

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2013 @ 7:00  
FRANKLIN SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**Members Present:** Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Andrew Godin, Kyle Lothian, Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk.

**Guests:** Howard Vansette, Jean Richard, Michelle Guilmette, Robert Irish, Kim Gates Maynard, Cecil King, John Giroux, Polly Gadbois, Justine Rainville, June Morgan, secretary.

Peter Magnant called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. The Pledge of allegiance was said. Peter welcomed everyone to the 2013 public hearing to review the budget and proposed sand shed project.

**Budget:** Last year's budget was \$662,721 this year's proposed budget is \$682,982. The increase is due to the Dewing Road Bridge project in which the town has received a VTrans grant for; requires a 10% match from the town (\$15,000). The Delinquent tax collector fee for the 8% has also been added to the budget as a line item to account for these in/out funds.

- Health insurance change in plan to a Health Insurance Reimbursement plan with a \$10,000 deductible. The town will reimburse up to \$5,000 per employee. Worst case scenario would cost \$15,000 over the premium; included in the budget lines. Stand the potential to save money if the health costs are low for the year, may be under budget at year end.
- Insurance for property/liability: building values increased, board changed the coverage from guaranteed replacement to actual values. Increase also due to the claims that the town has had in the past year due to the lawsuits.
- Library: budget assessment is down due to use of money in their savings account to offset budget needs. Next year the assessment to the town will increase depending on excess funds available.
- Ambulance: looking to centralize services in the near future with possible satellite sites around the county; one year more with the offset of the ambulance purchase from rescue for the assessment.
- Gravel: Kim states there are less dirt roads over time with more being paved. The budget should go down. Kyle responded that gravel costs are up and have been using the blue crushed stone which holds up better for the base of roads. The board discussed a change to the budget, but opted to leave as is.
- Equipment rental: ditching on Hanna Rd by Art Davis, Barnum Rd and Colton Rd.
- Equipment fund: Kim asked about the approx. \$5,000 being put into the fund for future purchases; with the budget up and not much interest gained is it the right time to contribute to the fund. Should consider cutting for now.
- Office Expense: The \$3,000 increase is for the audit that will be needed for the bonding of funds if the Tri-Town project passes.
- Paving: Kyle advises we are up for VTrans monies this year; to use on Dewing Rd.. Plans are for Morses Line Rd, Hanna Rd and Riley Rd hill.

Tax rate projected to be \$.337, up \$.05 from last year.

**Sand Shed:** Yvon discussed the sand shed article. The board proposed to move the salt shed to have more room for the sand shed. After examining the salt shed closer this will not be easily done due to the additions. Will look at other options for location of the sand shed. Costs have been determined on a 72x60 building. A stick built building is more expensive than the proposed hoop structure. Will have a 30' open entrance in front, 12' high concrete walls with piers, the hoop structure from on top of concrete. Capacity would be 3,600 tons of sand. The structure is built high to accommodate the loader. John Giroux asks why do we need a sand shed right now? Kyle speaks that safety is the main concern and the state may mandate in the near future. Huge chunks freeze on top of the pile creating an igloo effect which can fall on the highway crew or anyone else in proximity of the pile at any time. Will be able to better budget for sand as there will be no waste left on the ground. Salt usage put into the sand pile will be cut by 50% with it under cover; saving \$1,000-1,200 per year on salt. Both ends will be open for wind passage to aid in drying the sand; Morrisville and Georgia have similar buildings. Yvon believes that in 2015 the state will mandate sand sheds to be built. John wants to see it built right the first time. Polly asks about the location; doors facing the same as the garage. The cost of the concrete with piers is \$44,480 vs. straight walls costing \$112,000. The warning is for the sum of \$110,000 for not to exceed 5 years. Cross Consulting has done work regarding the water runoff issue that will be taken care of as part of the sand shed project. The life of the tarps has a 15 year warranty; advised they have lasted 20-25 years. The tarp is in 12' sections so can be replaced individually if

needed; cost is \$900 each. Howard advises that it would also cut down of pollution with the salt runoff of the sand pile.

Polly asks if there is any money in the budget for a land study? Pete advised there is not. Polly stated a guy has contacted her regarding thoughts of what could be done with the land. He will attend the Feb 18 meeting of the land committee.

Kim thanked Lisa for the e-mail reminder of the meeting

John Giroux asked with the ROW issues at hand should we still be considering the sand shed project? Pete advised the legal issues have been resolved and there should not be anything to prohibit the sand shed work.

**Warning review:** Peter read the warning. Board accepted and signed as read. Peter read the Tri-town recreational facility project warning. Board accepted and signed as read.

Planning Commission will have guests at their next meeting on Feb 19 regarding the energy efficiency project of the town. Warn for the selectboard to attend.

Kyle/Andrew made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk  
January 29, 2013

***These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting.*** Approved by Selectboard – February 12, 2013