

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, October 17, 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, Scott Brooks, Road Agent; Residents John Shipman and Bill Elliott.

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

The bid opening for Mountview Property Map 22 Lot 21 was held. One bid was received from Christopher Mulcahy for \$15,000.00. After a brief discussion, Day made a motion to accept Mulcahy's bid for Map 22 Lot 21 for \$15,000.00; seconded by Babb so voted.

Planning Board Chairman Anne Cunningham and Conservation Commission Chairman Paul Elie approached the board with two petitions asking the board to sign. Cunningham reviewed these items. One was to the Ossipee Zoning Board of Adjustment asking them to look at the approval of their Planning Board's decision of the Westward Shores Expansion. They are in violation of their own subdivision regulations and have ignored their own floodplain ordinance as well. Both Babb and Day in the best interest for the town agreed to sign. Boyle is still opposed to being involved in other town's business.

Under the advice of Town Council there would also be an appeal filed with Superior Court, this would then be stayed. This gives the option for the town to pursue this further if their ZBA is in agreement with the Planning Board. It was also noted that this petition also covers the evacuation plan which has not been addressed prior to Ossipee's approval. This document was also signed by just Babb and Day. Cunningham will hand deliver to Ossipee.

Babb asked for public comment and Scott Cunningham wanted to point out that when storms come from the east this would impact Ossipee landowners as well.

John Shipman questioned Boyle as to why if they are elected to look out for the benefit of our town was he not in agreement to protect it. As discussion ensued Babb intervened and stated that this was for "public comment" not question and answer.

Paul Elie wanted to point out that the Ossipee development could also affect our aquifer.

Chief Shackford gave his department head update of the usual traffic stops etc. including a burglary at Bobby Sues. The county has been awarded a \$29,000 grant and there will be a search and seizure training for apprehending those with drugs. Shackford also reported on an update on the new procedures with the court which will expedite the process.

J. Brooks reported that they were to be installing the cylinder in the transfer station compactor on Wednesday. He would then do a budget review to see what amount to request from the Trustees of Trust Funds. As far as with the Fire Department they have found out why they were not awarded the grant, one being they were not awarding many new vehicle grants and our Engine 2 doesn't respond on enough calls to meet their requirements. The rescue vehicle is 15 years old and they are going to pursue a grant for that as it is used daily.

Brooks stated that he will be asking the Selectmen that in March there be a warrant article replacing Engine 7. This truck has had severe electrical issues and has caught fire several times. He said that it has become a liability to the firefighter's safety. He will get pricing to them.

S. Brooks stated that they are going to try to lay pavement on Ossipee Lake and Bennett Roads this week depending on rainy weather. Winter sand is now all set.

Hatch asked the board if a veteran owning Map 20 Lot 7, who had been receiving the exemption for 16 years, needed to be contacted to re review his DD214. During the DRA's review they did not see if he had a qualifying medal. The board felt that after all this time they would continue to grant him the exemption as they didn't want to take something away from a veteran.

Roberta MacCarthy has asked to be appointed to fill in the vacancy left by her late husband as Treasurer/Secretary to the Ossipee Lake Dam Authority. Boyle would like to see an appointment but then have an actual vote later on. Babb made a motion to appoint Roberta MacCarthy; seconded by Day; so voted. A meeting of the Ossipee Lake Dam Authority will be set up next October.

Reminder that there is a public officials meeting next week at 5:30pm

Paul Olzerowicz inquired about the road bond and Brooks reported that the project is under budget however, there was still the cost of paving.

Olzerowicz asked if the board has ever considered having a budget committee. The board felt that one was not needed and everyone worked together well and in the best interest of the taxpayers. Elliott also stated that he didn't believe one was needed.

Elliott also wanted to thank the board for signing the Ossipee letter tonight.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hatch
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Leslie R. Babb

Neal E. Boyle

Ernest F. Day, Jr.