



The Town of Franklin

P.O. Box 209, Route 3, Vermontville, NY 12989 • 518-891-2189 • Fax: 518-891-6389 • www.townoffranklin.com



The Town of Franklin

P.O. Box 209, Route 3, Vermontville, NY 12989 • 518-891-2189 • Fax: 518-891-6389 • www.townoffranklin.com



The Town of Franklin

P.O. Box 209, Route 3, Vermontville, NY 12989 • 518-891-2189
Fax: 518-891-6389 • www.townoffranklin.com

[Home](#)
[Officials & Contact Info](#)
[Town Clerk/Tax Collector](#)
[Board Meetings](#)
[Town Budget](#)
[Laws & Forms](#)
[Newsletter](#)
[Public Notices & Bid Info](#)
[History, Photos & Maps](#)
[Property Assessments](#)
[Energy](#)
[Events, Recreation & Kate Mtn Park](#)
[Area Businesses](#)
[Town Journals](#)
[Emergency Preparedness](#)

Town of Franklin Board Meetings

March 12, 2007 - 6:30 pm Public Hearing: Friends Of The North Country

A duly noticed and publicized public hearing on proposed housing rehabilitation grant was given by Friends of the North Country on March 12, 2007 at 6:30 pm at the Vermontville Town Hall. In attendance was Scott Campbell, Friends of the North Country; no other person was present. The public hearing was called to order at 6:30 pm and adjourned at 6:55 pm.

March 12, 2007 - 7:00 pm

The Town Board of the Town of Franklin held a regularly scheduled Board meeting on Monday, March 12, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Vermontville Town Hall.

Board members present:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilman Gene Goff
Councilperson Janet Ordway
Councilman Tim Goff
Councilman Walt Kretser

Others present:

Highway Superintendent James Rascoe
Town Clerk Sandra Oliver
Scott Campbell, Friends of the North Country
Al Berg
Paul Capone
Brad Merrill
Jean Baltzly

Frank Karl
Frank Hauber

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Keith called the meeting to order; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited; the Town Clerk called the roll, and announced the full board was present.

AUDIT OF BILLS

The following claims were presented and reviewed by the Board:

General	Warrant #3	Claims 46-49	\$12,002.12
Highway	Warrant #3	Claim 37-57	\$15,602.71
Prepay General	Warrant #2	Claims 13-16	\$33,042.91

Motion to pay approved bills (G.Goff-W.Kretser m/s/p) ALL AYE

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

The minutes of the February 12, 2007 Board meeting were revised as follows:

(delete: Board members absent: end delete) Councilman Walt Kretser (change per 3/5/07 meeting)

c. **ALTERNATIVE RESCUE SERVICE.** Representatives of the Town of Brighton invited members of the Franklin Town Board to join in discussing plans concerning possibly contracting with another agency for rescue service. In the event negotiations with the Village of Saranac Lake for rescue service are unsuccessful, Brighton wanted to pursue a backup. Coun. Gene Goff did not attend the meeting and recommended the Town Board continue with negotiations with the Village. **[delete: TUPPER LAKE RESCUE SERVICE. The Town of Brighton invited representative(s) of the Town of Franklin to join them in discussions with the Village of Tupper Lake concerning contracting with it for rescue service. The meeting was scheduled so the contracting towns with the Village of Saranac Lake might have a back-up for rescue service if negotiations with the Village of Saranac Lake do not prove fruitful. End delete]** (change per 3/12/07 meeting)

The February 12, 2007 minutes were accepted as amended; the March 5, 2007 minutes of the Special Board meeting were accepted as presented.

