

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2014 @ 7:00 P.M.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Brooks Sturtevant, Ed Rainville
Andrew Godin, Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk

Guests: Howard Vansette, Highway Foreman; Greg Bouchard, Alisha Sawyer, Watershed
Coordinator; Rebecca Weber, AmeriCorps, Linda Metz, board secretary

Peter Magnant opened the meeting at 7:03. The pledge of allegiance was said.

Public Comments: None to be heard

Highway Dept.: Howard entered the meeting to update the board of highway operations. Grading has been done once around town and gravel drawn where needed. FEMA project of chipping road side brush will be done the week of May 12th as long as the chipper is available if not then week of May 19th. This will take about a week to complete and the chips will be left on the road side as required by FEMA. The lawns will need to start being mowed. May-June chloride will be put down and road side mowing will take place. The weed harvester needs to be pulled from storage and serviced to go in the lake by June 1st through Sept. The highway crew started working 4/10 hr. days this week. The Dewing Bridge project was discussed; the old product that is removed will be dumped at Jim Dewing's. Howard advised the gravel will most likely come from Roger Wright's pit in Berkshire; see no problem with it passing the testing needed. The stone will come from Swanton Lime. Knights will do the testing of the products and Greg Bouchard will assist Howard with such. The contract was discussed and needs to be reviewed in depth before final approval.

Watershed: Alisha Sawyer and Rebecca Weeber were present at the meeting to give updates of their projects. Alisha wanted to thank the board for their letter of support with the 319 grant for Friends of Northern Lake Champlain. Better Back Roads grants are now available to private land owners; Alisha has spoken with Jim Dewing and Ted Meunier about projects on their properties. She has also applied for grants with Lake Wise and Ecosystem Restoration. Alisha has met with Stone Environmental regarding the septic study that was done; there are grants available to implement projects that have been studied, would the board like to look at any small pilot projects around the lake for septic upgrades? Pete advised they have not reviewed the study in some time and have no projects to do at this time. Alisha will be asking for a letter of support for the Lake Wise grant. Also inquired about the culvert at Dewing Rd/Hammond Shore Rd that appears to need to be replaced; Howard is not certain if this is in the town ROW and our responsibility or that of the private land owner. He will look at further with Mr. Dewing.

Dewing Road Bridge: The board reviewed the contract details. Ed advised that if the town makes a down payment on the bridge then we become part owners of it at this time. We need to be careful with being covered on damages that may occur before it is delivered to the sight. A start up payment may need to be made for the project but should not be labeled for anything specific. Pete advised the board will need to meet next week or the following to finalize the contract. Greg Bouchard asks if Ruggiono will be present for a few visits during the project and final inspection before the project is closed; the board states that it is probable and a good idea. Yvon will speak with Court from Munson about the lake level and lower of. Pete will inquire what the compaction specs for the project are with Ruggiono. Greg and Howard thanked and exited the meeting.

Liquor permit: Liquor control board entered hearing on the following permits:

- Outside consumption permit for Marn LLC/Due North Vineyard. Yvon Dandurand/Ed Rainville made the motion to approve the permit for Marn LLC/Due North Vineyard. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Board signed the permit.

Liquor control board hearing closed.

Minutes: Minutes of April 9 and April 25; Yvon Dandurand/Andrew Godin made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Andrew Godin/Yvon Dandurand made a motion to amend the previous motion to add the April 9 special meeting with water district also. All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Reviewed and signed bills: The bills were reviewed and signed by the board. The board discussed the issue of using purchase orders for the highway department to control costs. The board agreed that all purchases over \$500 must get approval and be signed by Road

Commissioner unless there is a case of emergency. With high cost items resources should be looked at to get the best price available.

