

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2012
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Kyle Lothian, Andrew Godin, Wayne Laroche, Lisa Larivee (Town Clerk/Treasurer)

Guests: Russ Ford, Jim Cameron, Jeff Teitelbaum, Watershed Group; Bryant Reynolds and Susan Clark, Library Trustees; Peter Mazurak, Cross Consulting; Kim Gates Maynard, Diane Gates, Justin Rainville, Fire Chief.

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

Public Comment: No public comment to be heard.

Library Trustees: Mr. Reynolds and Mrs. Clark were present to submit the Haston Library 2013 budget to the selectboard. They are presenting a realistic budget of operating expenses. In the past the fundraising income was unrealistic to achieve. They have simplified the report. The budget presented will be reduced by the cash on hand at year end to determine the amount needed to be raised by taxes from the town. The trustees will not do the donation letters to campers this year in light of the large increases to their property taxes. Donations are always welcome. Bryant and Sue advised they are always available for questions should the board have any. The trustees were thanked and exited the meeting.

Watershed Committee: Russ Ford presented a letter from the Watershed Committee regarding their budget request of \$5,000; this covers the coordinator salary and overhead as well as assisting to fund the projects that continue within the watershed. Mr. Ford reviewed the programs completed recently and the grants received for ongoing projects. The recent 319 grant paid for the salary and overhead, but this grant is no longer available. Benefits of the watershed coordinator position: 1) the coordinator is able to bring in much funds for programs/projects, 2) help protect the lake for clean water and recreation for a continued tax base, 3) creating the opportunity to be ahead of other groups with town support when submitting grant requests. Pete states that much funding has decreased with the times and will have to look at with the town budget as we get squeezed for more money as well. Mr. Cameron advised they have a \$55,000 for culvert and shore line erosion work to continue in 2013. Septic pumping with a 50% resident match will continue with 319 grant funds held over. The Watershed is also going to the Campers Association for funding to aid with administration costs (\$25,000). The AmeriCorps group will be here for a month this summer at a cost of \$2,000 to assist with projects. Shoreline erosion projects will continue with the property owners having to share the financial responsibility and time support. Sue Clark asked that the board let them know if a petition needs to be done as soon as possible. The members were thanked and exited the meeting.

Highway water run-off study: Peter Mazurak from Cross Consulting and Kim Gates Maynard entered the meeting to review the plans for the water run-off of the highway garage lot and proposed sand shed. The current sand pile area needs to be graded down as it has been raised over time. Kyle has spoken to contractors about costs of the proposed 65 x 75 building; the maximum length trusses that can be used are 50 ft. The Highgate building is 50 x 100. Discussed a stick built structure vs. a hoop roof. The life span of a hoop structure is estimated to be 30 years for the tarp, concern of corrosion of the metal frame. Kim asked at what level do you put a strain on the man hole drainage that currently exists? Mr. Mazurak suggests dispersing the water in three directions; to the brook at the back east side of the property, to the north onto the green space hay land and into the current drainage system. Need to keep the project under 5,000 square ft. of impervious surface as to not trigger a VT storm water permit. Need to locate and mark the underground phone line with FTC. The drainage of the old garage foundation needs to be looked at. Cross Consulting will finalize the maps and plans for the board. Mr. Mazurak thanked and exited the meeting.

Tri-town Committee update: Kim gave the board a brief update on the progress of the committee. She has spoken with Terry McLaughlin about the list of pre-owned items to make the project cost more affordable. The lean-tos on both ends of the building are doable to increase the ice size needed. The boards will need to finalize the interlocal contract soon. Kim was thanked and exited the meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of November 13; Pete/Kyle made the motion to approve minutes. No discussion. Wayne abstained; four members voted in favor, motion passed. November 29 Tri-town meeting minutes will be approved by the tri-town board at a later date.

