let Heidi know what they decide.

Heidi commented that the FWC has an ongoing project on the Hammond Shore Road that is being worked on; there is a 500' x 10' section of the lake that is saturated with very fine silt, almost like a quick-sand. The FWC has used a vacuum system once and that may be ongoing but it is still being tested. The silt will be a continuous problem until the fields above it have been turned to another crop; they have created a small buffer area that seems to be lessening the run off.

Heidi has received some concerns from area residents in regards to the size of the outlet culverts that go from the Lake to Millpond. The culverts do not appear to be large enough to handle the influx of water when the lake rises to a very high level. There are Hydraulic study's available through the State that are free of charge, the Town just needs to request one to be done. The board agreed that they would like to have this completed. Once the study is complete, there is funding through VTrans up to 90% of the cost with the remaining 10% going to the Town. The FWC would be willing to work with the Town on this project. Heidi will send the study request form to the Town Clerk's Office to be completed at the Board's request.

Thanked Heidi and she exited the meeting.

**Community Concerns:**

Joey Fournier from 744 Middle Road was welcomed to the meeting. He is concerned with the culvert by his house and the amount of water that it is sending onto his property; the culvert runs under the road between his house and Maureen Fournier's house. He claims that the abundance of water is contaminating his spring and flooding his hay field making it unusable for a hay crop. He noted that he has never had any problems with his spring until the Town replaced the culvert in the road in 2004. He has priced getting the spring cleaned as well as ditching done and this would cost almost \$3000. He would like the Town to pay for

and have a ditch dug to divert the water away from his spring; he noted he would take care of his spring work after the ditch had been done and the land has had time to dry out. The board advised they would discuss his request and let him know their decision.

Joey was thanked and he exited the meeting.

#### **Town Clerk's Concerns:**

- September 21, 2011 Ashley Bachelder was bitten by Taylor Forty's dog while running on Towle Neighborhood Road; dog(s) not registered with the Town, Taylor told Ashley dog was up-to-date on rabies vaccines as the bite did puncture the skin. Board would like a letter sent to Taylor stating that he has until Friday, October 14, 2011 at 3:30 to register his dog(s), if they are not registered by that time, a warrant for the dog(s) pick up will be issued to Animal Control. Also the dogs must be in the owners control at all times and/or restrained on the property. Sara will notify Ashley as to the above and that the Clerk's Office has a rabies vaccine on file for one dog that is good until September 2012.
- Financial Reports were reviewed.
- Minutes: September 12, 2011 minutes reviewed, Kyle/Yvon made the motion to accept as written. All in favor, motion passed 4-0.
- Library front wooden door: Kyle has fixed the bottom corner and added a weather strip to the bottom to keep the moisture from coming inside onto the floor; he may have to remove the door from its hinges to sand the bottom as it is still rubbing.
- Town hall windows: All windows that were taken down have been repaired and painted by Kyle; they are all back on the Town Hall except the two front as there is a pain on the interior window that Kyle has to replace. Kyle will do the last of the windows next spring.

#### **Old Business:**

- Weed Control: Yvon has made several calls to other Towns that have used herbicides on their lakes/ponds for weed control. He received positive feedback as well as more information; some towns stated they have been using for over 20 years due to alternating year grant funding. Some small lakes are using the herbicides in conjunction with hand picking. Many people stated that in order for the herbicides to be affective that they should be done every year and that this doesn't completely fix the weed problems. Board doesn't feel that the current LCCA plan of five years will make much difference in the current weed issue.
- Docks: Lisa has sent deeds, leases and other miscellaneous information to attorneys, there has been no reply back yet. Lisa made call to several area towns that have public lake front and they all advised that they do not allow private docks. Kyle stated that he had spoken with Ted Meunier and that he did not ever allow the docks on the north end by the beach; people just did as they pleased with docks. Kyle would like to come to a solution for all parties involved. Board agreed to table matter until November meeting.
- Beach policy: updates handed out, will be discussed at November meeting.
- Boat launch lease with F & G: Mike at F& G advised Lisa that this has been put on the back burner since all of the issues related to Hurricane Irene evolved; to be discussed more at November meeting. Board would like Lisa to contact Mike and get F& G's opinion on applying herbicides to Lake Carmi.
- Signs: Highway department has reported to the Clerk's office that there have been a lot of street signs stolen or vandalized this year. They have replacement signs but have been leery to put them up right away for fear that they will come up missing again; Lisa would like to put something in the paper in regards to this. Board would like Lisa to draft an editorial for the Courier and Messenger, also want Sara to put something on the website. Peter K will be in touch with Nat Worman to see about an article for the Messenger.
- "Children at play": signs have been removed as advised by the state. Jack Ellis has requested the one that was removed from Webster Road be returned to him as it was his personal sign, he would like the boards permission to put the sign on his personal property as he is concerned with the speeding ATV's on Webster Road. The board agreed to have the Highway Department return the sign; will have Lisa send a letter that the sign cannot be in the Town's Right Of Way, must be outside the 25' from the center of the road.
- "No Parking Sign's": the two signs on Main Street by the Clerk's Office/Haston Library were covered with black plastic. VTrans advised that it was not them and the Town did not cover them either; VTrans asked the Town to uncover, this has been done as requested.