Motion to accept minutes (T.Goff-J.Ordway m/s/p) ALL AYE

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Balances on hand at February 1, 2007

General Fund	CK	\$18,122.59
	SV	\$177,316.94
	CLASS	\$174,382.09
Highway Fund	CK	\$1,645.79
	SV	\$515,456.32
	CLASS	\$88,988.64
	Cap Proj Hwy	\$58,157.19
Landfill	CK	\$3,902.07
	CLASS	\$62,674.43
Fire	CK	\$10,194.37
	CLASS	\$4,610.88
Cap. Building	CLASS	\$142,339.04

Accept Supervisor's Report (J.Ordway-T.Goff m/s/p) ALL AYE

SCOTT CAMPBELL, FRIENDS OF THE NORTH COUNTRY

Mr. Campbell reported that no one attended the second public hearing on the proposed housing rehabilitation grant. The Application for the grant is almost complete. He noted that last year's application did not request the full amount of funding (\$400,000), therefore, this year's grant will be Town-wide and will request the full amount. In addition FONC has had success with replacing single-wide mobile homes with stick-built houses instead of rehabilitated used mobile homes. Requirements for replacing mobile home units with the 2 bedroom ranch style or 3 bedroom Cape include a site with adequate space, water and drainage for the homeowners to live in their mobile home during construction of the house. So far

eight replacements in the area have been made. He requested the Board adopt a resolution authorizing the submission of the application for the grant.

Motion for resolution (J.Ordway-T.Goff m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 13: AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION UNDER TITLE I OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT WHEREAS, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended provides for a program of Community Development Small Cities Grants; and WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin, pursuant to the Housing and Community Development Act Federal Regulations, will solicit citizen comments and recommendations as to the Community Development Program; and WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin will hold two public hearings for the purpose of providing citizens with an opportunity to participate in the development of the application; and WHEREAS, the application for said grant conforms to the application requirements as contained in Federal Regulations 24 CFR Part 570 Subpart F; and WHEREAS, said application requires certain certifications to be submitted along with and as part of said application; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

(1) that the Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to submit an application, including all understandings and assurances contained therein, to the fullest extent of the funding allowed and determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, on behalf of the Town of Franklin to the New York State Community Development Block Grant Small Cities Program, under the Housing and Community Development Act;

(2) that Mary Ellen Keith, Supervisor of the Town of Franklin, be authorized and directed to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Franklin and to provide such additional information as may be requested;

(3) that the Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the Town of Franklin such certifications and assurances as may be required under the Federal Rules and Regulations, as set forth in 24 CFR Part 570.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilman Gene Goff
Councilman Tim Goff
Councilperson Janet Ordway
Councilman Walt Kretser

Those Voting nay:

None

Mr. Campbell then requested the Board adopt a second resolution required for the Application

Motion for resolution (G. Goff-W.Kretser m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 14: ADOPT CONSOLIDATED PLAN, CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN AND ANTI-DISPLACEMENT PLAN WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Franklin authorized Town's participation in the CDBG Small Cities Grant Program administered by the NYS Governor's Office for Small Cities; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby adopts the Consolidated Plan, Citizen Participation Plan and Anti-Displacement Plan; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Consolidated Plan, Citizen Participation Plan and Anti-Displacement Plan be sent by the Town Clerk to the NYS Governor's Office for Small Cities.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilman Gene Goff
Councilman Tim Goff
Councilperson Janet Ordway
Councilman Walt Kretser

Those Voting nay:

None

The Town Clerk certified the resolutions and returned the originals to Mr. Campbell. Mr. Campbell urged all present to inform him of any homeowner in the Town who might make use of the funds, if granted. His telephone number is 888-355-3662. With the gratitude of the Board and all present for his efforts, he then left the meeting.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Highway Supt. James Rascoe reported on the progress of the Highway Department:

