

FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 16, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

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

Guests: Dave Bennion, John Barrows-FWC, Polly Gadbois, Robert Gleason & Terry Wright-Enosburgh Ambulance Service, Brady Giroux, Bridget Favreau, Bridgette Thompson, Stephanie Ho, Nicki Tatro-Rec Committee.

At 7:00 Peter M called the meeting to order and all stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Peter welcomed our guests. Peter took a moment to honor the death of Howard Gates; that passed away last week. Mr. Gates was a well-known, outstanding citizen of the community that served on the Selectboard from 1980-88 and was chair for several years. He has a registered Jersey dairy farm that has been passed to the next generations. The board extends their sympathies to the family.

Agenda Amendments: Add under Town Clerk concerns; Homestead ROW discussion.

Public Comment Period

- Dave Bennion, representative to the Northwest Solid Waste District (NWSWD) board was present to update the board on the NWSWD work. They meet every other month. Reviewed the status of financial affairs; business activities; and discussed the composting requirements.
- Yvon wanted to thank everyone that assisted with counting and working the elections last week. It's great to see community involvement.

Approve Minutes of November 2, 2016

Brooks S/ Yvon D made a motion to accept the minutes of 11/2/2016 with the following changes: line 68 remove "Lisa said"; line 70 remove the "32 hp engine" and should read "the board would like to upgrade to a substantially larger engine; line 92 "a professional should remove the tree due to safety concerns with dropping the tree". Vote taken with three in favor; Ed abstained and motion carried.

Enosburgh Ambulance Service (EAS): Peter welcomed Robert Gleason and Terry Wright; they were here to present a proposed contract as requested in June this year. The current per capita rate is \$28 for the contract which ends June 30, 2017. The new rate would be \$23.50 starting in July 2017 with a 2% increase annually for 5 years. Medicaid is now reimbursing at a rate of 50% as of July 2016 vs. the 20% that they were paying which allowed them to drop the per capita rate. Terry advised their board was looking at the 5 year contract with a review after 3 years for any rate adjustments that may be needed; if Franklin and EAS were in agreement.

- They offer full mutual aid for the fire department as well during the daytime hours if there are no Franklin members available to respond.
- In the process of becoming a Paramedic service
- Have two ambulances with one staffed full time 24/7 and the second crew is on call.
- Cover four towns currently
- They are looking at Regional mutual aid hubs for fire departments as well as rescue.

Mr. Gleason and Mr. Wright were thanked and exited the meeting.

FWC-John Barrows: Peter welcomed Mr. Barrows; he would like to propose work at the North Beach as he has met with Karen Bates and Amy Peacock from the State regarding work. They have Lakewise grant funding to use to upgrade an area for 200-250 ft. easterly of the fishing dock that is grown up and marshy; would like to plant hardy bushes. Need to get VTrans approval as it is in the ROW. The project would assist with road run-off protection and make the area esthetically better. Ed has concerns with ice movement in the spring disturbing the bushes. Peter states the board is open to beautification and fixing run-off issues. John will come up with a proposal and come back to the board in late winter with a plan to discuss further. Mr. Barrows was thanked and exited the meeting.

Recreation Department: The Rec board was welcomed to present a proposed budget for FY18. Bridgette T asked about the time line to have a final budget. Peter advised it will need to be a separate article for funds requested; will need by the January 4th meeting. They would like to hire a part time director for approx. 10 hrs./week as there is a lot of work involved with the proposed programs. Have put together a list of programs they would like to offer to both the young school age kids and older residents of town, and involve the Homestead folks as well; want to reach all community groups and ages. They will charge a fee for programs and hope to be sustainable in that respect. They are in need of a storage shed for equipment and supplies

as soon as possible. They are in touch with many resources for ideas and grant funding; looking at sponsors/donations. Reviewed their draft budget; Lisa discussed having a written one page report of their goals/achievements and financial budget breakdown for the town report.

Town Clerk concerns:

- **Culvert/Paving grant amendments:** The projects for the Morses Line culvert work and the Stanley Rd drainage/paving work were over the estimates. The grants were amended to allow for funding increases to cover these additional costs.
- **VLCT Insurance claim Park & Ride:** additional info has been sent to VLCT as requested for review of eligibility.
- **Homestead Drive ROW:** there has been discussion with a realtor of a Hull family lot owner off Apple Tree Lane that is trying to sell their lot. There are concerns that it cannot be sold as the Homestead ROW agreement would not allow access to the lot under other ownership. Lisa wanted to give the board a heads up that the ROW agreement may need to be reviewed by the four parties involved in the near future if these lots are to be sold.

