

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2010
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Peter Kittell, Peter Magnant, Scott Choiniere, Harvey Bushey, Lynn Paradis, Lisa Larivee (Town Clerk/Treasurer)

Guests: Heidi Britch-Valenta, Peter Benevento, Kyle & Jane Lothian, Richard & Donna Blouin, Kim Gates Maynard

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

Watershed:

Heidi gave a summary of the Watershed group work. They have spoken with the Dept of Environmental Conservation regarding the boat greater program. A new AmeriCorps volunteer is on board for the next 11 months working on projects with the Watershed. Heidi has applied for a Clean & Clear grant and a Lake Champlain Basin grant to continue the current programs. The Select board has received a copy of the quote from Ruggiono regarding work for joint camp septic systems; given to Heidi.

Heidi inquired on the Beach Committee status and if a vision has been set. The board advised a budget and future needs/visions need to be reviewed by the committee. Pete suggested doing a land survey to determine the exact amount of land. He had spoken with George Godin who was on the board when the first proposal was given. Mr. Godin advised he recalls there only being about one yard of land area from the state ROW to the high water line. The board advised they plan to have an Australian ballot vote at town meeting. A survey poll will be handed out at the Nov 2 elections. Scott asked why the LCCA wouldn't be willing to take over the beach area. LCCA does not have insurance coverage and would be costly for them to do so. Heidi exited the meeting

Pete Benevento gave the board a comprehensive report of the lake vegetation that was done for the weed control chemical treatment being investigated.

Driveways:

Richard & Donna Blouin came to the board regarding a driveway that has been installed by Richard Deso on lot #3 of a subdivision that he has done across the road from their house. The driveway was not installed according to the plans done and approved. They are concerned due to their water line/spring running from this property and the driveways proximity. Peter has spoken with Mr. Deso and been advised that it is a temporary driveway for the installation of a mobile home and will be relocated when completed. The board instructed the town clerk to put a violation letter/plan copy in the zoning violation file on this lot so the zoning administrator will not be able to issue a Certificate of Occupancy when it sells until the driveway is moved. The Blouin's were thanked and exited the meeting.

Town Clerk's Concerns:

- Sidewalk update: Lisa received a letter from Hoyle Tanner regarding payment of the additional contract amount. The board discussed the work and contract detail and voted to hold at the agreed to bid contract signed for the project. Lisa will speak with Jon Kaplan from VTrans regarding the matter.
- Beach Survey done by the town clerk was reviewed by the board. Suggested adding a simple question of "Do you want the town to take over the beach?" Lisa will amend the survey to be handed out. The Committee will gather additional information for residents. The town clerk will inquire about having an individual article with Australian ballot voting. A summary report of information will be put in the town report.
- Town Clock: The grant was been submitted to Historic Preservation for work on the clock. Lisa received a bid from a clock group of \$3750 to complete the dismantling, repair, cleaning and reassembly of the clock.
- MUTCD signs for the Stanley/Swamp Road paving project have been approved by the state. The state will reimburse the town for the new signs and labor to install once completed. The board authorized the highway dept to order and install the signs.
- Town Hall septic alarm was sounding last week alerting that the tank was full. The board authorized the town clerk to have the holding tank pumped.
- Municipal Separate Stormwater Septic System survey: The town clerk received this survey from the EPA regarding the towns system. If the town has catch basins, culverts, ditching, ect they are considered to have a system. The board reviewed and discussed the survey and advised Lisa how to proceed with submission.

- Bills: Board members reviewed and signed bills
- Minutes: Pete Magnant/Lynn Paradis made the motion to accept minutes of September 13 with changes as discussed. No other discussion. All members in favor, approved. Scott Choiniere/Pete Magnant made the motion to accept minutes of September 25, Morses Line Assembly meeting. The board would like to add a #29 resident input comment. Burt Maynard discussed a common building that both US & Canada could occupy and share the economic benefits. No other discussion. All members in favor, approved. Lisa will forward the changes to Highgate Select board.

