

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD  
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 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:** Bryant Reynolds, Kathleen Engstrom, Linda Hartman, Kim Gates Maynard, Nat Worman, David Rood, Larry Myott, Peter Benevento.

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

**Public Comments:** Mr. Worman was here regarding the sand shed issue. He states the board needs to preserve the beauty of the village with a plan for the town land and think ahead of future needs. There is a need for a wastewater management facility. Pete thanks Mr. Worman for a well written presentation; agrees that the sand pile is an eye soar and is polluting the ground area. Action needs to be taken to enhance the area.

**Library:** Kathleen is present to ask the board permission to plant a library garden; they have received a seed grant of \$800 to build a raised bed 12x6x2 garden for the children to tend and share with the Homestead their harvest. They would like to put it outside the library building on the back lawn and use a rain barrel on the corner of the building to water with. Parent/children teams will water and care for the garden. This will be on ongoing project for many years.

Bryant is asking to purchase a memorial bench in honor of Dick & Kelly Wright to be placed in front of the building. He feels that is the least that the town can do given the donations the trusts have made to several town groups. The library will ask for donations from all groups that received funds and cover the remaining costs themselves. The board thanked the library members and they exited.

**Foreclosures/vacant homes:** David Rood introduced himself and was here to speak with the board about the approximately ten foreclosures and vacant homes in the village and thoughts on what may be done to get home owners back into these homes for the benefit of the village community. How to solve the problem: maybe property tax exempt incentives to new home buyers, assistance with needed work through 203K loans for rehabilitation and Champlain Housing Trust for assistance on such things. Franklin is a destination spot of wanting to live here, people don't otherwise travel much through Franklin. There may need to be a special town meeting for approval of incentives. The board will continue to look at options for improving the village community. Mr. Rood was thanked for his time.

**LCCA:** Larry and Peter welcomed to the meeting. Peter advised their group had done Green-up on the beach area and other camp roads. Questioned what should be done with the beach to enhance it. Kyle would like to see maybe river stones put down as the sand just washes away into the water. Mr. Benevento will speak with the State of VT to see what materials they recommend to use. The LCCA is willing to assist with maintenance of the beach. Larry spoke of the Lake Carmi Days celebration in July; there will be a pontoon race, lighted boat parade, fireworks, ect. A letter is needed from the board giving permission to close Rte. 120 on July 3 from 6 pm to 10 pm for the events. The Cottage tours event will be in July as well. The LCCA is glad to see the sheriff patrol; would like to expand the 35 mph zone from Riley Rd to the Millpond for the summer. Larry asked on the status of the Dewing Bridge work; Kyle states the plan is for it to be done in late August, need to hold a public meeting before. Larry can publish the meeting date in the LCCA newsletter.

**Minutes:** April 9 regular meeting, Kyle/Yvon made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Wayne abstained, not present; all other members voted in favor, motion passed.

**Sand Shed:** Kim entered the meeting to discuss the sand shed issues and concerns of Franklin Telephone (FTC). She understands that there is a need for a sand shed and appreciates the boards work on the project. However they need to take the time to do a master plan for future planning and visions of the town land even if the project waits until next year. Kim states the sand shed has been proposed in three locations; consider the view from the Homestead living room; and underground cable concerns. Pete asks if the original location of the building to the north in line with the other buildings is felt to be a better option; Kim states it would make FTC happier than the current proposal. Kim was thanked by the board and exited the meeting.

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

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

**Town Clerk Concerns:**

- Letter for LCCA requesting the closure of Rte. 120, north end of lake, on July 3 for Lake Carmi Days events. Kyle/Yvon made a motion to approve the request, all in favor. Pete signed the letter.
- Library windows and screens have been requested by the library board to be washed and screens placed to fit properly. Kyle will wash windows and take care of screens. Also the emergency exit signs and lights are not all working and the ceiling fan over the circulation desk is bad; Corey Bertrand has looked at them and can replace. The board approved of the repairs as needed.
- Dog warrant and list of unlicensed dogs reviewed; all members approve and Pete signed the warrant. Lisa will forward to Dennis-Animal Control for visits to the dog owners.
- Dog Complaints: Curtis and Jennifer Ploof have had two dogs belonging to Rice/Palchak being a nuisance to their chickens. Send letter and ordinance about control and leash law in village and copy animal control. Camper's dog on Dewing Rd was bitten by Mr. Mercy's dog while walking leashed; animal control has spoken with Mr. Mercy about liability. Send letter requesting the dogs must be contained and in his control. Janet Norcross has complained of Melaney Smith's dog coming onto her property and defecating on a regular basis. Send letter and village leash ordinance to Ms. Smith.
- Fiscal year change: VLCT is willing to come discuss the fiscal year changes and what this means for the board and treasurer. The auditors should also be involved with the shift in record keeping. For town meeting 2014 will need to present an 18 month budget, Jan 2014-June 2014 and July 2014-June 2015 and discuss the tax due dates for a split into two payments for the first larger year. Lisa will speak with the auditors and VLCT about the procedures needed.
- Maple tree: the tree in front of the building is dead and should be replaced. Kyle will speak with Howard about cutting it and replacing with a new tree in the fall.

