

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2015 @ 7:00 P.M.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Brooks Sturtevant, Andy Godin, and Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk.

Guests: Howard Vansette, Roger Wright, Hugh Gates, Jay Hartman, Pam Greene, Jean Richard, Paul & Diane Gates

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., pledge of allegiance was said.

Agenda amendments: Remove #5-Franklin Watershed cancelled; add review and sign bills.

Public Comments: None

Minutes:

Brooks/Yvon made the motion to approve the August 5, 2015 minutes as written. Vote taken, all in favor, motion passed 4-0.

Highway Department:

- **Pigeon Hill Culvert Bids:** One bid from the previous bid posting received from Munson Earth-Moving. Wright's Excavation hand delivered a bid to Andy Godin today, Aug 19th, at 3:00 pm. Yvon stated the board had concerns with only receiving one bid the first time with no reply from other contractors invited to bid. Rebid a second time and got replies from St. Onge and GW Tatro that they were not interested. The bid from Wright's was delivered late to Road Commissioner, past the posted time deadline. The board discussed and has to follow the posted deadline time of 12:00 pm on Aug 19th, as this is partly state funded; must follow the guidelines. Mr. Wright was thanked and exited the meeting. The Munson bid was opened and reviewed with the highway foreman; ok with the towns requirements of work that we will complete. Brooks/Yvon made the motion to accept the bid of \$123,750 from Munson Earth-Moving. Vote taken, all in favor, motion passed 4-0. Yvon will contact Court from Munson about a public meeting to inform the Pidgeon Hill Rd residents of the project and timeline of work.
- **Colton Road/Stanley Road Intersection:** James Marshall from VTrans did a site visit and feels the trimming that has been done has made the view better, the other option is to remove the large ash tree. Reconstructing the intersection would be expensive. Howard will install "dangerous intersection" signs coming from Enosburg and keep the area trimmed back.
- **Morses Line speed limit:** NRPC does not have the completed traffic study results yet. Tabled until the September 2 meeting.
- **Sand Shed:** Andy spoke with Greg, contractor, about the cost for end enclosures. Greg will be getting back to him so we may budget this purchase for next year.
- **Browns Corner:** ditching was done on the corner by Beaver Meadow intersection; need to seed and mulch. Howard was thanked and exited the meeting.

Town Clerk Concerns:

- **Town Hall Grant:** Lisa reviewed with the board the scope of work for the additional items; rain gutters, entryway ceiling, handicap entry door under the grant funding. Also bidding for exterior paint work. Bids due on September 2 for next meeting.
- **Library pillars/brick work:** The pillars have been removed and stored inside. Tim Hopkins has found a company that makes fiberglass pillar bases; he is waiting for a price to see if this option would be a better long term product. There is brick pointing that needs attention as well on the front of the building. Andy will speak with someone he knows about a price quote. Also have concern with the slate roof leaking this winter; not sure if there is repair that is needed or just need to prevent the ice buildup that occurs and caused leaking last winter.
- **Copier purchase:** Lisa presented the board with a proposal to purchase a new copier for the office. The current copier is almost 13 years old and we have been advised by Symquest/Canon that repair parts are no longer available. The service contract is currently \$133 per month due to the age of the machine. A new Canon copier with upgraded technology features would cost \$5,681 with a service contract of \$29 per month; covers toner and service/cleaning as needed. Town Clerk states a copier is necessary for recording and will need to upgrade technology for digitizing records that will be required soon; the current one is making poor copies. The recording fees for land records include

funds to be set aside for computerization/vault maintenance; there are reserved funds to cover this cost. Board will review further and decide at next meeting.

Franklin Homestead Inc: Hugh Gates was giving official notice to the board that FHI (Franklin Housing Inc) will be retaking sole possession of the limited partnership. TD Bank and holdings had possession with the limited partnership for the past 15 years; making the change now that Franklin Homestead and Carriage House have met their obligations for affordable housing. Hugh states not certain if they need town approval to make this change due to the funding that the town received of \$395K from VT Housing Community Development Block grants that were then given to FHI. One was to be forgiven 1/30th yearly for 30 years as long as followed the low income housing guidelines; which have been adhered to. This change will allow FHI to be one entity under management of the 9 member board of directors; will have one set of books, one auditor review and VT Housing not watching over them. Has no effect on the town. Hugh has encouraged FHI to repay the town some of the grant funds; though may have some restrictions. He would like to see recreational opportunities in town.

Peter asked if the emergency plan had been followed up with Mark Toof. Advised no, it had not. Peter will speak with Mark before the next FHI meeting on Aug 26th. FHI board members thanked and exited the meeting.

Old Business:

- **Park & Ride Closure:** Peter reviewed information from the Town Clerk; opened in Sept 2009 and closed after July 2011 court decision. Ed had responded to Mr. Davis at VTrans about working out a solution. Yvon has spoken with Bethany at NRPC to assist with. Catherine is surprised with tone of letter and will contact VTrans. NRPC will assist with the situation to aid in finding a solution.
- **Weed Harvester update:** Yvon will follow up with Kyle and Aquamarine on the machine running badly. Have checked out the engine and do not feel that is the problem; may be hydraulics.

New Business: None

Selectboard folder: -Town Fair on Oct 8 for all town officers

- Town Hall water line is located about 3 ft down across the driveway. May need to drop the line lower to prevent freezing. Cost would be approx. \$2,000-3,000. Will discuss further at next Water Commission meeting.
- Jes Alexant would like to have a fundraising dance at the town hall on Oct 10. Lisa will get more information on number of people and the "open window" fund?

Member Concerns:

- Yvon- paving work? To be done mid September per Andy. Lisa will look at the budget with the funds needed for Pidgeon Hill culvert match; do we need to cut paving budget.
- Sand shed-need to find a solution to prevent sand from freezing this winter; mix salt with sand on top of pile or cover with plastic at the end where rain/snow comes in.

Reviewed and signed bills: The board reviewed and signed monthly bills for the town and water district.

Next regular select board meeting will be September 2th at 7:00 pm.

Next water commissioner meeting will be September 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Brooks/Yvon made a motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. All members voted in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
August 20, 2015

These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting.
These minutes were approved at the September 2, 2015 meeting.