

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, September 19, 2016

Present: Leslie Babb, Neal E. Boyle, Ernest Day, Jr. Selectmen; Karen Hatch, Town Adm.; Justin Brooks, Fire Chief/T.S. Manager; Police Chief Josh Shackford, Residents Laura Robinson and Bill Elliott.

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

Several comments were made about the meeting's agenda not being on the website & Hatch will look into.

Jim McElroy, Chairman of the Freedom Aquatic Invasive Species Committee met with the board to update them on the summer activity. He reported that there had been a significant infestation in Huckins and a limited herbicide treatment had been done on September 15th. Divers will be back the first week of October. There was also milfoil below the dam in the river and into Maine along with a spot in Ossipee that they have been notified about. We will be cost sharing with Effingham on treating the river. Babb stated that the Saco River Corridor Commission should also be notified in Maine. McElroy also reported on the success of the Lake Host Program and hopes that Nancy Johnson will do it again for us next year. Next McElroy reviewed the gift account status and remaining projected costs.

Babb asked for public comment and Robert Lau presented the board with a letter of objection of the proposed Pequawket Trail Bike Path from both him and his wife. Although not a direct abutter, he lives beyond where the path ends; they have concerns and believes that one is not needed. He is also aware of others on the road that are abutters and they don't want to see it either. Babb explained that Margie Amico and her committee have been asked to collect letters of support from all abutters; these have not yet been received. Lau asked if he needed to do anything further but stated he would get a list of those opposed.

Chief Shackford gave his update for the Police Department. He is having repeated complaints about speeding on Abenaki Drive; the board asked he put the speed trailer out there. He has also gotten many complaints regarding modified exhausts on pickup trucks; under RSA 266:59 you can't modify your exhaust. The department will now be stopping those pickups as they encounter them.

J. Brooks reported that the Transfer Station is now on the winter hour schedule and activity has been significantly reduced now that it is after Labor Day.

There is some concern of the ongoing drought. Currently it is Category 3 which is no burning brush. This could be heightened if there are not significant rains soon.

The board next reviewed Hatch's recommendation for the new assessing contract. Based on several factors such as price and Mr. Wood working within the town for the past 16

years; Day made a motion to award the contract to R. W. Wood & Associates; Boyle seconded, so voted.

The board next reviewed the bid specifications for the sale of Map 22 Lot 21. This is being offered to abutters first with a minimum bid of \$15,000 and stipulates that this lot be merged with theirs. If no bid meets these requirements then it will go out to bid to the general public.

Babb made a motion to enter non public session under RSA 91A:3 II(c) at 7:45pm returned to open session at 8:00pm.

By majority vote the board is authorizing the tax collector to start the procedure in the taking of Map 6 Lot 06-01 by tax deed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hatch
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Leslie R. Babb

Neal E. Boyle

Ernest F. Day, Jr.