Town Clerk Concerns:

- Mapping contract with Cartographic Technology for VCGI mapping grant: Pete read the contract aloud and Lisa advised of the village mapping project to be done with the grant of \$3300 and match funds as budgeted annually. Yvon Dandurand/Ed Rainville made a motion to accept the contract with CTI for the grant work. All members voted in favor, motion passed.
- Lisa has looked at hiring a board clerk to do the minutes. Linda Metz is present to sit in on a meeting. The board approved paying \$10/hr. as budgeted for 6 to 8 hrs. month and flexible as needed. Meet on the second Wednesday of each month.
- Lisa reviewed the final sheriff contract and the hours to be approximately 4 hrs. week for May through Oct.
- Building alarm has gone off with the motion sensor in the library two times in the past weeks. Lisa has contacted the VSP regarding a contract to respond to calls of such; the town does not currently have a contract. Cost is \$50 year; covers the first visit, the second is charged at \$50; the third at \$75 and then your account is put on hold until the issue is resolved. Lisa will have the Summit Fire and Security check the system before doing a contract with VSP to find why the alarm is sounding; nothing out of the ordinary has taken place.
- Emergency Operation Plan (EOP): reviewed and discussed the annual updates to the plan. New contacts and mutual aid pieces are updated by NRPC. Brooks Sturtevant/Yvon Dandurand made a motion to approve the 2014 EOP. All members voted in favor, motion passed.
- Street light concerns: residents of East Franklin have inquired about the removed lights. The board has reviewed and will keep to the changes made with removing two lights.

Old Business:

- **Fuel billing:** Yvon asked Lisa if the credits had been taken care of with Berger's. Lisa advised the town got a credit of \$505 and school \$26 when the pricing was adjusted correctly as agreed with Berger's. The credit has been netted off the current statement due.
- **Towle Neighborhood Rd:** Yvon spoke with NRPC about getting the traffic counter setup for a month on this road as requested by a resident. It will be here from mid-May to mid-June.
- **Rte. 120/Morses Line intersection:** It was also suggested that the traffic counter be put near this intersection for monitoring. Not sure about where because of the state roads. NRPC is working with Jim Cota and making this a priority area off the Middle Rd with the believed traffic increase. The board will bring it up at the next TAC meeting as well.
- **Traffic Ordinance:** discussed the updates for stop signs and speed limits. Ed Rainville states that speed limit signs need to be located at two mile maximum intervals by state law. Discussed the Brown's Corner Rd and the two different posted speed limits depending on which direction you are traveling. Will need to look into this further. This is the second warned meeting regarding the traffic ordinance so Peter asks for a motion to approve. Yvon Dandurand/Andrew Godin made the motion to adopt the Franklin Traffic Ordinance, all members voted in favor. Motion passed. All members signed the ordinance. Lisa will post accordingly.
- **Mill Pond Dam:** Discussed the water level wanting to be lowered by Munson before starting the Dewing Bridge project. Yvon will check with Court at Munson on their needs to have the water lowered. Army Corps and DEC will need to be involved for approval of this being done.
- **Franklin Fire District #1:** Peter spoke with John Kiernan; he is ready to move forward with public meetings. John and Peter would like to meet to review the charter paperwork he has prepared and with Marshall to view the system. There needs to be two public hearings before a vote. Would like to warn a hearing on the Rte. 120 intersection as well as the solid waste district at the same time; June would be a good time to warn the first meeting on all three pieces. Invite Jim Cota and Mario from VTrans and John Kiernan, engineer for the water system, as well as the solid waste district group. Peter would like to see the vote for the fire district take place at the same time as the primary's in late August. With the merger of the water district with the town the charter must form a water committee. How do we want to appoint/elect these people; who should be on the committee; how many should there be. After discussion, it was decided that the selectboard should appoint these member so that the committee must report to the selectboard and they have the power to remove them if circumstances warrant. The board needs to have the authority to set the water user rates. Ed asks who will handle the day to day monitoring and workings of the

water system? There are operators in the area who are certified to do the testing and such of the system. We should look at the need to hire a part-time operator. June 18 will be a tentative date for the public hearing at the school library at 6:30.

- **Town Hall roof:** Ed went and measured and reviewed the roof; it is in pretty good condition under the steel. Should not have to resheath the base. Ed will work with Lisa to get a bid proposal written for a standing seam roof of 28 gauge in aluminum color. Need to publish soon for the work to get done this summer. The maximum amount will be \$10,000 as approved by voters but hope that it will be done for less.

