

# **MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016 @ 7:00 P.M. TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

## **Members Present:**

Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Brooks Sturtevant, and Andy Godin, Sandi Murphy (minutes taker)

## **Guests:**

Howard Vanslette and Jeremy Barnum from the road crew; Perry Thomas (VTDEC Lakes & Ponds Program Manager); Amanda Hillard from Regional Planning and Jessica Draper (Franklin Watershed Committee Coordinator)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **Agenda amendments:**

Personnel Policy amendment will be discussed under Item # 8 (New Business)  
Town Meeting items, speed limit issue and the Water Dept. loan will be discussed under item #7 (Old Business)

## **Public Comment Peroid: No comments**

## **Act 64 review - State of VT, FWC, NRPC, Hwy. Dept.**

Perry Thomas talked about the Clean Water Act 64 which will allow efforts to bring down the water phosphorus levels. Levels are now between 30-40 ppb (parts per billion) and should be as low as 22 ppb. The plan is to work with farmers, road crews and private property owners near and around lakes, streams and watershed areas. Farmers are encouraged to change land use practices and are being pro-active. Several groups first met in October, 2015 to set up a structure within which to work. Numbers and outcomes will be tracked to show progress. Hopes are that the Selectboard will appoint someone to attend the meetings and be the liaison back to the Selectboard. Karen Bates from the Mississiquoi Bay Basin#6 Region is the point person on the tactical basin practices being developed by the watershed folks. Amanda Hillard from NRPC is the SB's main contact person for Franklin. Please refer to the handout from the State on the Vermont Clean Water Initiative for more information.

In particular, the impervious surfaces over 3 acres will be looked at. All towns will need a general Permit after December 2017. Jim Ryan will be in charge of Permits which will include all roads, even Class four roads. Requirements are currently under development. The plan is to make available Grant Programs; perhaps some equipment sharing options and to encourage collaboration between all parties to accomplish common goals.

Jessica Draper gave the Selectboard a handout explaining who the Lake Carmi Implementation Team & Related Resources are and their contact info and websites. The long term goals are outlined.

Jessica stated, "we are paving new ground with this effort. Emily Bird will be the tracker of progress. This is a big project with lots of people and entities involved. Education is key. Communication is key." Some funding will be made available thru USDA for farmers to make changes. They are working with John Roberts from the Dept. of Agriculture and he is the liaison between this group and the farmers. Jessica stated the Town of Franklin should appoint a person to participate in the meetings and report back to the Selectboard. Their next meeting is Thursday, February 18th at 5:00p.m. in the FELCO Room.

It was suggested there should be a display at Town Meeting to help educate the townspeople and perhaps a handout to give them information on who to call with questions.

The letter written by the Selectboard to the State regarding the dam was shared with a State attorney and Perry said the State is re-examining who will be the point person to contact.

## **Highway Department**

- The Highway Mileage Certificate was reviewed. There are 55.57 miles of Class 1,2 and 3 roads; 5.41 miles of Class 4 roads and .9 miles of Legal Trails in the Town of Franklin. A Motion was made to sign the Certificate as drafted by Brooks/ Yvon. Vote was taken, all in Favor and the Certificate was signed.
- The Certificate to adopt road and bridge standards was reviewed. A Motion was made by Brooks/ Yvon to adopt the Certificate as presented. Vote was taken, all in Favor and the Certificate was signed.

- The Complete streets compliance form was reviewed. A Motion was made by Brooks/Yvon to sign this form as presented. Vote was taken, all in Favor and the form was signed.
- Overweight posting weights were reviewed and discussed. Class two roads are posted lower than the State standards. No changes were made.
- Howard Vanslette mentioned that the control knob on the bucket loader is shot and needs to be replaced. The loader is used on average about 321 hours per year. Howard will look into getting this repaired.
- Yvon mentioned that when it's time to get paving quotes ECI should be allowed to bid. Perhaps we should plan to do our paving earlier than other towns to get a better quote.
- The new truck purchase will be brought up at Town Meeting and Peter asked Jeremy if he would be comfortable making the motion to approve. Usually the motion maker is allowed to speak first and Jeremy could comment on why the Town needs the truck. Jeremy asked if the specs are available and Yvon handed them to him. The truck is in stock and may be available for viewing on Town Meeting day.

