

**MINUTES OF FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
PUBLIC BUDGET MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2011 AT 7:00 P. M.
FRANKLIN SCHOOL LIBRARY**

PRESENT: Peter Kittell, Scott Choiniere, Lynn Paradis, Harvey Bushey, Peter Magnant, Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk.

CITIZENS: Polly Gadbois, Kim Gates Maynard, Rick Coleman, Carole Richard, auditor, Ron Lontine, Kyle Lothian, Michelle Guilmette, auditor.

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

SALARIES & HEALTH INSURANCE: Scott explained the health insurance changes due to premium increases; the board changed plans from a \$3000 deductible to \$4500, still contributing the first \$1500. This meant the premiums stayed about the same as 2010. Kim asked what the increases were for the salaries. The highway crew and town clerk were given a salary increase of 2%.

EMERGENCY DISPATCH: Kim asked if the board has negotiated with central dispatch the rates charged. This is a per capita rate for all towns involved. Kim would like to know the number of calls dispatched and what type. Lisa will call Judy to get info.

TOWN CLOCK: Kim inquired what the cost was to do the work needed on the town clock. The bid received by the historic clock group was about \$1200 with much volunteer labor by the community to dismantle and clean. The clerk's office is fundraising for some of the expense. \$500 is in the budget for 2011 with \$500 unused from last year's budget.

PAVING: Inquiries were made about the paving budget and the plan for 2011 work. Advised Swamp Rd was done in 2010. Morses Line Rd is on the schedule for 2011, realize it needs work. Plan is to pave/repair from Highgate line to Messier Rd. Square Rd will be resurfaced now that the sidewalk is done.

EQUIPMENT FUND: Kim inquired about the use of the funds being set aside. The thought is to set aside money for a new truck when needed. Kim suggested the extra funds be used to pay off the 2010 truck sooner to reduce interest paid and payment term. Lisa will check if there are stipulations or penalties to do so.

Kim inquired what the tax rate was for 2010; rate was \$.35. This year is set to be \$.29. Inquiry if there are funds in the budget for training for the highway crew and clerk. There are funds built into the budget. Recommendation made that the highway crew should attend workshops on road engineering. Michelle inquired about raising the fees for overweight permits as these large trucks are the cause of much road damage; however the fee is set by the state agency of transportation.

WARNING: The board discussed and reviewed the 2011 Town Meeting Warning presented by the town clerk. Board has opted to change the order of the warning to have the school budget and business first in the morning, then will proceed with town budget and business. Discussed sand shed options and the wording of the article. The board agreed to do a stick built building with 16 ft. walls and asphalt floor with a cost not to exceed \$150,000. Scott/Peter Kittell made the motion to accept the warning as modified and written. All members voted in favor, motion passed. All members signed the warning.

Board has asked the town clerk to do some shopping of rates with banks for the funding of the sand shed to have for town meeting discussion.

Ron Lontine entered the meeting to discuss with the board his wage increase. Mr. Lontine would like to be raised closer to the wage that Howard receives. Discussion of highway job duties and performance. Board agreed to leave rates as set.

STREET LIGHTING: Luc from Green Mountain Electric would like to meet with the board to discuss the options of LED lighting available. The board will meet with him in May, Lisa will advise.

SELECTBOARD FOLDER:

- Discussion of signage for Browns Corner/Durkee Rd intersection. Scott suggests a sign reading “Oncoming traffic does not stop” be put up on Browns Corner heading from Franklin to Highgate. All members approved of sign. Lisa will advise Howard to order sign requested.
- Road study for “no parking” sign on Main St/Rte. 120 in front of the office/library building will be done by VTrans as requested by the Selectboard.
- Square Road – post public hearing notice for converting the street to a one-way street from the school entrance to Hanna Rd. Town Clerk will do letters to Square Rd residents.
- Dog complaint – Town Clerk will do letter to Mr. Knowles about dogs staying on owners property.

Motion by Lynn Paradis/Peter Magnant to adjourn. All members voted in favor/meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. All members voted in favor, motion passed

Respectfully submitted,
February 1, 2011
Lisa Larivee

NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the Selectboard at their next meeting. These minutes were approved on .