



The Town of Franklin

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



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Town of Franklin Board Meetings

September 11, 2019 Monthly Town Board Meeting 5:30pm

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Art Willman, Councilman Pete Woodcock, Councilman Tom Bartiss, Councilman Cliff Smalley and Councilman Don Hamm

OTHERS PRESENT:

Doris Hamm, Franklin Co. Legislator Lindy Ellis, Brad Merrill, Julie Woodcock, Rhonda Swinyer, Dick Jarvis, Leo Demong, Karen Smalley, Dot Brown, Cliff Donaldson, Tim Branfalt, Code Officer Paul Blaine, Highway Superintendent Jacques DeMars and Town Clerk Lauren LeFebvre

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Willman called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Town Clerk called the roll, noting a quorum was present. A moment of silence was held in observance of the 18th anniversary of 9-11.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick Jarvis-Mr. Jarvis felt it would be beneficial to have a Public Hearing prior to the presentation of the Preliminary Budget, update the website, have more collaboration between with entities regarding our land/water resources, improve Kate Mountain Park and create a plan for road repairs. Regarding the 2019 budget, Mr. Jarvis asked for clarification of legal service expenses and if the Town expects to allocate less in 2020.

Leg. Lindy Ellis-Leg. Ellis updated the board on the work being done by the Franklin Co. Highway Department on Co. Rt 60, efforts to increase broadband access, a Health Fair at NCCC in Saranac Lake on 9/14 and that two stops on the "Bike the Barns" tour are in the Town of Franklin.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF August 14 2019 MEETING MINUTES Minutes approved as presented. (P. Woodcock-D. Hamm m/s/p) all aye

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS The board audited and approved payment of the following:

General Fund	Abstract 9	Claims 156-176	\$36,730.85
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Highway Fund	Abstract 9	Claims 146-155	\$143,051.70
Pre-Pay General	Abstract 9	Claims 37-40	\$1253.10

(D.Hamm-P. Woodcock m/s/p) all aye

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Balances on hand as of August 31, 2019

General Fund

Checking	\$113,714.63
Savings	\$2,349.92
Historian	\$3,039.48
Kt. Mt SRF	\$1,852.93
Kate Mt. CLASS	\$46,141.11
Cemetery RF	\$4,904.70
CLASS	\$247,196.16

Highway Fund

Checking	\$725,119.42
Savings	\$141,662.64
Cap Proj. HW	\$48,607.75
CLASS	\$406,326.22

Landfill Clos. CR

Checking	\$1,020.39
CLASS	\$16,864.22

Fire Protection

Checking	\$6,264.19
CLASS	\$21,508.58

Capital Proj Bldg

CLASS	\$68,040.15
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(Hamm-Woodcock m/s/p) All Aye

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent DeMars submitted the following written report:

1. Continuing mowing, cut trees out of roads several times, ongoing ditching on Rock Street
2. Paved on Swinyer Road and a section of Paye Rd with the assistance of towns of: Saranac, Chateaguay, Constable, Duane, Tupper Lake, Brighton, Harrietstown, St. Armand, and the Village of Tupper Lake
3. Repaired broken road edges on Alder Brook Road and Rock Street
4. Assisted towns of Saranac, Harrietstown and Tupper Lake with paving
5. Returned general fund pickup after repair work done
6. Tore out and rebuilt handicap parking area at the Town Hall as requested by Supervisor Willman
7. 284's for Paye Rd and Rock Street
8. Gas and fuel logs given to Highway Committee

RESOLUTION #25 284 AGREEMENT FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAY MONEYS - On a motion by Councilman Smalley, second by Councilman Bartiss, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby approve of the expenditure of up to \$21,611.39 for permanent improvements to approximately .3 miles of road commencing at the intersection of Swinyer and Paye Roads leading north onto Paye Rd.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
Councilman Hamm
Councilman Smalley
Councilman Woodcock
Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

RESOLUTION #26 SUPPORT OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PER DIEM POSITIONS - On a motion by Councilman Smalley, second by Councilman Bartiss, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby by support Highway Superintendent Jacques DeMars hiring Per Diem employees to fill vacancies at the Highway Department in the event no qualified applicants are found to fill full-time positions.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
Councilman Hamm
Councilman Smalley
Councilman Woodcock
Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