Old Business:

- Class 4 Road policy: The board reviewed and made some amendments. Lisa updated and changes were approved. Peter Kittell/Harvey Bushey made to motion to adopt the policy as written. All members voted in favor and signed the policy.
- Tri-town recreation committee member gave an update. They are in the process of getting an assessment of the old building before moving forward.

Junk ordinance:

- Norm Kern continues to make progress. The fire dept is assisting with some burning and cleanup.
- Raymond Jette submitted a building permit for a barn
- Carl Vieta seems to have ceased progress; Scott will be in touch with him.

New Business:

- Town Hall trees that are hanging over the building in the back need to be cut. Harvey will look at and town clerk will look into tree services and prices.

Selectboard Folder:

- Medical release form for Ron; approve to return to work regular duty.
- Barb Varin inquired about the minutes not showing the voting reference breakdown when the board members vote on an item. She requested that members be listed as to how they individually vote. The board discussed and voted to keep the minutes as they are; no law requiring a vote breakdown unless roll call is requested.
- Better Back Roads grant application was received. Peter will speak with Heidi Valenta about Watershed projects that may be eligible.
- Leduc's on Webster Road, south end, have inquired about changing the road name as they find it confusing for people to find them. The board discussed and majority voted to leave as is and not make any name changes.
- Health insurance proposed rates have been sent by VLCT; increase of 17%. Lynn will look into rates with Blue Cross Blue Shield.
- Veterans' Exempt letter has been received regarding increasing the exemption to \$40,000. The board considered the increase and will present to the voters in 2011.
- Driving training seminar for highway crews: not interested

Park & Ride/Homestead Drive:

The board welcomed Kim Gates Maynard. Kim has concerns; FTC August proposal is still available, the boards counter proposal is not acceptable. Kim wants to know "does the board plan to honor the intent of the agreements as written?" The ROW agreement was for a private drive for the town garage use only. Counter offer makes no intent or consideration of ROW agreement. FTC wants to renegotiate the ROW agreement with the board. The board has made offers to FTC. FTC's main issue is with the use of the ROW. Homestead and Carriage house have permission to use ROW – park & ride does not have permission to use the ROW. Kim exited the meeting

Pete/Harvey met with Kim after the September 13 meeting – they reviewed a map of the property and the ROW issue. They suggested splitting half the cost of the park & ride with FTC to reimburse the state for the grant received and the park & ride would remain a private parking lot. FTC was somewhat receptive but still concerned with the ROW agreement being private. FTC argues that the town is overburdening the private drive.

The board would like to close mediation and move forward with the court proceedings to close the case.

Member Concerns:

- Kevin Russin trailer that has been put on the lot next to barn is not set up properly and appears to have someone living in it. Advise Zoning Administrator to look into.
- Need to look into state grants for street lighting updates. Speak with NWRP to apply.
- Driveway permit needs to be amended to have a final inspection signature line. They need to be looked at after installed to be sure they meet regulations before a Certificate of Occupancy can be done.
- Swanton is holding a flagging certification workshop which will be open to surrounding communities to participate.
- Wayne Fiske has been doing farm work and making a mess of the roads. There are great excesses of mud/manure in the road that must be removed daily to prevent dangers to traffic. The highway dept will inspect and speak with Mr. Fiske. The board will send a letter to Mr. Fiske regarding his responsibility.
- Browns Corner/Durkee Road corner seems to be of concern with the stop signs. It is currently a 3-way stop. The board discussed and would like to erect a stop sign coming from Highgate to make it a 4-way stop. Town clerk will amend the stop sign ordinance for approval and signatures at the November meeting.
- The members would like to do more brush hogging on roads. Harvest Equipment has equipment which they rent; weekly rental is approx \$1600. They would rent to the town on a daily basis as we need. The equipment will be available mid November.
- Discussion of a sand shed and options/plans available. Peter will get more information and costs. Consider presenting to the voters in March.

The next regular Select board meeting is November 8, 2010.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Pete/Lynn. All in favor, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
October 14, 2010

These minutes are not official until approved at the Selectboard's next regular meeting on November 8, 2010. These minutes were approved on November 8, 2010.