**New Business:**

- Health officer appointment: Peter M stated this is a three year term and Polly Gadbois wishes to continue in this position. Motion made by Peter K/Peter M to nominate Polly Gadbois as Town Health Officer for three years. No other nominations. All in favor, motion passed 4-0. Peter M to sign forms.
- Weed Harvester: Sara advised that the grant closeout deadline is approaching. Motion made by Kyle/Yvon for Peter M to sign documents once completed. Discussion had. This year's operator Ryan Patterson has voiced interest in doing harvesting again next year, Kyle advised him that he would have to reapply and do the interview process again next year. Numerous people stated they received complaints about the harvester being in the middle of the Lake harvesting this summer. Yvon noted that the harvester is out of the Lake and already in storage for the winter. All in favor, motion passed 4-0.
- MVU Community Service: students will be doing road side trash clean up October 11, 12 & 18 around Franklin Roads.

**Selectboard Folder:**

- NRPC Newsletter: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program being administered through VT Emergency Management
- Town Hall use request from Vickie Gratton, Franklin Drama Club. The board has approved in the past, all in favor of approving this current request. Would like letter sent to Vickie with board's approval and also asking to be courteous when scheduling to avoid conflict with already scheduled events.
- Letter from Franklin Fire & Rescue looking to get the Town's approval to obtain an insurance quote from VLCT insurance with the possibility of adding them at a later date; if they were added, the premiums would be broken down accordingly for each entity to pay their appropriate portions. Motion made by Peter K/Yvon to allow FRS & FFD to obtain an insurance quote from VLCT with the possibility of adding them to the Town's policy at a later date. All in favor, motion passed 4-0. Will have letter sent advising of Town's approval.
- School generator service report from Milton CAT.
- Prayer lawsuit info from attorney.
- Park & Ride legal information, tabled until November meeting.
- Training calendar from VLCT
- Better Back Roads Grant 2012

**Member Concerns:**

- Peter M thanked Sara for all her work with the Town's website and newsletter; need to encourage more people to go to the website for information and subscribe to the quarterly newsletter.
- Peter M stated he feels that the recent School Bond Budget was not publicized enough around Town; many people that he spoke to knew nothing about the vote.
- Peter K advised that the driveway permit for Corey Martin on Riley Rd has been finalized. Howard has inspected and Peter K has spoken with Mr. Martin.
- Peter K wants to know if the board should revisit their plowing of Homestead Drive for this winter. More discussion will be had at a later date.
- Peter K has checked the bump (raised culvert) on the Morses Line Rd between Minkler/Raymo and believes that the culvert is not deep enough. Peter K noted that he has checked the intersection of Hanna Road and Browns Corner Road on numerous occasions for loose gravel, road seems to be staying clear at this time. Ditching may need to be looked at on Webster Road in the future.
- Yvon stated that when the Highway Dept. was doing road side mowing/brush cutting this fall that they broke a corner post and chewed up some fence on Adrian Rainville's property. Adrian has replaced/repared fence at his cost. The board agreed that they would like a letter sent to Adrian apologizing for the incident and offering to reimburse him for expenses from fixing the damage.
- Yvon informed the board that there is a Morses Line Border Crossing meeting on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at the Highgate Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. Board will have Clerk's Office warn as a select board meeting as members will be attending this special meeting.
- Kyle advised that Wright's Excavating has winter sand available for sale.
- Kyle is concerned with the wash outs that are occurring along Lake Road and the Lake. There is a good 1'-2' drop off in some spots along the road and beach. The road is going to wash away if something is not done soon to stabilize the area. Motion made by Yvon/Peter M to send a letter to District 8 office requesting them to repair the edge of the road. Discussion had. All in favor, motion passed 4-0.

- Peter M would like “Thank you” letters sent to Susan Clark and Paulette Tatro for helping paint exterior of Town Hall. Board agreed.
- Kyle has been working on railings for the Town Hall. The Church is having railing work done and that person is going to give the Town a quote for railings and installation.
- Peter M questioned the status of the Clerk’s Building energy efficiency work thought NRPC. Sara advised that NRPC is still working on all the paperwork. Will have an update for the November meeting.
- List of trees that need to be trimmed at the request of the bussing company has been given to the highway crew, Peter K will check on status of trimming.
- Peter K will speak with Boy about the status of the sidewalk painting.
- Dog complaint regarding Josh Packard’s dogs, Lisa will update board at November meeting.
- Peter M wants to be sure that the campers on Dewing Shore are left in the loop with the Better Back Roads project going on. Peter K advised that it could be next year before we even get the approved permit and start work. The board agreed that they would like to roll over this year’s BBR Grant funding to next year. Contact will be made to see if this is possible.
- The board agreed that they will do a site visit to Joey Fournier’s on Saturday, October 15, 2011 to view the culvert in question. Yvon will contact Joey about visit.
- Peter K noted that the front Town Hall doors need replacing, Kyle will measure and get prices for the board.
- Sara informed the board that the hot water at the Town Hall has been turned back on.

Next regular Selectboard meeting is November 14, 2011.

Kyle/Peter K made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 4-0 All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sara Rainville, Assistant Town Clerk  
October 13, 2011

***These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board’s next regular meeting.*** Minutes were approved November 14, 2011.