



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

Regular Board Meeting - December 9, 2020 5:30PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Dorothy Brown, Councilman Richard Jarvis and, Councilman Leo Demong

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmen Bartiss and Hamm

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lindy Ellis—Franklin County Legislator, Jacques DeMars—Highway Superintendent and Lauren LeFebvre—Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Town Clerk called the roll, noting the Councilman Don Hamm and Councilman Tom Bartiss absent and a quorum present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Leg. Lindy Ellis - Lindy reported that approximately 1% of Franklin County's population is being quarantined due to COVID-19. As of December 11, there are 120 active cases. Vaccine distribution plans are currently in progress throughout NYS.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF October 14, 2020 MINUTES

Councilman Jarvis requested two changes to the Recreation Committee's report. Item a. 2 will be amended to "lack of available facilities" and, under Safe Use of Town Playground Equipment, the minutes will reflect two Safe Use signs were posted at the park. The Town Clerk will amend the Recreation Committee's report to reflect the changes. D.Jarvis-L.Demong m/s/p All Aye

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

The board audited and approved the following claims:

General Fund	Abstract 12	Claims 238-262	\$454,995.31
Pre-Pay General	Abstract 12	Claims 38-39	\$77.70
Highway Fund	Abstract 12	Claims 196-219	\$113,156.26
D.Hamm-D.Jarvis m/s/p -All Aye			

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Balances on hand as of November 30, 2020

General Fund

Checking	\$194,520.27
Savings	\$16,538.37
Historian	\$3,039.85
Kt. Mt SRF	\$2,057.79
Cemetery RF	\$5,606.78
CLASS	\$249,914.64
Kate Mt. CLASS	\$46,648.54

Highway Fund

Checking	\$298,338.90
Savings	\$41,677.05
Cap Proj. HW	\$49,142.29
CLASS	\$410,794.68

Landfill Clos. CR

Checking	\$2,072.65
CLASS	\$13,059.31

Fire Protection

Checking	\$6,624.02
CLASS	\$11,716.36

Capital Proj Bldg

CLASS	\$68,911.55
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L.Demong-D.Jarvis m/s/p-All Aye

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT - No report

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Superintendent DeMars submitted the following written report:

1. Plowed and sanded when needed
2. Hauled material, graded and rolled around new garage
3. Added crusher run at the Rt.55 end of Bigelow RD intersection
4. Old grader and Ford tractor (declare as surplus so can be sold)
5. Ongoing beaver activity around town
6. Town of St. Armand and Town of Saranac let us use their buildings several times to work on equipment

NEW BUSINESS

A. Surplus Equipment

RESOLUTION #42 DECLARATION OF SURPLUS HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT

On a motion by Councilman Demong, second by Councilman Jarvis, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby declare the 1990 Ford 3910 Tractor and 1978 Champion 715A to be surplus and does FURTHER RESOLVE that the Highway Superintendent has approval to sell the surplus equipment through a venue of his choosing.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

B. Code Officer Resignation

Supervisor Brown reported Paul Blaine has submitted a written resignation effective December 1, 2020. Supervisor Brown met with St. Armand Code Enforcement Officer, Derrick Martineau, to discuss appointing him for the remainder of 2020

RESOLUTION #43 APPOINT DERRICK MARTINEAU TO FILL CODE OFFICER VACANCY

On a motion by Supervisor Brown, second by Councilman Demong, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby appoint Derrick Martineau to the position of Code Enforcement Officer for a term ending December 31, 2020.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

C. Justice Audit

Supervisor Brown reported she has completed the annual audit, as required, and found the Justice records to be in good order.

RESOLUTION #44 ACCEPT JUSTICE COURT ACCOUNTING

On a motion made by Councilman Jarvis, second by Councilman Demong, WHEREAS, Town Justice Roger Symonds, in compliance with NYS Comptroller guidelines, requested an audit of his accounts; and WHEREAS, Town Supervisor Dorothy Brown inspected said records on November 20, 2020 bank statements and accounts, inclusive, and found them to be in good order; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Franklin Town Board hereby accepts and approves of the accounting records maintained by Town Justice Roger Symonds.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

D. Municipal Insurance

Supervisor Brown reported 2021 Municipal Insurance through NYMIR will be approximately \$32,000. This figure falls within the 2021 budgeted amount.

E. Ground Maintenance Responsibilities -

Supervisor Brown reported that she has met with Highway Superintendent DeMars regarding his department being responsible for upkeep of all Town of Franklin grounds as is done in surrounding Towns. Superintendent DeMars has agreed to this arrangement. The Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk will prepare a list of duties.