1. Plowing and sanding - sanding shady spots especially
2. Cutting back snow banks
3. Clearing intersections
4. 24-hour plowing during the February 14th blizzard
5. Breaking up chunks of sand and storing them for future use
6. Greasing vehicles
7. Changing oil, wing and slusher blades
8. Unit 3 accident ripped 1/3 of the slusher apart; department rebuilt the slusher and did a great job
9. 2007 truck transported to M.A. Jerry; the drive shaft was installed backwards at the factory
10. 2003 truck had its radiator replaced. After searching by Supv. Keith, the 2003 truck does in fact have an extended warranty and Supt. Rascoe has been in communication with M.A. Jerry for reimbursement of Town for all repair work performed. The Town has paid \$4,000 for warranted repair work on the vehicle, and Supt. Rascoe is negotiating for a credit or cash from the dealer. Coun. Gene Goff suggested referring this matter to the attorney for the Town.
11. Steam generator is punching holes
12. Sand pile is getting low, but Supt. Rascoe is hopeful there will be an adequate supply

Coun. Janet Ordway asked if any new employees had been hired yet, and Supt. Rascoe responded in the negative. Applicants have been interviewed but were found to be inadequate. Coun. Walt Kretser complimented Supt. Rascoe on the department's daily fuel usage reports. He was pleased to have the accounting. Supv. Keith noted the 3-year comparison of overtime costs developed by Confidential Secretary Melissa Begor, showing the decrease in costs in the current year. This was due to Supt. Rascoe's management of the department. Superintendent Rascoe then left the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

FIRE/RESCUE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS. Coun. Gene Goff reported on the progress of the Saranac Lake Regional Fire Advisory Board's (SLRFAB) ongoing negotiations with the Village of Saranac Lake. The contracting communities have rejected the Village proposals and emphasize the need for the Village to base its fees on usage rather than assessed value. Coun. Goff said it was very important that the Town finalizes an agreement with the Village for 2008 and that an increase was probable. For 2007 the Town has contracted to pay \$22,806.31. For 2008, the Town will pay four percent (4%) of the Fire/Rescue Department's budget. He reported the SLRFAB finally received a copy of the Fire Department budget. Supv. Keith said the contracting communities should demand a full-time, paid EMT. Further, she stated she was apprehensive about the ♦fund for the new truck♦ and the ♦building fund♦. Coun. Gene Goff requested the Board adopt a resolution authorizing him to negotiate a contract with the Village of Saranac Lake for the year 2008 anticipating the increase in cost. (*Changed per 04-09-07 meeting.*)

Motion for resolution (W.Kretser-T.Goff m/s/p) ALL AYE

RESOLUTION NO. 15: AUTHORIZE COUNCILMAN GENE F. GOFF TO NEGOTIATE A 2008 FIRE/RESCUE CONTRACT WITH VILLAGE OF SARANAC LAKE FOR \$23,064.31 WHEREAS, negotiations between the Town of Franklin and the Village of Saranac Lake for fire/rescue service are continuing; and WHEREAS, based on current state of negotiations, the Village will increase the Town's fee for said service by \$258.00 for the year 2008; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Councilman Gene F. Goff is hereby authorized to enter into negotiations with the Village of Saranac Lake for a 2008 fire/rescue contract fee of \$23,064.31.

Those voting aye:

Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith
Councilman Gene Goff
Councilman Tim Goff
Councilperson Janet Ordway
Councilman Walt Kretser

Those Voting nay:

None

RESCINDED PER 04-09-07 MEETING

2. YELLOW WOOD UPDATE.

Supervisor Keith noted that the Town's approach to its infrastructure was reported on the local news during a report on the APA in which the Town's efforts were acknowledged. She also indicated the Town had received a draft of Yellow Wood's most recent report on recommended, prescreened candidates for the Town's bid list. She declared that the Town now had a list of individuals who have been involved with LEEDS-certified buildings and added that Sen. Betty Little's office informed her that the Town would be

eligible for two new boilers through the excess petroleum rebate which is administered by the State Houses. Coun. Janet Ordway stated the Building Committee had held meetings for six (6) years, and Coun. Walt Kretser indicated Yellow Wood's recommendations for LEED certification for all 3 buildings had been endorsed by the Town Board. He also stated the Town Board would continue to review options, and Supervisor Keith stated she was anxious to get the process started. In order to fulfill a requirement for several grant applications, a questionnaire concerning use of the Town Hall and Rec Park will be distributed to any party using the Town's facilities.

