

FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD MEETING, August 15, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m. Town Clerk's Office

Members present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Brooks Sturtevant, Ed Rainville and Sandi Murphy (minute taker). Absent: Andy Godin
Guests: Bob LaFont from Pike; Clark Hubbard from Planning Commission; Howard Vansette; Bridgette Favreau; Bridget Thompson; Stephanie Ho from the Recreation Committee; Corey Bertrand and Lisa Larivee (Town Clerk).

7:03 p.m. Peter M called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Agenda amendments: Peter M could not see any Bills to be reviewed and signed, so removing Item #7.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- Clark Hubbard commented on some abuse of power he believes is happening on the Planning Commission Board. It's a seven member board with six members currently serving.
- Yvon D mentioned he wants to thank all the folks that worked the polls on Primary Day.

APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 3, 2016

Yvon D/ Brooks S made a motion to accept the minutes of August 3, 2016 with the following changes: Bertrand Drive should be Bertrand Hill and verbiage on lines 26-29 was changed. The Motion carried with three in favor, one abstained.

FRANKLIN RECREATION DEPARTMENT - BYLAW DRAFT REVIEW

A draft form of bylaws was presented to the SB. Bridgette Favreau, Bridget Thompson and Stephanie Ho were present to go over the bylaws. Discussion followed. Peter M suggested the SB members take these home and review them. Voting members of this Board should be Franklin residents. The SB will need to appoint the Board members and the Town Treasurer will need to process any and all monies generated and spent. It was suggested to start with an Interim Board. Peter M asked that the members need to be familiar with the Vermont Open Meeting Laws. The SB thanked the ladies for their work thus far and for coming in to review the bylaw draft.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

- Bob LaFont from Pike and Howard V were present to discuss the pre-paving work needed to be done on Stanley Road, Dewing Road and Morses Line Border Road. Pike will sweep and lay down 1/2 inch with 1 1/2 inch overlay. Yvon D wants the potholes to be filled before paving. The timeframe to get the job done is two days if the weather cooperates.
- The Riley Road paving being done by ECI is ready now.
- Morses Line Road project Bid opening - There are five (5) bids received as follows: A.L. St. Onge Construction bid \$27,000.; Hungerford Construction bid \$28,500.; Wright's Excavating bid \$29,700.; Blow and Côte bid \$35,768.; and ECI bid \$39,895. The SB discussed the bids. There is no update on the Grant as of today per Lisa (TC). Lisa will contact Jim Cota for an update this week. Yvon D/Ed R made a motion to accept the A.L.St.Onge bid as presented for \$27,000. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with all in favor. Lisa will contact St. Onge Construction and all bidders with the feedback.
- Culvert storage of the culverts from the Pidgeon Hill project was discussed briefly. Ed R offered his property, if needed, for culvert storage.

TOWN CLERK CONCERNS

- Corey Bertrand road name change - Corey asked the SB to change the name from Triplet Drive to Bertrand Hill Road. Dan Larivee has ownership of 200 feet of the Right of Way and his land fronts on this road.
- Approve Tax rate for FY17 - a Town Budget of \$759,834 was approved in March. Lisa explained that the proposed revenue to offset the taxes to be raised for FY17 is short by approx. \$155,000 due to the FY16 checkbook balance projections being overstated in the town report in error. Lisa went over how this happened and suggested where cuts can be made in the current budget and how funds pulled from some line items will help to make up the shortfall to reduce the proposed tax rate increase. Much discussion followed. It was suggested the tax rate should be set at \$1.5546 based on this new information with the non-homestead rate being set at \$1.7853. Brooks S/Yvon D made the motion to cut the Municipal Budget for FY17 by \$68,000 by cutting the paving budget, putting off electric repairs, floors and painting at the Town Hall and Library. The motion carried with all in favor. Ed R/Yvon D made a motion to set the FY17 tax rates at

\$1.5546 for homestead and \$1.7853 for non-homestead. With no further discussion, the motion carried with all in favor.

- Flashing speed sign on Rte 120 - an inquiry has been made with no answer yet.
- Arts Council Town Hall Grant signing - Lisa presented the Grant for \$4900 toward electrical repairs. This is a 50% matching grant. Brooks S/Yvon D made the motion to sign the Grant. All were in favor and the motion carried. The Grant was signed.

REVIEW AND SIGN BILLS

A small pile of bills was found and reviewed and signed. Ed R has some concerns about the "Greeter and Boat Inspector" program.

OLD BUSINESS

- Weed Harvester update - the engine needs to be converted from a gas engine to a Diesel engine. Aqua Marine estimated a cost of \$8400 for the engine installed. This includes parts, labor and shipping. Yvon D has reservations about dealing with Aqua Marine again. It's a diesel 24.8hp engine that's needed. Yvon D also asked Champlain Equipment for an estimate to do the conversion. Yvon D will talk to Subaru about an engine.
- Library Pillar repairs - Yvon D talked to Henry Rainville and he is willing to do the job and he can get to it late this fall. Peter M wants Henry to get us an estimate.

NEW BUSINESS

- Fire truck sale proceeds - what should we do with it? Peter asked if the SB should give the Fire Department some money for stripping? Ed R wants to put it all in the General Fund. The SB agreed to put it all in the General Fund.
- Park and Ride Tolling Agreement signing - Peter read a letter from VTRANS aloud. It was agreed to revisit this at the next meeting so we can go over the agreement with the Telephone Company before signing.

SELECTBOARD FOLDER

Everyone had a chance to go over the folder.

MEMBER CONCERNS

- Yvon D - wondering if the fiscal year should be changed back. Lisa advised she would need to look at the pros/cons carefully before making any changes; transitioning to the new fiscal year takes some time. It took 18 months to switch over and it will take another 18 months to go back.
- Ed R - the Towle Neighborhood Road culvert needs to be put back to original height.
- Brooks S - Scott Choiniere had questions about the harvester. He suggested to use chemicals in the Lake to get rid of the weeds. Scott wants an Article on this at Town Meeting for residents to vote on. Peter M said a petition may be in order.
- Peter M - Re: Franklin Recreation Department: Brooks S/Ed R made a motion to appoint the three ladies (Bridgette Favreau, Bridget Thompson, Stephanie Ho) as Interim Board Members. Vote was taken with all in favor and the motion passes.
- Peter M - what about the concern Clark Hubbard brought up? Suggestion: write a letter to the party. Brooks S agreed to tackle this.
- Peter M - Corey Bertrand road name issue - discussion - It was decided the SB will take no action on this.

At 9:36 p.m. Brooks S/Yvon D made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vote taken. All in Favor. Motion carries.

NEXT MEETING DATE IS SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. @ THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,
Sandi Murphy - Minute taker

These minutes are not official until approved at the next regular board meeting.

These minutes were approved at the September 7, 2015 board meeting.