RESOLUTION #27 PAVING ROCK STREET - On a motion by Councilman Smalley, second by Councilman Woodcock, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby approve of hiring Noel J. Brunell & Sons, Inc for two days for the purpose of paving sections of Rock Street.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
Councilman Hamm
Councilman Smalley
Councilman Woodcock
Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT 1 Building Permit, 7 Certificates of Occupancy and 0 Violations issued in June. 12 inspections were conducted and \$430.00 in fees was collected.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Assessor Term Ends 9/30/19

RESOLUTION #28 RE-APPOINTMENT OF ASSESSOR TO 5-YEAR TERM - On a motion by Councilman Woodcock, second by Councilman Bartiss, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby re-appoint Doug Tichener to a 5-year term as Town Assessor (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2024).

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
Councilman Hamm
Councilman Smalley
Councilman Woodcock
Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

RESOLUTION #29 RE-APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW MEMBER - On a motion by Councilman Smalley, second by Councilman Bartiss, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby re-appoint Nancy Bernstein to a 5-year term as a member of the Town of Franklin Board of Assessment Review (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2024)

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
Councilman Hamm
Councilman Smalley
Councilman Woodcock
Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

B. Use of Kitchen - The Town Clerk reported Hex and Hops (located in Bloomingdale) has requested use of the Town Hall kitchen until their facility receives a the appropriate permits from NYSDOH.

RESOLUTION #29 ESTABLISH RATE FOR USE OF KITCHEN - On a motion by Councilman Smalley, second by Councilman Woodcock, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby establish \$20 per hour for the use of the kitchen facility at the Town Hall.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
Councilman Hamm
Councilman Smalley
Councilman Woodcock
Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

C. 2020 Fuel

RESOLUTION #30 AUTHORIZE SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR 2020 FUEL PRICES - On a motion by Councilman Smalley, second by Councilman Bartiss, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to solicit sealed bids, to be opened at the October 9 board meeting, for the purchase of 2020 fuel.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
Councilman Hamm
Councilman Smalley
Councilman Woodcock
Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

D. ADK Action

RESOLUTION #31 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE ADIRONDACKS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF ROAD SALT FOR WINTER MAINTENANCE AND DE-ICING -

- WHEREAS, there has been a measurable increase in the use of road salts in the Adirondacks to assist in winter road maintenance and de-icing; and,
- WHEREAS, within the Adirondacks there are a total of approximately 10,555 lane miles of local, county, state and federal roads and an estimated 192,700 metric tons of salt is used per year; and,
- WHEREAS, there are numerous studies documenting the significant increases in road salt in Adirondack surface waters resulting from road runoff; and, WHEREAS, median lake chloride concentrations in watersheds without paved roads were nearly identical to background (natural, untouched) concentrations, and lakes in watershed with paved roads show chloride concentrations that are, on average, 14 times higher than watersheds without paved roads; and,
- WHEREAS, recent concentrations of chlorides in many Adirondack lakes are at thresholds that can influence the composition of phytoplankton, periphyton and macroinvertebrate communities, altering the food web and hence potentially changing the biological productivity; and,
- WHEREAS, continued increases in salt loading in the watershed may also affect the physical circulation of oxygen and nutrients in the lake by increasing vertical density gradients that are more difficult to mix; and,
- WHEREAS, elevated salt concentrations in potable water are a health concern to individuals who drink water from private wells in some parts of the Adirondacks because increased sodium consumption is linked to high blood pressure, and if salt levels are allowed to continue rising at the current rate, within the next one to two decades, such water sources will become a health hazard; and,
- WHEREAS, road salt application is linked to leaching of calcium and magnesium from soil, and these added nutrients which make Adirondack lakes more hospitable for aquatic invasive species colonization; and,
- WHEREAS, some of the most obvious toxic effects of road salt are observed in roadside vegetation where high concentrations of salt accumulates and persists and damage is observed with the browning of foliage, premature defoliation, suppression of flowers and die back of terminal roots and the erosion problems that occur when vegetation is affected; and,
- WHEREAS, road salt is responsible for the increased corrosion of road infrastructure and vehicles.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties recognize the significant adverse impacts of excessive application of road salt for winter maintenance and de-icing; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties intend to reduce the salt loading into Adirondack Lakes through the reduced application of road salt; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties work towards the reduction of road salt use by adopting proven methods of road salt application (as demonstrated in New Hampshire and Vermont) and through utilizing Best Management Practices); and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties will, subject to research supporting their use, consider alternative de-icing materials that minimize the application of road salt; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties will help to document the effectiveness of alternative road salt materials and/or substitutes; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties will investigate and consider equipment to better manage and monitor the application of road salt; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties will recommend that highway department superintendents collect data using consistent methods on the quantities and application rates of road salts within their jurisdictions, as well as truck loading and route distribution information in using this data for improved application methods and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties will recommend that highway department supervisors assess and tailor road salt application rates based on level of surface, road grades and proximity to water bodies and runoff systems; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties will recommend establishing an education and training program for all highway department employees on the impacts of road salt in the Adirondacks and proven methods to reduce road salt application; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties intend to designate sections of public roads as "Priority Abatement Areas" where roads are located along or in close proximity to Adirondack Lakes and/or tributaries that are determined to be critical runoff areas impacting water quality; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties will participate in an annual "Road Salt Summit" to discuss new technologies, application methods, best management practices and research aimed at minimizing the usage of road salt for winter maintenance and de-icing; and it is further AGREED that the undersigned Towns, Village and Counties will together achieve road salt reductions that through ongoing scientific monitoring of ground and surface water; and it is further Motion by Councilman Smalley, Second by Councilman Hamm