## **Approve Minutes: January 20, 2016**

This was a Budget meeting. Andy Godin has not been getting the minutes by e-mail, so he took a few minutes to review them. Brooks/ Yvon made a Motion to accept the minutes as presented. A Vote was taken, all in Favor and the Minutes were accepted.

## **Liquor Control Board**

Brooks/Yvon made a Motion to go into the Liquor Control Board meeting. Vote was taken, Motion carried.

- 1) The Liquor License Renewal for Due North Vineyard was discussed. Motion by Yvon/Andy to approve. All in Favor, Motion carried.
- 2) The Liquor License Renewal for the Franklin General Store was discussed. Motion by Yvon/Brooks to approve. All in Favor, Motion carried.
- 3) The Liquor License Renewal for Byams Quick Stop was discussed. Motion made by Yvon/Andy to approve. All in Favor, Motion carried.

Then Motion made by Yvon/Andy to exit the Liquor Control Board meeting. All in Favor, Motion carried.

## **Old Business**

- The Town of Franklin Water District joint agreement was reviewed. Motion made by Yvon/Brooks to approve and sign agreement. Vote was taken, all in Favor, Motion carried.
- The new truck purchase was discussed. The amount in the Warning for Town Meeting Day is lower than the original price as funds from the equipment fund are being used. Yvon will see if the truck can be on site for Town Meeting.
- Concerning the speed limit issue - Yvon asked if the Warned Article #15 is a binding vote or not binding? Peter believes it will be binding for this particular vote. Any changes in the future will still need to go through the process.
- Concerning the Water Dept. loan – Yvon attended the VLCT Moderator workshop and stated that he understood that any loan for more than a five year term needs to be voted on by Australian Ballot and cannot be voted on from the floor. It was decided that Peter will look into this. There is not enough time to properly warn this now. There may need to be a Special Meeting.

## **New Business**

- The Northwest Regional Planning Commission requests that a person be appointed to a new Committee to address Act 64 Clean Water Act. Peter read the letter requesting this appointment. The next meeting is 2-22-2016 at 5:00-6:30 p.m. at a place to be announced later. Yvon offered to attend the first meeting. It was agreed to table this decision until the next meeting.
- Concerning the Personnel Policy amendment - Andy spoke about asking the road crew to go out for small jobs on short notice. He felt the workers should be entitled to a minimum of 4 hours pay for an emergency call to work. This will be put on next month's agenda for further discussion and resolution.

## **Selectboard Folder**

- There was a letter received concerning a dog complaint. Dan C is complaining that a dog owned by Harold and Barb D is coming on his property on a regular basis and that the dog barks for 20 minutes or more at a time. Dan C complained to Dennis Demar and

Dennis suggested he write a letter to the Selectboard. Peter suggested that a letter be written to the dog owner with a copy of the dog ordinance enclosed.

- The action plan from VLCT for the Town Hall hazards was reviewed.
- VTRANS copied the Selectboard on a letter written to the Howrigan's that operate a farm on Route 236/State Park Rd. Peter read the letter aloud.
- Peter went over some other mail received and the VLCT newsletter.

### **Member Concerns/ Other business**

- Yvon asked Andy if the pressure washer was working OK after the repairs. Andy said it was working fine.
- Peter mentioned the Water Dept. meeting is Monday and Yvon said he would attend. Can the water be tested? It seems to be very hard water and causes corrosion. Yvon will ask.

The next regular Selectboard meeting will be Wednesday, February 17th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Brooks/Yvon made a motion to adjourn at 9:19 p.m.. All members voted in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandi Murphy, minute taker  
February 3, 2016

**These minutes are not official until approved at the Selectboard's next regular meeting.**  
These minutes were approved at the February 17, 2016 meeting.