
**Franklin Selectboard Meeting
October 15th, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.
Town Clerks Office/Zoom hybrid**

Members Present: Dave Bennion, Brooks Sturtevant (virtual), Justin Rainville, Michael Grant, Jay Hartman (left early)

Guest: Lisa Hango & Wayne Laroche, State Representatives, Jacob Beauregard

Virtual: Kim Maynard, Catherine Dimitruk- NRPC, Kim Maynard, Jeremy Barnum, John Ho, Jordan Bushey- Asst Town Clerk

Call to order:

At 6:05 pm Dave Bennion called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Agenda Amendments: Add to highway: Road apron paving, VENTRAC machine, and Fire Department driveway.

Public comment period:

- Lisa Hango- the State representative for Franklin, reminded board that she and Wayne Laroche are there for the town/board, and that any concerns or questions are encouraged to be directed to them.
- Kim Maynard- metal dumpster is still at shop, and is supposed to be there only May & September, but has been there all summer; Jeremy said it is be picked up soon.
- Wayne Laroche- Was speaking with someone about the aeration system, had actually helped the walleye population by “making new food sources”.

Approve minutes from September 24th – Justin/Jay made a motion to approve the minutes from September 24th. All members voted in favor; motion passed 5-0.

Highway Dept:

- **Maintenance report review- roads/equipment-** Jordan will send the board the sheet she put together for equipment maintenance. The board will adjust as needed. It will list what maintenance was done, along with the mileage/hours.
- **Sidewalks discussion-** Ryan Magnant was going to look at the handicap-ADA sidewalk plate; he said to redo these, it must be set into fresh concrete. It will be pricey, but needs to be done for safety reasons, and to allow the snowplow to plow smoothly. Also, price to replace the section by the store that is a trip hazard.
- **Guardrail bid – Hanna Rd-** VLCT reached out to the vehicle owner 3 times for reimbursement claims with no reply. Lafayette Highway Specialties will be installing the new guardrail mid-October. The work needs to be completed, regardless of who pays.
- **Highway applicants-** There have been 4 new applicants, and will discuss further in executive session.
- **Salt contract discussion-** Canada is not taking any new customers. That leaves Cargill as the only option right now. It is currently \$103.50 per ton. Last year was \$92 per ton. For town meeting, Jeremy will add something to his report narrative about the price increase from last year to now. Brooks/Jay made a motion to sign

the salt contract with Cargill for \$103.50 per ton and all necessary supplies. All members voted in favor; motion passed 5-0. Dave signed.

Jay left the meeting

- **New truck price discussion-** Charlebois sent an invoice to Lisa, with a higher price at \$297,422 than the original signed agreement stated.
- The original quote was \$291,710. No price changes were relayed to Jeremy or Lisa before getting this invoice. Because of the long wait for the original Allison transmission, it was changed to a Detroit 12 transmission which has a better warranty but higher priced; are getting a 2026 truck vs 2025. Lisa spoke with them, and they were able to reduce the warranty price by \$2,000; this warranty will actually have more coverage than the original. Jeremy advised we also had a credit from Vikings for changes to equipment; Lisa will reach back out to Charlebois regarding this credit.
- The voters approved \$238,000 at town meeting, and using \$30,000 from the equipment fund, and the money from the sale of the current truck.
- Need to advertise the 2016 truck for sale, with the understanding that it will be available once we have received the new truck. There are municipal auction websites it could be listed on, but they would likely take a percentage of the sale. Need the right to reserve minimum bid. VLCT can post it too, and send it out to municipalities. Require a sealed bid with minimum price of \$45,000 for 30 days.
- **Apron paving-** There are road aprons that need to be fixed on a couple roads, and would like to get it paved before snow plowing starts. There is money in the paving budget that has not been used yet. Jeremy is still working on getting quotes.
- **VENTRAC-** Justin stopped at MTE in Derry NH to look at a used 2020 VENTRAC with roughly 375 hours on it. The cost was around \$28,000, and \$34,500 with a snowblower. Not sure if there are any warranties, but need to look into it. There are spots where paint is coming off, that can be easily fixed, and will be able to maintain afterwards. Board will keep looking for other options to get the best price.
- **Fire Dept driveway-** Would like to include money to next year's budget for resealing the Fire Department driveway.