RESOLUTION #45 GROUND MAINTENANCE DUTIES TO BE ASSIGNED TO HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

On a motion by Supervisor Brown, second by Councilman Jarvis, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby assign ground maintenance to the Town of Franklin Highway Department under the Supervision of the Highway Superintendent and DOES FURTHER RESOLVE that the Highway Superintendent is authorized to hire a seasonal laborer in the event the current number of employees is not sufficient to perform the ground maintenance duties.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

G. MASK-UP

RESOLUTION #46 FACE MASKS MANDATORY

On a motion by Councilman Demong, second by Supervisor Brown, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby support and enforce the NYS Executive Order issued by Governor Cuomo and by Franklin County making face masks mandatory for ALL Town of Franklin Elected Officials, Appointed Officials and Employees while on Town Property, including vehicles, when two or more individuals are present.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis

Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

OLD BUSINESS

A. **Garage Re-Build Update**-Garage doors will be installed this month and the target date for completion is December 25, 2020. Friend Construction has advised the Supervisor that finishing the final two equipment stalls (pouring floor, etc) would be more cost effective to complete now rather than in the future as originally voted on.

RESOLUTION #47 APPROVAL TO FINISH FINAL TWO GARAGE STALLS

On a motion by Councilman Demong, second by Councilman Jarvis, BE IT RESOLVED the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby approve of the changes to the garage building plans to pour the concrete for the floor and other necessary tasks to complete the final two stalls in the new highway garage and, the Town Board DOES FURTHER RESOLVE to approve the expenditure of up to \$154,000 for the additional work.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

B. **DASNY** - Both the Town Hall upgrade \$100,000 grant, through Senator Betty Little's office, and the Highway Garage Project Grant of \$500,000 through assemblyman Billy Jones' office, have been received by the NYS Dormitory Authority. Both projects are in the final review stages.

C. **Waterfront Revitalization Grant** - Supervisor Brown and the Recreation Committee met with representatives from ELAN Planning and Design to discuss a variety of improvement ideas and uses for Kate Mountain Park. (Full report under Committee Reports) A discussion was held regarding public input, with respect to town records, it was decided all information/comments provided by the public on this matter shall be directed to Councilman Jarvis in order to ensure records are in possession of the town and accessible to the Town Clerk.

D. CDBG HUD Grant

RESOLUTION #48 AUTHORIZING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FR-19-01

On a motion by Councilman Jarvis, second by Councilman Demong, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby authorize the capital expenditure of \$22,138.00 plus administrative, project delivery and other soft costs, in accordance with the Town of Franklin Housing Rehabilitation Program for project FR-19-01

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

RESOLUTION #49 AUTHORIZING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FR-19-02

On a motion by Councilman Jarvis, second by Councilman Demong, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby authorize the capital expenditure of \$42,800.00 plus administrative, project delivery and other soft costs, in accordance with the Town of Franklin Housing Rehabilitation Program for project FR-19-02

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

RESOLUTION #50 ADOPT FAIR HOUSING PLAN

On a motion by Councilman Jarvis, second by Councilman Demong, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby adopt the Community Renewal Community Development Block Grant Programs Fair

Housing Plan, naming Supervisor Dorothy Brown Fair Housing Officer, and does FURTHER RESOLVE to authorize Supervisor Brown to sign the Fair Housing Plan.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

RESOLUTION #51 APPOINTING ADA COORDINATOR

On a motion by Councilman Jarvis second by Councilman Demong, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Franklin Town Board does hereby designate Town Supervisor Dorothy Brown as the ADA Coordinator and adopts the Notice Under the Americans with disabilities Act, Grievance Procedure and Grievance Form.

Those Voting Aye:

Supervisor Brown
Councilman Jarvis
Councilman Demong

Those Voting No: None

Those Absent:

Councilman Hamm
Councilman Bartiss

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **Cemetery:** Councilman Jarvis reported he requested a year end report from Cemetery Custodian Tim Goff regarding the work performed in 2020 as well as any other items of note.

B. **Recreation:** The board thanked Councilman Demong for moving the tables in the pavilion at Kate Mountain Park to provide access to skateboarders to set up equipment. Councilman Jarvis submitted the following written report:

Kate Mt. Park Winter Skateboarding: Councilman Leo Demong, with help of several from the highway crew, moved the picnic tables in the pavilion to the corner.