Old Business:

- **Park & Ride Tolling Agreement:** Peter and Yvon met with the State last week. Reviewed the town meeting discussion; FTC was asked for permission to remove the closed sign. Howard, Highway Foremen, monitored for one month and took counts of cars in AM/PM; the State was excited to see how much it is being used. The Tolling Agreement is to extend the statute of limitation of eight years until July 2019 to allow the board to continue to resolve the concerns. Peter asked if the agreement should be reviewed by our attorney; Yvon feels there is no need to have additional costs to review the agreement, should sign the agreement and await the States decision. The State asked if there was a need for a P&R in Franklin-Peter advised yes. Yvon asked what their goals were for Franklin; State says we are doing it. Not locked into any repayment by signing the tolling agreement-can still continue to negotiate. Yvon/Brooks made a motion to accept the Statute of Limitations Tolling Agreement as written and Peter authorization to sign it. Ed states he would like Andy to be here as he is the highway road commissioner, to be part of the discussion. Peter advised it has been discussed for several meetings in which Andy was present. All members voted in favor, motion carried. Peter signed the agreement.
- **Replace weed harvester engine:** Yvon spoke with Franklin Rental about what engine to purchase to replace the current one. Suggested Subaru or Kohler (not as user friendly). The Subaru would be the best fit; the current engine costs \$1900 new, should be able to sell to recoup some money. Honda does not make a big enough engine for our needs. The transfer/replacement would take approx. 5-6 hours. Yvon is questioning the hydraulic pump with vendors to be sure it is sufficient and performing as it should be. Ed feels the current engine is working; it just needs to be moved forward to give it more air flow space to be cooler, it is quite confined in a small space causing it to heat up. Brooks asks about doing a survey of lake residents about harvesting or not.
- **Sale of portion of Town Beach:** Peter states he got the email from Ted Meunier about his displeasure of a sale of any of the beach. Peter advised can do a contract for sale and post for 30 days-if petitioned can be taken to town meeting for a vote; or can just take to the voters at town meeting for approval before entering into any sales contract. Do not want the sale to cost the town anything, buyers would pay all fees. Ed firmly speaks that the land was given to the town in perpetuity of the towns use, not to be resold. He spoke with Peggy Meunier and they are upset about the prospect of a sale; they didn't want to sell to a private individual, wanted to keep it public and open to all. This will set precedence to others on the beach front and could prohibit other donations of property to the town. Ed thinks this is a very terrible idea to even consider.

New Business:

- **Budget review:** Discussed AmCare (\$23 per capita) vs. Enosburgh Ambulance (\$23.50 per capita) – for the proposed contracts of July 2017. AmCare looking at a 10 year contract with a 2% annual increase. Polly was present to discuss both options; she suggested the board should look at four categories when choosing.
 - Patient care-they both offered quality care and used the review of patient run reports at District level as the safeguard.
 - Response time – other than Towle Neighborhood Rd, AmCare would have a faster response time from their Sheldon location.
 - Level of service – Paramedic vs. EMT
 - Cost

Yvon states that Enosburgh is offering fire support with rescue – these are two separate issues and there are mutual aid agreements. Polly advised regarding the Medicaid reimbursement; the reimbursement rate was the same for both services, now and 3 ½ years ago when EAS contracted the current rate. There is a large difference in the per capita rate EAS offered 3 ½ years vs our request for current rates from EAS and AmCare which are now very close. Will EAS have paramedics available 24/7 on all calls; as Mr. Gleason stated there were only two currently in the class to become certified, and he is not sure when they will become paramedics and will they be full-time employees? Polly asked if AmCare will be staffed full time 24/7 in Sheldon. Peter advised the letter from Mr. Krul stated they would be staffed 24/7. Polly thinks it should be in the contract whom the back-up service is. She can get response time logs for Enosburgh calls.

Board reviewed the budget line items for the General fund of changes from last year; will review further before next meeting. Ed asked what the tons of salt purchased were before the sand shed was built.

- Tree cutting in town park was tabled as Andy was not present.

Review Bills - Done

SELECTBOARD Folder - Done

Member Concerns:

Lisa asked about Marc Vinci clearing the library front steps and walk for winter again. The board is in favor for \$10 per shoveling.

Marshall Ploof has asked about repainting the “Town of Franklin” sign coming into town by his place. Peter will speak to someone about the project.

Yvon wanted to thank the poll workers who worked the election for their service.

Ed spoke with Dan Larivee; wanted to thank the board for their work in the town.

Peter has gotten the name of Cyrus Grennon; who is interested in the Planning Commission vacant seat. Invite Cyrus to the next board meeting.

Brook S/ Ed R made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m.. Vote taken, all in favor, motion carried.

NEXT MEETING DATE IS DECEMBER 7 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Respectfully Submitted:
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
November 17, 2016

These minutes are not official until approved at the next regular board meeting

These minutes were approved at the December 7, 2016 selectboard meeting.