**Stop Sign and Traffic Ordinance:** Reviewed the ordinance for updates that have been made as discussed at April meeting to include all stop signs and include some areas of state roads for speed limit control. Kyle/Wayne made a motion to approve and adopt the ordinance as written; all members voted in favor, motion passed; signed by the board. Lisa will post as required.

**Old Business:**

- **Dewing Bridge Bid Request:** Pete read the bid request for the construction work of replacing the bridge and approved. Lisa will post in St. Albans Messenger and the website. Will schedule a public meeting in July.
- **Land Committee:** Polly was looking for guidance from the board on the next step to take. The board would like to thank Polly for her work with the board; no further action is needed of the committee at this time.

**New Business:**

- **LOC Tax Anticipation Note:** Lisa presented a tax anticipation note as a line of credit in the amount of \$175,000 at 2.15% from May 14 to Oct 15 from Community National Bank. Funds are drawn as needed, no penalty for early payoff. Peter/Yvon made a motion to approve the Tax Anticipation Note as discussed. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Loan documents signed by the board.
- **Weed Harvester Operator:** Pete/Wayne made the motion to hire Delbert and Andrew Cook to operate the weed harvester this year. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Lisa advised that the grant funding from the State of VT DEC was not received this year for the operation of the harvester, there is money budgeted for the operation of the harvester.
- **Paving Projects:** Kyle would like to complete the fire department lot this year. A section of Main Street across from Dick Wrights should be repaired as it is very rough. Gore Rd starting at the Franklin line should be given a second coat where the shim was put down last year as to not loose what has been done. Riley Rd hill spot that has slid; suggest digging out the section and filling with stone for this year to allow settling and resurface next year. Kyle will speak with Howard to get bids.

- **Homestead Drive concerns:** Pete has spoken with the town attorney about taking over the road as a town road. The board discussed the options. The board reviewed the current proposed location of the sand shed and recent discussions with FTC. The board amends the building permit for the sand shed to relocate to the original location north of the salt shed in line with the other buildings; the distance from the underground line will be greater and will have a more esthetic view for the Homestead and FTC.
- **FTC Property:** Kyle has received complaints from residents about property/equipment of FTC being on the town lot. Kyle will speak with Burt about moving the equipment from our ROW for the town land.
- **DHS letters:** Pete asked Lisa to draft letters to Peter Welch, Patrick Leahy and Department of Homeland Security regarding the objection of the proposed port of entry fees at our border crossings. Letters were read by Pete; Pete/Andy made a motion to approve the letters, all members in favor; Pete signed.
- **Development Regulations:** There are a few items that need to be amended in the development regulations at the request of the zoning administrator and planning commission. The subdivision of two lots and accessory structures in the Shoreland district. Lisa will draft updates for review at the next board meeting.

**Selectboard folder:**

- Workshops for members to attend given by VLCT
- ZBA approval of the White's hearing

**Member Concerns:**

- Pete advised that Henry Rainville, Highgate Selectboard, requests a Tri-town board meeting after the Swanton vote.
- The board approves of the library garden and Wright memorial bench.
- Kyle advised of the Drug/Alcohol training course for supervisors of CDL drivers that he has taken. Is required of supervisors and another member should be trained. Yvon has also done the training through his employment.
- Yvon questioned what the status of the docks at the north end of the lake is. Wayne will be in touch with Mike Wichrowski from F&G about installation.

Kyle/Yvon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk  
May 17, 2013

***These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting.*** Approved by Selectboard on June 11, 2013.