

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD  
TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2013 @ 7:00  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

**Members Present:** Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Andrew Godin, Kyle Lothian, Wayne Laroche and Lisa Larivee-Town Clerk

**Guests:** Nat Worman, Hugh Gates, Denis Demar (Animal Control), Larry Myott, Peter Benevento, Denise Smith (Friends of Northern Lake Champlain), Wayne Fiske.

Peter Magnant called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of allegiance was said.

**Public Comments:** None

**LCCA:** Larry and Peter were welcomed to the meeting. Peter B apologized for the St. Albans Messenger's comments regarding the end of the use of the weed harvester; this was incorrect information and was corrected with an editorial the following day. Pete M thanked them for the correction being made to correctly inform the residents of town.

- Peter B has spoken with the State regarding best management practices for the beach area; they will advise of the criteria. There is much sediment going into the lake from road run-off; maybe the Dewing Road could be paved as a permanent means to fix the issue; grading causes more sediment for run-off. The other roads being mostly private will have to be addressed with land owners or maybe taken over by the town. Kyle advised that it would be very costly as the roads would need major upgrades before being paved or considered to be town roads.
- Dam: remains an issue for the LCCA. Who controls, cleans debris and has oversight of the dam. Wayne advised that DEC controls the dam by law; they can give the duty to the selectboard to operate and oversee it. There are rules for control of dams on the ANR website. LCCA has concerns with lots of large debris being on either side of the dam. At this time the culverts on Dewing Rd are controlling the water flow/lake level of the dam due to their being undersized. Erosion is happening with the high waters again, once the culvert/bridge is replaced this should help greatly. Peter B also discussed the house bill #HR26 on shoreline control.

**Friends of Northern Lake Champlain (FNLC):** Denise Smith was welcomed to the meeting. She is here to discuss with the board the Ecosystem Restoration (ERP) grants that FNLC is applying for to map all wastewater discharge issues into area lakes and rivers for surrounding towns. They are a non-profit group working with the towns with the assistance of Stone Environmental. They will catalog and document all streams and run-off issues for the reference of the towns future projects or improvements; of which other grants may be available for. There will be no cost to the town; FNLC does the whole project with the assistance of highway crews and other town resources as needed. Mrs. Smith states they would need a letter of support from the town approving the application of the ERP grant. The board is in support of the project and will get a letter to FNLC.

**Minutes:** May 14 regular meeting, Peter/Andy made a motion to approve the minutes as written with the attachment of Nat Worman's sand shed concerns; all members voted in favor, motion passed. June 3 Grissom dog hearing, Peter/Kyle made a motion to approve with changes; Grissom testimony: (first point) "Grissom's state that Tom is the legal owner of the dog; town records show the dog is registered to Ron & Amanda Grissom. All members voted in favor as amended, motion passed.

**Old Business:**

- **Dewing Bridge:** Lisa reviewed the need to extend the due date for the bids due to getting the spec book out late from the engineer to the bidders. The due date was moved to June 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm. The board will meet at 6:00 on the 20<sup>th</sup> to open the bids at a public meeting.
- **Grissom Dog hearing:** Yvon/Wayne made a motion to enter into deliberative session at 7:45 to discuss the dog hearing regarding the Grissom dog. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Peter/Yvon made a motion to exit deliberative session at 7:58; all members voted in favor, motion passed. Kyle/Wayne made a motion to proceed with the tickets in accordance with the dog ordinance and a letter will be sent with the following demands: must install a fenced/penned area on their property; dog must attend obedience classes at their expense and provide proof of the training date and a certificate of completion; all fines and animal control boarding costs must be paid before reclaiming the dog; when walked off the property the dog must be leashed with a control harness. All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Reviewed the additions to the dog ordinance as suggested by legal counsel; tabled to a later date. Board asked that every person who registers a dog be given a copy of the dog ordinance.

- **Sand Shed:** Yvon reviewed the ZBA approval of the sand shed with stipulation of a height limit of 35 ft. Sand purchases for the past three years has been 1300-1500 yds.; average of approx. 1400 yds. of sand is needed. With the change in height, the walls will be reduced from 12 ft. concrete to 9 ft. with a 60x72 dimension. With this building filled level to the 9 ft. high would hold 1490 yds. of sand; 350 yds. more if meloned/rounded up giving plenty of storage needed. Harrison Concrete has quoted the price of \$36,300 from previous \$45,400 with 6 ft. pillars rather than 10 ft. The hoop will be about \$5,000 less in price than quoted; if pay for materials at time of order can get a 2% discount. Discussed color options of tarp.

The board will hold a public hearing about the final plans before proceeding with construction.