3. **PLANNING REVIEW.**

Couns. Kretser and Ordway reviewed all past materials developed by committees during the 1980's and 1990's. Coun. Kretser stated Brian Grisi of the Adirondack Park Agency will attend a future Town Board meeting to give a presentation on developing a land use plan.

4. **BOARD OF ELECTIONS.**

Franklin County Board of Elections forwarded the "2007 Polling Site Agreement with questionnaire" to be signed by Supervisor Keith and Town Clerk Oliver. Supv. Keith requested the Board's consent to question 5 of the questionnaire, "When and should grant monies become available for improvements required of polling sites for the physically disabled, would you be willing to accept funds or the changes that such funds would provide?" With respect to the historic Merrillville Town Hall, any changes to the doors and locks would have to be negotiated. Supervisor Keith indicated she would sign the agreement and highlight the special circumstances of Merrillville site. The Board concurred.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **TOWN HALL SEPTIC SYSTEM.** The septic tank at the Vermontville Town Hall will be pumped out tomorrow.
2. **SMOKING POLICY.** An employee reported that smoking in or too near both the Town Hall and the Town Garage was occurring. Supervisor Keith received notice from the Dept. of Health that the Town would be fined \$2,000.00 if this did not cease. Those individuals concerned have been put on notice to stop.
3. **CELLULAR TELEPHONE SERVICE FOR THE NORTH COUNTRY.** Supervisor Keith attended this meeting on Thursday, March 8 at the Harrietstown Town Hall. In attendance were Sen. Betty Little and Assemblywomen Theresa Sayward and Janet Duprey along with representatives of Verizon. Good points were made.
4. **2010 CENSUS.** Supervisor Keith and Town Clerk Oliver will attend a meeting concerning the 2010 Census Tuesday, March 13 in Malone.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE.** The Adirondack Park Agency is hosting a 2-day conference on March 21 and 22, 2007, and Supervisor Keith and Town Clerk Oliver will attend as many different sessions as possible. The Board concurred.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. **TOWN OF TUPPER LAKE.**

A letter with certified board resolution was received from the Town of Tupper Lake concerning its intention to lobby Albany lawmakers to change legislation so as to allow towns to assume responsibility for fire departments currently under village control. Coun. Gene Goff suggested the Board table any discussion or action on this pending resolution of negotiations with the Town Of Tupper Lake..

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

1. **NEWSLETTER**

Frank Karl asked whether a newsletter would be distributed; it would be a way of informing the citizens of the Town. Supv. Keith indicated a newsletter was being prepared.

2. **DRY HYDRANTS.** Al Berg commented that the Town's dry hydrants do not work.

Frank Karl indicated it was a homeowners insurance issue. Supv. Keith stated the fire companies upgraded the pumpers which do not work with the Town's dry hydrants. Coun. Gene Goff stated the Town constructed platforms for use with the fire department's portable pumps, but there is only one good one in the Town. He stated a review of the dry hydrants will be done in the spring and Supervisor Keith stated the situation would be addressed during the summer months.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm (M. Keith-W.Kretser m/s/p) ALL AYE

Respectfully submitted, Sandra J. Oliver, Town Clerk

[Click here to see past minutes](#)

[Newsletter](#) | [Town Events](#) | [History, Photos & Maps](#) | [Board Officials & Contact Info](#) | [Board Meetings](#) | [Town Budget](#) | [Laws & Forms](#) | [Real Property Assessments](#) | [Events, Recreation & Kate Mtn Park](#) | [Area Businesses](#) | [Town Journals](#) | [Emergency Preparedness](#) | [Home](#) | [Email the Tow](#)
| [Home](#)

Town of Franklin

P.O. Box 209, Route 3, Vermontville, NY 12989 · Tel: 518-891-2189 · Fax: 518-891-6389 · info@townoffranklin.com

© Town of Franklin · Website Design: Rainbow Graphics

You are the visitor. Thank You for stopping by.