

**MINUTES OF FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD  
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2009 AT 7:00 P. M.  
FRANKLIN CENTRAL SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**PRESENT:** Scott Choiniere, Jamie Boudreau, Peter Kittell, Lynn Paradis and Lisa Larivee, Franklin Town Clerk.

**GUESTS:** Bill Ziccareno, Heidi Britch-Valenta, Bob Delorme

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**TOWN CLERK'S CONCERNS:**

**Sidewalk update:** Lisa gave the board a sidewalk update. The signed easements have been mailed to Stantec to be forwarded to VTrans with the final ROW plans. Lisa hopes to have VTrans approval and bid packets available in a few weeks. The Town has been awarded the Federal Stimulus Enhancement Grant of \$84,000. This will be used with the Safe Routes to School grant to offset the additional overage of sidewalk costs. With these additional monies the town will be able to add back in some items such as granite curb, addition overcoat of paving, that were cut to reduce costs. Lisa advised the board of the paperwork and training that is needed for the administration of Fed grants. The board asked if Greg Goyette from Stantec could administer the grant on our behalf. Lisa will speak with Greg Goyette.

**Town Hall:** Linda Hartman has inquired about using the town hall for alumni banquets in the future and if alcohol would be allowed. The board discussed that in the past the policy was "no alcohol". The board would like to rewrite the policy for next meeting in August.

**WATERSHED:**

Heidi Britch-Valenta entered the meeting with Bill Ziccareno. Heidi introduced the board members to Mr. Ziccareno from the Economic Development Council. Mr. Ziccareno spoke about the program the council is working on with NUVAC, a Canadian council that is working on technology of all natural products to reduce phosphorous. NUVAC is working with a dairy farm in Alburg and St. Albans' wastewater treatment plant. The process uses scientifically produced bacteria to breakdown waste and reduces phosphorous. NUVAC would like to treat the entire watershed of Lake Carmi as we are a small lake community to see how the process would improve the levels of phosphorous in our lake and grounds and would also improve dairy production and reduce their costs. Board members inquire about costs. Mr. Ziccareno states there are grants to cover total costs available to NUVAC for test programs and he will apply for the grant on Franklin's behalf if the board will sign a commitment letter. They would like to treat all 310 camps on the water front at \$25 each and all the dairy farms and animals within the Watershed. Heidi is planning a meeting on August 5 @ 5:00 and invites the select board, watershed group, NUVAC reps of scientists, campers, farmers and any other interested parties. Letters in intent will be needed from everyone who wishes to participate in the treatment process. On the agricultural treatment the farmers will see a return on investment with higher milk yields and lower feed usage. NUVAC is working on a US/Canada partnership. Mr. Ziccareno and Heidi are thanked by Scott and exit the meeting at 7:30.

**VETERAN EXEMPTIONS:**

Bob Delorme entered the meeting to discuss the veteran exemptions with the board. Mr. Delorme is a retired 35 year veteran of the military and is advocating for the increase of the veteran exemption in all Franklin County towns. Franklin currently allows a \$10,000 exemption, state law has changed to allow up to \$40,000. The vote must be presented at town meeting as an article to be voted on by the town's people. Lisa explained the tax impact that needs to be made up on the education funding by the town. It is a minimal impact for the benefit of the veterans. Mr. Delorme is asking for the support of the board in presenting this article to the voters. Scott invited Mr. Delorme to be present at town meeting to speak his cause to the voters. Mr. Delorme was thanked by the board and exited the meeting.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the June 8 meeting were presented. Peter/Scott made the motion to accept minutes. Personal policy discussed on holiday time during 10 hours shifts vs. 8 hour shifts. All members in favor, minutes approved.

**TOWN CLERK'S CONCERNS CONT.:**

**Town Clock:** Cliff Bullis meet with Mr. Reed from Johnson about the clock repair. Cliff felt we did not need to pay this gentleman to do the repairs that he would be willing to do them himself. The cables need to be replaced that wind the clock. Cliff believes he can replace the cables in about 5-10 hours and would like to be compensated for his time and cost of materials. The board discussed and added if Cliff needs extra assistance to let them know. Scott/Peter made the motion to allow Cliff Bullis to repair the town clock. All in favor of motion.

**Bills:** Board signed bills and orders. Lynn asked Peter about the trailer that was bought from Fournier's. Peter advised the old trailer had broken an axle and the cost to replace was expensive so they opted to purchase a new larger/heavier trailer that will be much better for the job.

**Trash:** We have had many campers from Mullen Shore call about trash pick-up. They have not been able to get a hauler to come down their road. Board discussed options and advised Lisa to be in touch with the Campers Association to have them set up something.

**DOGS:** Phil Reighley has called Scott about the bill he received on the Finch loss. He does not feel his dog killed all 12 sheep and is willing to pay one third of the bill which is about \$700. The board discussed what legal action they can take to get payment. The board would like to do another letter stating court costs and legal action. Lisa will contact VLCT for a legal opinion. Decision on action to take tabled until Lisa gets legal opinion.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Peter/Scott made the motion to enter executive session at 7:55. Discussed Park and Ride and Homestead Drive issues. Motion by Scott/Peter to exit executive session at 8:45. All in favor of exiting executive session.

**JUNK YARD ORDINANCE:** Scott asked members if they had reviewed the ordinance. Board discussed the process of fines. Scott/Lynn made the motion to approve the Junk yard ordinance as written. 3 members voted in favor, 1 against. Motion to adopt the junk yard ordinance passed. Lisa will post in the newspaper and around town as necessary.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** The trees still need to be trimmed on Square Rd that is hanging over the road. Scott commented that the Park & Ride looks good with the apple trees planted. Top soil and seed has been put down as well. Lynn will order lights for the poles which are ready to go up. Lynn advised the Swanton public works dept came to Franklin and cleaned the catch basins on Hanna Rd in mid June. The highway crew should continue to remove the leaves from the grates when there is a large storm.

**SELECTBOARD FOLDER:**

**E-mail addresses:** Lisa will check with VLCT about the legal use of e-mail addresses for the board members. The board discussed all the members have an e-mail account tied to the town e-mail account so that town business will not go through personal accounts.

**Weed harvester:** Kyle is meeting with the State wet lands person on Tuesday about the expansion of the harvesting area at the south end of the lake that has much milfoil.

**Park & Ride:** Final expense reports for the park & ride need to be sent to the state for the town's receipt of the final funds. The board reviewed the surveys which have been put on the vehicles that use the park & ride. They have gotten all good responses and comments.

**911:** Jennifer Wright as requested to purchase a measuring wheel for the 911 numbering of new properties. The cost is about \$35.00. The board all agreed on the purchase.

**Correspondence:** Letter received from Lyle Glidden with a dog complaint on his property. Jamie will speak with Mr. Glidden.

**Old tractor:** Wayne Fiske purchased the old tractor from the town for \$2000.

**MEMBER CONCERNS:** Peter advised he and Boy will review the roads that should be crack sealed. Boy has gotten some quotes. They will make a list. Morses Line Rd also has some spots that could be repaired with hot pack. Peter will call SD Ireland for prices. The new truck will be ready by mid week for pick up at Clark's and needs to be taken to Tenco for the plow equipment installation.

Motion by Scott/Jamie to adjourn. All members voted in favor/meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
July 15, 2009 Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk

**NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the Selectboard at their next regular meeting. Minutes approved on August 10, 2009 by the selectboard.**