Kate Mt. Park, Dept. of State Watershed Revitalization Grant: On Dec. 3, 2020, a field meeting at the Park was held, with introductions by Supervisor Brown, who left soon after. The Pat and Amy McCormick family joined the start of the meeting. Councilmen Leo Demong and Dick Jarvis continued with 2 consultants from ELAN 3 Consultants to learn about the program and to tour the existing Park facilities. The program involves the assessment of existing Park facilities/amenities and potential future Park facilities by various age groups, develop list of do-it-yourself projects and cost estimates, followed by facility plans, options for financing, and opportunities for public input. The work plan schedule is short: Dec- Jan: generate inventory and ideas for Park future; Feb: consultant prepares plans and information for town review, and by end of March 2021: final review and acceptance of phased development plan. Amy McCormick has volunteered to involve other residents with children in the process.

DeBar Mt. Complex Draft Unit Management Plan (UMP): The town received notice that at the Dec. 10, 2020 meeting of the Adirondack Park Agency, the DEC and APA would set the joint public hearings and deadline for comments on the draft UMP. The draft plan includes DeBar Mt. wild forest unit, the proposed DeBar Lodge intensive use area, Madawaska Flow, Quebec Brook and Deer River primitive areas. At the APA website, the documents for review are available under the meeting mailing materials for the state land committee. This long awaited draft plan involves those state lands classified as wild forest in the Town of Franklin, generally north of NYS Route 3 and south of County Route 26. The draft documents include listing of state policy guidelines, inventory of existing natural and recreational resources and problems/actions, and proposed phase development of new actions and facilities. The draft UMP is 230 pages and can be reviewed at APA website, December mailing materials/state land/DeBar Mt. Complex/Draft Unit Plan.

The draft plan was quickly scanned for the portion of the UMP in the Town of Franklin, in addition to actions to bring existing facilities in compliance with state policies and guideline, a number of new facilities are proposed:

The draft plan was quickly scanned for the portion of the UMP in the Town of Franklin, in addition to actions to bring existing facilities in compliance with state policies and guideline, a number of new facilities are proposed:

- 5 car parking area at north end of Kushaqua rail trail, and 10 car parking area at Rainbow Narrows
- 5 car parking area each on Tyler and Sinkhole Roads for access to new trails up Kate Mt.
- 5 car parking area on CR 26 for new trail up Baldface Mt.
- Proposed primitive campsites on Bigelow/ D&H rail trail and Merrill road
- Improve access off NY Central road to Hope Pond
- Proposed new hiking trail to Baldface Mt. from CR 26 and DeBar Lodge day use area
- New 5 mile trail between Buck Pond-Lake Kushaqua Trail System
- New .5 mile trail up Little Haystack Mt
- ADA accessible improvement to Kushaqua rail trail, 1.3 miles

- Duck Pond loop trails utilizing old log roads
- New 9 mile trail system to Kate Mt and nearby unnamed peak, accessible from 3 trail-heads at Kate Mt. Park, Tyler and Sinkhole roads, 6 miles for hiking, skiing and mt. biking, only hiking to summit of Kate Mt.
- Connector trails from Hays Brook to Kushaqua Tract Conservation Easement area, 4.5 miles
- Connector trail between Kushaqua Tract with DeBar Meadows (access from CR 26)
- Establish a partnership agreement with "friends" group to repair and maintain Loon Lake Mt. Fire-tower, a structure listed on the NYS Register of Historic Places The proposed phases of development/implementation of the UMP:

Phase 1:

- o Loop trail connecting at Kate Mt. Park
- o Build trail from Tyler Road to unnamed peak near Kate Mt.
- o Upgrade Kushaqua Rail Trail

Phase 2:

- Build parking at Tyler Road
- build .5 mile trail to Little Haystack Mt.
- build trail to Kate Mt.

Phase 3:

- parking at north end of Kushaqua rail trail
- parking at Buck Pond access road
- parking at Sinkhole rod
- build Buck Pond-Lake Kushaqua trail system
- build additional trail to Kate Mt.
- build connector trail between Hays Bk and Kushaqua Tract

Phase 4:

- build tent site at Merrill Road

Phase 5:

- build tent site at Bigelow Road

C. Newsletter-The Town Clerk reported the December newsletter is scheduled to go to print next week. Newsletters will be mailed the week of December 21.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Supervisor Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:15pm.

Respectfully submitted, Lauren LeFebvre, Town Clerk

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