

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014 @ 7:00
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Andrew Godin, Wayne Laroche, Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk

Guests: Marshall Ploof, Justin Rainville, Alisha Sawyer-Watershed Coordinator.

Peter Magnant called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of allegiance was said.

Public Comments: None to be heard

Minutes: Minutes of January 14, regular meeting and January 23, public budget meeting were reviewed. Peter Magnant/Yvon Dandurand made the motion to approve the minutes as written. All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Reviewed and signed bills: The bills were reviewed and signed by the board.

Town Clerk Concerns:

- Tax due date: Lisa reviewed with the board a spreadsheet detailing the proposed budget comparison of the 18 month budget to the 2013 taxes paid. There will be an increase of about \$100 for a \$100,000 assessed home. This reflects an 18 month budget from Jan 2014-June 2015. Handouts will be available at town meeting for tax payers to review.
- Grand List: no suits/appeals pending against the 2013 grand list. The selectboard must certify as such and sign off on the grand list after the first Tuesday of February each year. Board signed the certificate.
- LED Street lights: Lisa has received the incentive agreement from Efficiency Vermont for the changeover of the street lights to LED. Efficiency VT will pay \$2900 of the project; the town will pay approx. \$2175. Eff. VT is coordinating with Vermont Electric for the changeover of the lights. Peter signed the agreement with Efficiency VT. The board would like to do a temporary removal of a few street lights to further cut costs; VEC can shut them off for a trial period. The light at the corner of 120/236 by the Benjamin farm and the last light on Hanna Rd by the Magnant farm. Lisa will be in touch with VEC.
- Town Clock: Lisa has been in touch with Eric Gerrard about the status of the clock. The clock repair man is awaiting some parts that he needed to order. Eric will continue to be in touch with him and get the clock back assembled as soon as possible.
- Mapping Grant: VT Center for Geographic Information in coordination with Northwest Regional Planning (NRPC) is offering grants to towns for GIS parcel mapping. There is a 50% match by the town. We are encouraged by NRPC to apply as we have some parcel mapping done for parcels and could use the funds to move toward completing more parcels. The town budgets funds annually for updates and continued mapping to complete the town. Lisa suggests doing the village area as there are often questions of these parcel lots. Board is in agreement of applying for the grant within our budgeted funds.
- Planning Commission: Clark Hubbard has asked about paying the board secretary for one meeting a month regardless if it is cancelled. The PC board feels since she has committed her time she should be paid every month. Their budget includes this cost in the line item. The board is in agreement with paying the board clerk for 12 meetings a year at \$35 per meeting.

Liquor Control Board: Wayne Laroche/Andrew Godin made the motion to enter into the liquor control board meeting at 7:35 pm. All members voted in favor. Applications for the Franklin General Store and Byam's were discussed and reviewed. Peter Magnant/Yvon Dandurand made a motion to approve the 2014 liquor and tobacco application for the Franklin General Store. All members in favor, motion passed; application signed. Peter Magnant/Wayne Laroche made a motion to approve the 2014 liquor and tobacco application for Byam's. All members voted in favor, motion passed; application signed. Peter Magnant/Wayne Laroche made a motion to adjourn the liquor control board meeting at 7:40 pm. All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Franklin Fire District #1: Marshall was welcomed to the meeting to discuss the proposal to merge the water district with the Town. The board wanted to discuss possible questions that may arise at town meeting. Some items that the State has requested the Fire District do include installing a valve and meter of the entire system at the reservoir and chlorinate the

system regularly. Wayne states we may need to look at legislature's capital bill to get financial assistance for upgrades requested by the State. The coliform count must be zero to pass water sampling. There are approx. 100 hook-ups in the village. The water district has a note with People's Trust Co. Marshall was thanked and exited the meeting. A plan of merger will need to be done by both parties for presentation and vote by Australian ballot.

