

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, March 28, 2016

Present: Leslie Babb, Neal Boyle, Ernest Day, Jr. Selectmen; Karen Hatch, Town Adm.; Justin Brooks, Fire Chief; Josh Shackford, Police Chief; Scott Brooks, Road Agent; Heritage Commission Members Gale Morris and Peg Scully; and resident Bill Elliott.

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm, manifests were signed and mail was reviewed.

Babb mentioned an issue of a house lot in Mountview that was to close on Friday and due to the time restraints on the substitute Building Inspector a building permit had not been issued. Babb asked if the board wanted to do something so as not to have the town hold up the sale. After a brief discussion no action was taken by the board.

Facilities Custodian Mark McKinley met with the board regarding the upgrades to the Roller Shed. He was requesting to make a mid level purchase for this major purchase.

Day indicated that there was an inquiry regarding the moving of the siren to the Public Safety Building and put on display out front. The fire chief was not in favor of this and Scully spoke up stating that the grant they are trying to procure is for repairs without changing the existing structure.

Babb made a motion to approve McKinley's request (and anyone who sees the notice can submit a bid) at the mid level purchasing procedures. Day seconded, so voted.

Babb asked for public comment and Elliott shared that he had attending the Carroll County Commissions meeting earlier in the day and found it to be quite interesting.

Scott Brooks, Jr. submitted an invoice for the cleanup of town property at 50 Eaton Road and handed the keys back in.

Shackford gave his Police Department activity report. He also has a 1933-34 town report that he will drop off for the Town's archives.

J. Brooks stated that fire permits were currently required for any outside burning. He has not heard anything on the truck grant yet but our Congressmen and Senators had sent letters supporting the grant.

S. Brooks gave the board an update on the purchase of the new dump truck. He has been working with McDonald Motors and Irwin Auto. Brooks had supporting documents at the garage on the truck that was on the lot at Irwin's; McDonald was having a truck built. This was discussed later in the meeting after Brooks returned with paperwork.

Boyle indicated that he has gotten questions regarding through traffic once the work on Ossipee Lake Road commenced. There was a discussion of the possible closing of the road for 2 weeks when replacing the culver at Square Brook this would expedite the process by a few weeks if one lane traffic was allowed instead. Neither the Police or Fire Chief foresee a problem if the road is closed and the detours are clearly marked.

Next was discussion on the forestry truck and the highway truck being replaced. The board agreed to keep the truck as it was not worth trying to sell; trucks will be used between the Highway and Fire Departments.

Treasurer Jayne Britton met with the board to discuss the bond for road repairs voted for at Town Meeting. She is to contact local banks and the NH Municipal Bond Bank. It will be a 10 year bond with an annual payment of less than \$200,000. She will meet again next week with the board.

Babb made a motion to reappoint Robert Hatch for a 3 year term to Conservation; a one year term for Sue Hoople as FCC alternate and Ron Newbury to a 3 year term on the Forest Advisory Committee, seconded by Day, so voted.

Hatch pointed out that 2 additional members were needed for Conservation Commission as Mike Gaudette did not want to be reappointed and Bill Elliott resigned. She questioned if the board wanted to vote to revert back to a five member board or keep it at 7. They indicated that they wanted to try to fill the positions first.

The Road Agent returned with the pricing paperwork from Irwin for the new truck. There being only a small cost difference between having one built or one on the lot; Babb made a motion to have the Road Agent buy the truck on the lot at Irwin for \$47,902.00; so voted.

The board next reviewed health insurance pricing from ClaimLinx. After a brief discussion the board agreed to look into the company used by Tuftonboro and Moultonboro.

Clarification was given on the prices submitted to cleanup the property on Eaton Road. The board had agreed at the prior meeting to award the work to the lowest bidder if insured; if not then they would award to the next lowest bidder which was G. W. Brooks. Being no insurance, G. W. Brooks did the work.

Boyle asked the board if they would like to hold a Selectmen's meeting at the school as in past years. The board agreed and Boyle will pursue this.

Boyle also questioned his voting rights as a Selectmen's Rep on the Forest Advisory meeting and the joint meeting with Conservation Commission. Babb found in the Stewardship plan that he had the same voting rights as a regular meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hatch
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Leslie R. Babb

Neal E. Boyle

Ernest F. Day, Jr.