New Business:

- **Lake Carmi Campers Association:** Peter met with Pete Benevento last week as he was not able to attend tonight. Their big concern is the water quality; the milfoil is pretty bad as viewed by the board members last year. Peter advised we did get the grant for operation of the harvester; the campers would like to see more operation hours of the harvester. Peter would like to find another person to assist Delbert as his son will not be working with him this year. Invite Delbert to the next meeting on June 11 and Pete Benevento with LCCA to coordinate a schedule for harvesting. Yvon states there is a map of work areas approved by the state. The board discussed the option of purchasing a newer, larger machine. It would be a costly investment of about \$80,000.

The LCCA has also inquired about using the herbicide in the lake. Pete feels it is not in the board's best interest to approve; would need to go to a town vote of approval. LCCA wants the town to be involved with the permit as we would be more likely to get approval. The board discussed the use of herbicides and its long term effects on everyone.

LCCA would like the speed limit from Riley Rd to Mill Pond reduced to 35 miles per hour; Peter had spoken with Jim Cota at VTrans last year and they were not receptive to reducing the speed on this section; the board can revisit.

LCCA would like a sign at the north end announcing "Lake Carmi" to promote the lake. Would also like to install signs of "don't feed the ducks" at the beach area; board discussed issues of and who would police.

LCCA would like to have a beach committee for upgrades/improvements to the beach area; look for grants or funding sources. The selectboard has many projects going as this time and do not want to be on committee.

Selectboard should do a letter to the LCCA regarding their concerns; weed harvester and more operators to cover needed hours; speed limits to be reviewed further; sign for "Lake Carmi"; "don't feed the duck's" not necessary; have no objection to LCCA forming a beach committee.

LCCA has asked for a dock to be installed for the July 4th festivities; the town has inquired with VLCT insurance; they do not have coverage for liability for the town on 3rd party docks and strongly suggest against such. LCCA would have to get coverage at their own expense and list the Town of Franklin as loss payee to cover the town's liability. Suggest maybe using a pontoon boat as a dock to work from.

- **Dock:** the fish and wildlife dock has been installed at the north beach. The board understood it was to be an "L" shaped dock and that is not what was installed. Fish & Wildlife will install and remove the dock; the town agreed to store for the off season.
- **Rescue Funds:** Franklin Rescue has given the town monies for different purposes. Some funds were to be used for water quality improvements; Peter stated that they would work with LCCA but wanted to have final control. Peter would like to consider using some of these funds for the Dewing Bridge project if needed; Peter had discussed this option with Polly as it would improve water quality.

Selectboard Folder:

- Cody Paradis-invitation for his Eagle Scout recognition ceremony on May 17th for the flag pole.
- State of VT Dept of Forest and Recreation letter of plans to do upgrades at the State Park for a new foot bridge and benches at the bog.
- Dog control workshop on May 29th in Montpelier.
- Spring planning and forum training.

Member Concerns:

- Brooks got a call from a resident about the town prayer issue and how the Supreme Court decision in Greece, NY would affect the Town of Franklin. We had signed on for supporting their case as we were also involved in such. Our town attorney reviewed and there is not really anything that will change with our case at this time. The Supreme Court based its decision in NY on the US Constitution not the VT Constitution. Federal law always trumps state law.
- Andrew asks about the town garage final grading now that the sand shed is complete. Heath was to come back to finalize the grade to the blue prints of the engineer for the

project. Peter will touch base with Wayne Laroche as well as he was involved. The board also stated they wanted the area to be cleaned up and kept neat.

- Yvon has been contacted by Rinkers regarding VTEL installing a 50 foot pole tower in town for wireless communication. Did not state where or when, so it is preliminary.
- Yvon asks what the status was for grader training for the highway crew. Lisa will check into again for information.
- Discussed the process of check writing and reconciliation; the tasks should be split between two people for security. The budget should be looked at quarterly to keep expenditures on track and the board informed. Discussed spending and borrowing for cash flow of the town.
- Meeting date discussed to finalize the contract with Munson for May 12th. Lisa will warn.

Yvon Dandurand/Brooks Sturtevant made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
May 13, 2014

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

These minutes were approved at the June 11, 2014 meeting.