Fire Department/Emergency Management: Justin Rainville entered the meeting to update the board regarding the PACIF grant. He will get information to Lisa to do a joint application for safety equipment for the fire dept. and highway dept. He also discussed the emergency management plan that we have. With the December 2013 ice storm the town had not done any preparations in advance in anticipation of extended power outages and such. In the future there should be discussion in advance to meet the resident's needs and the availability of the emergency shelter. Justin advised the board he is resigning as Emergency Management Coordinator as he is most often out of town when needed. He recommends Mark Toof for the position as he would be available in town during a disaster. Justin was thanked and exited the meeting.

Watershed: Alisha was welcomed to the meeting; she wanted to update the board as to the current issues of the Watershed group.

- Denise with Friends of Northern Lake Champlain advised that Franklin has received funding for the water runoff mapping that was applied for in the summer 2013 with the town.
- Bethany with NRPC will be working on an updated culvert inventory as part of the above stated grant.
- AmeriCorps Volunteer; Alisha has been interviewing a candidate for the position for summer work.
- Town beach work grant; Alisha has found information from previous coordinators regarding work on the town beach. Are there any proposed projects that she should be assisting on? The board advised that there are not.
- Better Back Roads grants are being worked on by Alisha for the Watershed group to do work on private properties to aid the runoff into Lake Carmi.
- Federal 319 grant funds have not been released by the State of VT to the smaller organizations that had applied. The funds are staying with the State which is requiring work be done with TMDL's by these organizations with no funding. The funds are through DEC with the Department of Agriculture; Alisha is pushing for assistance from them.

Old Business:

- Dog issues: the Grissom's have yet to prove to the town that obedience training has taken place for their dog. Yvon will touch base with the Grissoms.
- Personal policy-Peter Magnant has spoken with the town attorney regarding the personal policy. They advised as VT is an "at will" state that our policy does not reflect that and may need to be amended. Other items in the policy have been reviewed for legality. Members were given copies of suggested changes by the attorney for review for the next meeting.
- 2013 Road and Bridge Standards Certificate of Compliance was discussed and reviewed. All members in favor and approve. Peter Magnant signed the certificate.
- Highway lawsuit/Phelps: The court documents produced by the attorney were reviewed and approved. Signed by Peter Magnant of approval.

New Business:

- Town hay land: The board had bid the haying of the land for three years in 2013 to be reviewed annually. No changes are needed to be made; David Woods will continue to cut the hay.
- Hazard Mitigation grant: applications are available for hazard mitigation funding for projects that will prevent future damage due to flooding or other natural disasters. No projects need to be done fitting this grant.

Selectboard Folder:

- VLCT Selectboard institute for new members on March 22.
- Recorded document in the land records by Gilbert Dewing and signed by the camp road owners encouraging the board to do work on the private camp roads.
- Green Up Vermont has requested \$100 to aid their organization in continuing the efforts of green-up every year. They supply the town trash bags, posters about the day and with VTrans aid in picking up the pile of trash left in town. The board agreed to pay Green Up VT \$100 from the budget. Tires continue to be a problem with a large amount being left in the village for the town to dispose of. A notice will be posted as to no tire dumping. Also notice in the newsletter before green up day.

Executive Session: Peter Magnant/Wayne Laroche made a motion to enter executive session at 9:05 pm regarding personal issues. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Peter Magnant/Wayne Laroche made a motion to exit executive session at 9:11 pm, all members voted in favor.

Member Concerns:

- Humidity continues to be an issue at the town garage. They will install a humidity sensor to the fans to remove the moisture more efficiently.
- The trucks should be getting pressure washed outside to remove snow before coming inside.
- The highway crew has gotten a torque wrench for the truck tires; need to be torqued at 525#. Hope to resolve the issue of broken rims with proper torqueing.
- Yvon has inquired about hiring the grading to be done in the spring. He will get some prices to discuss further with spring coming.
- Reorganizational meeting will be March 5 @ 7:00 for the Selectboard.

Peter Magnant/Yvon Dandurand made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
February 13, 2014

These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting. Approved by Selectboard on March 11, 2014.