

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2014 @ 7:00 P.M.  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

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

**Guests:** Howard Vansette, Road Foreman; Bryant Reynolds, Library Trustee; Bill Roberts; Diane Gates

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

**Agenda amendments:** add to agenda in specific areas:

- 1) Highway Dept: bridge payments
- 2) Town Clerk Concerns: Health Insurance 2015 rate review
- 3) Minutes: October 1
- 4) New Business: Highgate arena letter of support for grant application

All members voted in favor of changes.

**Public Comments:** Bill Roberts was welcomed to the meeting and introduced himself as a candidate for State Senator. Would like to support our county and has great concerns over the condition of Lake Carmi; suggests that he has some answers for the lake's improvement. Mr. Roberts is having a public forum on Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Felco Room. Mr. Roberts was thanked for attending and exited the meeting.

Diane Gates was welcomed to the meeting. She wanted to update the board on her participation with Efficiency VT on energy conservation. She would like to hold a "button-up" event on November 1<sup>st</sup> to promote energy efficiency; may apply for a mini-grant of \$300 from Efficiency VT for this event. She suggests putting together an energy exploration group for investigation of weatherization and conservation for the community. Diane would like community support to attend the energy climate conference in Fairlee on Dec 6<sup>th</sup>. Peter advised maybe the Planning Commission would like to discuss and research energy options for the town. Diane was thanked and exited the meeting.

**Highway Dept:**

- Dewing Shore Road bridge project is complete; the final inspection needs to be done by Ruggiano before sign off is done. The project came out very well and Munson was happy with working with the town crew and neighbors.
- Paving patch work will be completed by the end of October by the highway crew.
- The culvert on Morses Line Rd still needs to be replaced this fall before next year. Howard has looked at and it is a 50' long 24" diameter culvert with not much water running through; needs to be lowered to have a minimum of 24" of soil over the top. May be able to reduce the size to an 18" culvert.
- Homestead Drive: Howard and Burt have marked the drainage and phone lines and have cut the pavement to be dug up. Will put down new stone, fabric and gravel in area where it is bad before paving in 2015
- Webster Road: Howard has met with Jim Cota regarding this ditching. Received a grant from Better Back Roads to repair the ditch; will make it deeper and curved for better drainage and will remove the drain cover.
- Towle Neighborhood Rd: Howard has installed the three new stop signs to make this a three-way stop. Howard patched pot holes as well on the road. Broke the bed chain on his truck and needs to be replaced. Richard & Mary Boudreau called Senator Welch, Leahy and Sanders and complained about their roads condition. Steve Beyor was asked to check out the road condition. He stopped at the shop and spoke with Howard; advised it is not bad and was driven at 50 mph, is a dirt road!
- Dewing Road: There is a big pine tree that is dead and needs to be cut down. Need to notify the land owners of cutting of trees in the ROW.
- Ed asked if it wouldn't be beneficial to grade more often to prevent the large pot holes from developing; it would be a savings in the long run to keep up with the condition of the roads.

**Library:** Bryant Reynolds entered the meeting to discuss the list from the librarians of maintenance work requested around the library building. The board reviewed and will look at the list to get done in the spring.

**Town Clerk Concerns:**

- Insurance renewal reviewed for property, liability and workers comp. No dams listed. All looks good and approved too send to VLCT.

- Health Officer appointment from Dept of Health. The board discussed the duties of the health officer.
- Health Officer appointment from Dept of Health. The board discussed the duties of the health officer. Yvon/Brooks made the motion to appoint Pauline “Polly” Gadbois as health officer for a three year term. All members voted in favor, motion passed.
- Tax rate for the balance of the education tax should be received from the state by the week of Oct 20. The board will need to approve before sending bills out.

**Review and sign bills:** The bills were reviewed and warrants signed. The board discussed the bridge total costs of \$229,710; grant funds from the state of \$168,819 to be paid to the town; the balance of funds from the voted article and highway budget.

**Minutes:** Minutes of September 10 regular meeting and 22 with water commission; Yvon/Brooks made a motion to approve as written. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Minutes of September 26, emergency meeting regarding Dewing Bridge; Brooks/Yvon made a motion to approve as written. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Minutes of October 1, emergency meeting with Alisha from Watershed Comm. regarding a grant. Brooks/Peter made a motion to approve as written. Members voted 3 yes, Yvon abstained; motion passed.

#### **Old Business:**

- Homestead Drive project cost sharing. Peter will speak with Kim at Franklin Telephone Co regarding the cost split with the parties of the private ROW. Invite parties to the November board meeting.

#### **New Business:**

- **Traffic Ordinance:** The board discussed the changes made to the Towle Neighborhood intersection with the three-way stop and speed limit, removed the yield sign; stop sign changes to Main St/Lake Rd/ Middle Rd. Change Dewing Shore Rd to Dewing Rd as there is not a Dewing Shore Rd. Yvon/Ed made a motion to approve the traffic ordinance as written. All members voted in favor, motion passed.
- **Resignation of Planning Commission member:** Howard Deuso has submitted his resignation as of Sept 15 from the Planning Commission board as he feels he does not have the time to commit. Brooks/Ed made the motion to accept the resignation and the Town Clerk will post the opening. All members voted in favor, motion passed.
- **Development review board:** The board discussed the creation of a development review board. This would eliminate the Zoning Board of adjustment; members could serve on both the development review and planning commission boards. Would this change be effective for needing fewer members for the two boards? Greta from NRPC sent info for the board to review; tabled as this time. Need to fill the open planning commission seats.
- **Highgate Arena support letter:** Heidi from Highgate has forwarded a draft letter of support from Franklin for a \$25,000 grant that the Highgate Arena Project is applying for. The board discussed the letter and are fine with showing community support as long as we are not committed to funding. Ed/Brooks made a motion to approve the letter of support as amended by the board. All members voted in favor, motion passed.

#### **Selectboard Folder:**

- Letter from a tax payer that owns property on the lake; they are paying taxes under protest. The town needs to offer the same services to the lake residents as everyone else; need to do something about the condition of the lake.
- Oct 29-VLCT has a Planning Forum training
- Nov 8-VLCT is holding a selectboard training
- Efficiency Vermont as sent a thank you letter regarding our change of street lights to LED.
- Animal Control officer training

**Member Concerns:** Ed would like to see the highway crew grade more often, Andy will speak with them about getting the roads in good shape before winter.

Peter advised he and Yvon will be attending mediation with George Godin on Oct 13 regarding the highway accident lawsuit. The Water Commission will meet with the board and the state on Oct 13<sup>th</sup> to view the system and discuss future upgrades. The board will meet with the school board on Oct 22 at 7:00 to discuss the lawn mowing/snow removal.

Next regular meeting will be November 12 at 7:00.

Brooks/Yvon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk  
October 14, 2014

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

DRAFT