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
 Councilman Hamm
 Councilman Smalley
 Councilman Woodcock
 Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

RESOLUTION #32 DISPOSAL OF GENERAL FUND TRUCK -

On a motion by Councilman Smalley, second by Councilman Hamm, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to advertise the 2014 General Fund Pick-up Truck as "For Sale" for \$10,000 in "as is" condition.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Willman
Councilman Hamm
Councilman Smalley
Councilman Woodcock
Councilman Bartiss

Those voting No: None

OLD BUSINESS

A. 550 Mini-Dump Truck - As the board has made no decision regarding the bids received for the purchase of a new 550 Mini-Dump Truck and bids received were for two different manufacturing years (2019-Durocher and 2020-OGS) Superintendent DeMars will procure an updated quote from OGS for this purchase.

B. Speed Limit Reduction and/or No Passing Requests - Leg. Lindy Ellis will confer with Brad Marsh, Franklin County Highway Department Superintendent, regarding the possibility of changing the striping on the first three miles of County Route 60 to a "no passing zone" from State Route 3. The Town Board will also contact Brad Marsh regarding changing the speed/passing zones on that section of County Route 60. The board will request that Town of Franklin Highway Superintendent Jacques DeMars post appropriate signage on Garden Road in an effort to slow driving speed on that road.

C. Livestock Fencing Ordinance Request - Supervisor Willman reported that the Town's Attorney, Eric Gustafson, has advised the Town not to proceed with an ordinance as there are NYS Laws in place to deal with this issue.

D. Waterfront and Hamlet Revitalization Grant - Supervisor Willman and Deputy Supervisor Brown are meeting with the grant coordinator regarding next steps. The possibility of redoing the facade of the Town Hall will be discussed as well as installing informational kiosks at Kate Mountain Park.

E. 2020 Budget Workshop - October 1, 2019. Dinner will be provided.

F. Town Hall Roof - A quote for \$22,000 from Chip's Painting has been received for the roof painting/repair as specified by Councilman Hamm. No decision was made.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Cemetery - Councilman Smalley met with a representative from Plattsburgh Memorials and has been informed they can repair the damaged headstone for \$250. Councilman Smalley has instructed them to proceed with the work. He has also conferred with Highway Superintendent DeMars regarding the installation of a loop road in Union Cemetery on Route 3 in Vermontville. It is anticipated this will be completed before December 31, 2019.

B. Recreation - Councilman Smalley reported he spoke to a representative from Barkeater Trail Alliance regarding the creation of Mountain Biking Trails at Kate Mountain Park. The possibility of moving forward on this project will be discussed at the 2020 Budget Workshop.

OTHER

The Town Board recognized Mescal Thomas' 93 birthday

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Supervisor Willman adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted, Lauren LeFebvre, Town Clerk

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