Old Business-

- **Alum treatment update-** Treatment was finished on Monday (10/13/25) and they are starting to pick up all the materials. Everything should be picked up by Friday (10/17/25). They are also pressure washing the whole parking lot to get rid of any chemicals that could be on the ground. They say the treatment will be effective for 15-30 years. As long as extra phosphorus isn't coming into the lake, the alum treatment will last longer.
- **Luce house update (bats)-** There have been multiple bats entering the Luce house and the Office/Library. Wayne Laroche- could look into getting bat houses to put nearby.
- **Aquatic Nuisance-discussion/future-** Olin was invited to the meeting but was not able to join. Lisa gave him the November dates, and will discuss the Aquatic Nuisance options then.
- **Tier 1 B discussion-** Catherine from NRPC explained-
- NRPC is updating the northwest regional plan, which now includes maps that set boundaries for the Act 250 State Designation program. The regional map does not change or supersede local zoning or land use regulations. If the town adopts Tier 1 B, Act 250 won't be triggered until there is development of 50 units of

housing. This would only be in the village center. It is currently triggered by 10 units or more.

- Mike asked why a town would NOT opt in? If there is typically only single unit housing, this wouldn't benefit the town. Or maybe a Town likes having the regulations on bigger units.
- Justin- Tabled until the November 5 meeting; would like to read more about it. Not sure if there would even be any benefits to opting in.
- **Youth representative discussion-** Brooks recommends Jacob Beauregard, as he is responsible and respectful, and would make a great youth rep. Brooks would like to offer the position to Jacob, and he is willing to take it. Lisa will let him know when the meetings are, knowing that he may not be able to join all of them due to school or prior commitments.

Town Clerk concerns-

- **Pickleball discussion-** John Ho has been leading the pickleball group at the Town Hall. He says that the number of participants is rising, and they would like to have more sessions during the week. John collects a \$3 fee from non-Franklin residents, and brings that money to the office. This is considered Town Hall rent, which goes towards electric bills, water, heat, upkeep, etc.
- John is asking if the rent money can go towards purchasing pickleball equipment, such as balls and a net. A new net would cost about \$60-80, and balls are about \$2 a piece. There is no need for a net quite yet, but just planning for the future.
- Justin/Mike made a motion to approve the spending of up to \$150 to put towards a replacement net and balls for pickleball. All member voted in favor; motion passed 4-0. John will let the office know when needs arise in the future.

Budget prep committee- Lisa asked the board if they would like to choose a few people to be on the budget prep committee, or just discuss it as a board. A committee would be good to have again, and Lisa will review who was on last year.

December meetings- 12/3 will be a regular SB meeting. 12/17 will be the holiday party and budget review. The holiday party is for Franklin board & committee members, and the budget review will take place during the regular SB meeting at the Town Hall at 6:00pm.

New Business

- **Town Hall gutter/facia discussion-** The gutter is not in good condition right now; the leaves get built up and is damaging the gutters, and has rotted the facia. Would need a contractor to look at the facia, and someone to determine if the gutters are able to be saved. When looking for quotes, they must include leave guards to prevent this from happening again.
- **Vehicle parked on sidewalk letter-** A resident sent in a complaint about a car parked partially in the sidewalk on Square Rd. Lisa sent a letter to them, and they have since moved the car. No action is needed now.
- **JL Masonry- chimney discussion-** Since the chimney is not used anymore, could the chimney be removed instead of being replaced? Would like to get other quote options from other contractors, JL Masonry quote seems very high.

Review bills for approval of warrants: Board reviewed bills and signed warrants.

Executive session:

- Mike/Justin made a motion to enter executive at 8:02 to discuss Water dept claim and highway applications.
- Brooks/Mike made a motion to exit executive session at 8:34. No action was taken for water claim discussion.
- Justin/Mike made a motion to hire Ryan Lagrow as a Town Highway employee with a 60-day probation period pending completion of a CDL, and one year to obtain his water operator license. All members voted in favor; motion passed 4-0.

Member concerns/Other business:

- Lisa - There was an application for the open janitor position, she will take to her.
- Justin - There was a speeding complaint made on Hanna Rd, will advise FCS to patrol.
- Jeremy asked about purchase of a leaf blower for around town; funds in budget for tools, approved.

Adjournment:

- Brooks/Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

Next meeting will be on November 5th, 2025 @ 6:00 pm at the Town Office and virtual.

Respectfully submitted,
Jordan Bushey, Assistant Town Clerk
October 16th, 2025

These minutes are not official until approved at the next regular Selectboard meeting.