Hugh presented his visual model of the project and suggested possible storm water run-off solutions. The polluted water run-off will run into the catch basin and into the outlet to brook. Need to think about run-off onto a green space or rain garden for green technology. The highway facility is a public works business and makes development of the other remaining land unlikely. Should not be located here and should wait for the project, no hurry. Do a professional work study of all the land. Mr. Gates is concerned with the elevation of this building. Yvon states the sand shed is needed for run-off, more accurate purchasing and will make the highway department more prudent with usage. Hugh states it seems the board has given up the development of the other land with this project. The board reiterates at this time there are no other plans for the other town land.

Nat makes the statement that at least one board member feels this is a dying town. He is willing to work with the board to look at the future of the village; with faulty septic and issues on Main Street. Peter advised this will need to be a town meeting discussion and planning for revitalization of the village. Thanked Hugh and Nat and they exited the meeting.

- **Vacant Village Homes:** Peter discussed the village designation benefits and the blight program through VT Housing and Community Affairs. Lisa will look into the benefits of the program to enhance the vacant village homes.
- **Fish & Game dock updates:** Wayne has corresponded with the department and been advised that there will be no docks this year. Kyle/Peter made a motion to authorize Wayne to draft a letter to the Commissioner of Fish & Game of their disappointment and unhappiness of this situation. Kyle feels F&G have voided the lease contract by not following through with their agreements. The letter will be signed by the entire board.
- **Paving Bids:** Kyle will speak with Howard. A Pike representative has come and looked at potential paving spots with the highway crew. They feel that Riley Rd needs to take priority or will be lost. Dewing Rd also has a bad spot that should be fixed. Main St across from Dick Wrights and the Fire Dept. lot will also be done.
- **Sheriff Coverage:** The town has had 4 hours of coverage to date. There have been many tickets issued on Browns Corner Rd for speeding.

**Review and sign bills:** Board members reviewed and signed bills.

**Overweight permits:** Kyle reviewed and signed the overweight permits.

#### **Town Clerk Concerns:**

- **School mower agreement:** reviewed the current agreement. Board is ok with how things are going and will make no changes at this time.
- **Draft Development Regulations:** tabled at this time.
- **Forsyth Driveway:** the Forsyth's have phoned the town clerk with concerns about the safety of their driveway when exiting. The drive is blind from Highgate and speed is an issue. The board agreed to install a "blind driveway" sign and with the sheriff coverage the speed of traffic should be reduced.
- **Stop Sign and Traffic Ordinance:** Hugh has brought in some concerns regarding the traffic ordinance. Board reviewed the suggestions; the only change to be made will be the speed limit on Square Road to 25 mph rather than 35 mph. due to the school/pedestrian travel and safety concerns. All members in agreement with the change.
- Need to set dates for the public hearing on the Dewing Bridge and Sand Shed. Invite Ruggiano for the Dewing Bridge concerns.

#### **Tri-Town Arena:**

The joint meeting of the tri-town board will be June 12 at 7:00 in the school library. The board reviewed thoughts regarding the town boards and how this project should proceed.

**New Business:**

- **Town Hall:** Lisa discussed with the board some concerns with the town hall such as updates to the electrical system and a leaking roof in the entryway. The board suggests putting together a committee to review the needs and upgrades of the town hall; speak with Bryant Reynolds and Sue Clark to see if they want to head up.
- **Town Clock:** Eric Gerrard as keeper of the clock is coordinating the repairs of the clock as needed.
- **Highway Lawsuit:** The town has received a lawsuit regarding the motorcycle accident due to a chloride spill on the Browns Corner Rd in 2010. Has been forwarded to the town attorney.

**Selectboard folder:**

- ZBA hearing notice for July 1 for Rock Benoit in Blackwoods.
- State highway 1111 permit for work on Main St in State ROW.
- Approval letter from ZBA regarding town hearing on the sand shed.
- Bike & Pedestrian grant notification

**Member Concerns:**

- Yvon regarding dog ordinance; has concerns with problem dogs that move into town from other towns. Need to know where they are and their status. Also has been advised that brass veteran flag holders are being stolen from cemeteries, watch ours.
- Peter concerned with road side mowing, why they aren't making two passes in the spring and fall. Verified that the weed harvester is in the water. The town attorney has advised there is a prayer lawsuit case in NY being fought by Freedom Alliance; does the town want to add their name as a supportive party? All members in favor of joining the group. Peter has received a request from the Historical Society for assistance with moving an antique stove to the log cabin. The board will assist them.

Kyle/Wayne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk  
June 13, 2013

***These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting.*** Approved by Selectboard on July 9, 2013