Town Clerk's Concerns:

- **Property Insurance:** Justin Rainville entered the meeting to discuss with the board the PACIF equipment grant with VLCT. The fire department wants to submit the grant to purchase five sets of turn-out gear. Only one grant per year can be applied for per town so if the highway dept. has any safety equipment needs they would have to be requested as part of the same grant. Discussed the property/liability insurance costs. Lisa has contacted Mullen Ins and Hull Ins for quotes; both groups are not willing to quote due to the claims the town has recently had. VLCT has given two options for the buildings; at guaranteed replacement cost (GRC) vs. functional replacement costs (FRC). With FRC on the buildings and other increases of rates and claims adjustments the increase is 33% over 2012. The savings of GRC vs. FRC is about \$3000. The board will discuss further when doing the budget to decide on the plan.
- **Budget meeting:** The board will meet on December 17 at 7:00 to do the proposed budget.
- **Health insurance:** reviewed the rates with VLCT of various plans. To decide at the budget meeting on what plan.
- **Fiscal year change:** Lisa handed out pros and cons of the change to a fiscal year, July to June rather than a calendar year. Kyle/Wayne made a motion to warn as an article in the town report for the change to occur in 2014. The March 2014 budget would be an 18 month budget; Jan-June 2014 and July 2014 to June 2015. All members voted in favor, motion passed.
- **Secretary position:** Lisa asked to post the position in the newspaper. The board agreed with the posting.
- **Village Designation:** The board reviewed the final maps and application for the Village Designation of the Town of Franklin. Kyle/Peter made a motion to approve the application of maps and docs for Village Designation. All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Bills/Financial statement:

Bills were reviewed and signed.

Old Business:

- **Plow tractor:** Kyle had looked into options for the plow on the school tractor. There are no other options for upgrades of the blower or a V-plow to fit this tractor. We will continue to use as is.
- **Development Regulations:** Kyle has concerns with year round residents at the lake. Residents have known of these violations for many years. Are we able to grandfather these "dwellings"? The board has to come to a solution to resolve this issue. The board asked Lisa to invite the ZA to the December 17 meeting for a discussion on the development regulations so they may finalize approval of the regulations. Wayne states the board needs to review what it wants for the best of the community and tax base of the lake with the development regulations.

Executive session: Peter/Kyle made a motion to enter into executive session at 9:10 regarding the prayer litigation. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Peter/Wayne made a motion to exit executive session at 9:18. All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Energy Efficiency: Diane Gates entered the meeting regarding the energy efficiency meetings she has attending at Northwest Regional Planning. There are programs for residential upgrades and home energy audits. They are however on a four year backlog. VT Business for Social Responsibility has an energy challenge to conserve 5% of usage for 3 years. There are programs for loan financing of projects with Efficiency Vermont. Diane thanked and exited the meeting.

New Business:

- **Time sheets:** discussed with regard to overtime/vacation during the winter months. The employee must work for 40 hours in the week before being paid overtime. Time sheets have been paid correctly. Yvon will look into getting a time clock for the highway garage; also in January 2014 the DOT physicals must be performed by a federally certified doctor for this purpose. The DOT physical cards must be carried at all times by drivers.

Selectboard folder:

- Franklin County Court has invited the board to their budget meeting on Dec 19th.
- State of VT PVR has calculated the CLA for the year at 97.71% and COD at 13.37.
- Legal opinion from VLCT regarding year-round living in the seasonal/recreational district.

- Request from the auditors for the selectboard and road commissioner reports for town report.
- Franklin County Home Health letter of “thanks” for the assessment of \$1870 for 2012.
- VLCT letter of dues for the 2013 year; \$2200.00
- VTrans letter and application requirements for the enhancement grant program.

Members Concerns:

- Kyle has spoken with Bob Norris regarding joint sheriff coverage with another town for full time; it is very costly, approx. \$60,000 per town. We can get 80 hours of coverage for \$4000 with court fees if needed, get reimbursed for a percentage of tickets issued.
- Final bills meeting of the board needs to be set.
- Kyle still has concerns with the corner of Middle Rd and Scott Rd with regarding to plowing for the winter. There is equipment that is still too close to the road side. Kyle will be in touch with law enforcement.
- Yvon has gotten quotes from Harrison Concrete for the sand shed. They have given 3 options on a 65x75 building; costs of concrete from \$47,500 to \$112,000. The board agrees that it's hard to justify a lease payment for additional land when we have our own land, the sand shed should be on our land. Kyle and Yvon will work on quotes for a hoop building. Peter states this needs to be warned as an article for town meeting.
- Tri-town update given to the board. The option of 200 ft. of ice at \$4.5 million is being proposed.

Peter/Wayne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
December 13, 2012

These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting. Approved by Selectboard – January 8, 2013