

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015 @ 7:00 P.M.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Ed Rainville, and Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk.

Guests: Howard Vansette

Peter Magnant called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was said.

Agenda amendments: Old Business – add charter of Water Commission discussion
Move road side tree trimming from old business to highway dept.
All members voted to accept the agenda amendments.

Public Comments: none

Minutes: Minutes of February 11, regular meeting; Yvon Dandurand/Ed Rainville made a motion to accept the minutes as written; all members voted in favor, motion passed. Town Meeting minutes of March 3; Yvon Dandurand/Ed Rainville made a motion to accept the minutes as written; all members voted in favor, motion passed. Reorganizational meeting minutes of March 4; Ed Rainville/Yvon Dandurand made a motion to accept the minutes as written; all members voted in favor, motion passed.

Highway Department: Ed discussed the cutting of road side trees that are dead in the ROW. He spoke with Art Davis about picking up the logs and the highway crew can pick up the limbs; hope to do in the spring after roads dry up a bit.

Pete reviewed the job posting for the highway dept. with Howard; will post for 4-5 days, due March 30.

VTrans paving grant was reviewed for what road to apply for. Pete advises they would like to finish Morses Line from Messier Rd to Barnum's with 2" overlay and the rest to the Canadian border crossing with a 1" overlay. Yvon had spoken with DHS about sharing the cost of paving the section near the border crossing; he will be in touch with them. Howard also states that Dewing Rd needs to be resurfaced and may be more eligible for the grant as it connects two state highways. Town Clerk will apply for both upon receipt of quote from Pike.

Howard will be posting the roads on March 12 for weight restrictions; will work with truckers.

Howard advised he needed to get the clutch adjusted on truck 2; Dana Stetson will do the work and replaced the plow blades on both trucks. Howard would like to speak with Lucien Laroche about buying the truck plow he has, for truck 2; the plow is cracked and in rough shape.

The board discussed the school tractor for snow plowing and other alternatives that may be available. Yvon would like to look at a skid steer for this work and it could be used for other purposes as well.

Town Clerk Concerns:

- Town Hall roof bids: The Town Clerk has gotten approval of the scope of work from Historic Preservation; the board also approves and the bid request can be posted around town, website and St. Albans Messenger. Bids are due April 14th.
- Town Service Officer appointment to the state was signed by the board.
- Jes Alexant has asked about using the town hall for an Irish dance for the community on March 28. The board is fine with it.
- Grissom/Townley dog: The town supports the School Superintendent sending a "no trespass notice" regarding Tom and the dog staying off school grounds. The board will attend the school board meeting on March 17, the Town Clerk will warn.
- Town Clerk has received notice of a cultural facility grant which would cover electrical work at the town hall. Lisa will look into eligibility; not sure with receiving the Historical Preservation grant this year if we can apply for both right now. The board would like to have an electrician review the needs of the town hall regardless of the grant for future planning.
- Complaint received regarding the Abbott camp on Hill Rd; allowing living there year round, failed septic, poor water quality, mold issue, rodent infestation. The board will

send Mr. Abbott a letter of notification. Zoning Administrator will look into the season use.

Review and sign bills: The bills were reviewed and warrants signed. Discussed the Humane Society contract/fee; the board does not feel we get adequate services for the contract and does not wish to sign/pay the contract. Invite them to the next meeting to discuss if they wish.

Old Business:

- **Traffic Ordinance:** the board reviewed changing the Dandurand Road speed limit to 35 mph. Also discussed changing Barnum Road and Durkee Road; Pete states that NRPC does not suggest changing the speed limit if there are no complaints/requests to do so. The board tabled the decision until the next meeting when the entire board is present.
- VTel permit was discussed; the board is not interest in their services; will send a letter denying their proposal.
- Selectboard meeting schedule was reviewed for 2015. The board will meet two times a month on the first and third Wednesday at 7:00.
- Rte. 120/235/Middle Rd intersection-Pete advised he has a TAC meeting this week and they will be reviewing this project. Mario from VTrans has done a 4-way stop design but no funds are allocated for this project with the state. NRPC needs to assist with prioritizing the project as a critical need; the blind intersection is the key issue. Hope to be able to get the project on the states list.
- Charter for Franklin Water Commission merger (H268) was reviewed. Legislature has asked the board to be present when discussed in Montpelier for the towns support; can also do by a phone conference.

New Business:

- Weed harvester operator/tractor schedule; Yvon advised that Delbert and Andrew Cook want to operate this year and Brooks is also available. Discussion of LCCA's efforts to support the operators and need to review in more detail. Discussed renting a tractor for a week or two if need be to get road side mowing done as well. Harvesting date is dependent on the weather/weed conditions.
- Emergency Management plan tabled until we get an updated plan for review from NRPC.
- Personal Policy-reviewed changes/updates as previously discussed. The Town Clerk will update the policy and send to the board for a final review before adoption, Pete would also like the town attorney to review.
- Franklin Watershed (FWC) transparency-Alisha is looking for direction from the Selectboard on being transparent to satisfy the requests from town meeting. Pete has reviewed their bylaws and will clarify a few items with the FWC. They should follow the open meeting law with notices, minutes, agenda postings and follow their by-laws. The Town Clerk will warn the board to attend the FWC meeting on March 19th.
- Hay Land lease was discussed-Town Clerk will be in touch with David Woods regarding continued lease. The board would like to see two cuts done.

Selectboard folder:

- Discussed the town having a Facebook page vs. front porch forum. Town Clerk will inquire with surrounding towns on what they use and feedback.
- Selectboard institute workshop will be March 21 if interested.
- VT Connections has sent information regarding Wi-Fi in town; board is not interested at this time.

Member Concerns:

- Yvon advised the Morses Line Rd road signs coming from the border crossing are in bad condition and need to be replaced. Reviewed the sign request from Chad Bouchard; still waiting for information from the state on allowed signs.
- Yvon has inquired with surrounding towns what their highway pay rates are for reference with hiring a new driver.
- Inquiries have been received regarding a change of use on the barn at Brenda Wright's for weddings/parties. Town Clerk advised she has received an application to the ZBA for a change of use on the barn.

- Discussed the requests for changing town meeting to Saturday. Ed asks about changing the start time to 9:00 am to get the important business done before lunch. The board will review further for next year's warning.

Next regular meeting will be April 1 at 7:00 pm.

Yvon Dandurand/Ed Rainville made the motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
March 12, 2015

These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting.

DRAFT