

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, October 28, 2013

Present: Neal Boyle, Leslie R. Babb, Ernest Day, Jr., Selectmen; Road Agent Scott Brooks; Justin Brooks, Fire Chief; Karen Hatch, Town Administrator; Scott Cunningham and Sylvia Carney.

Meeting opened at 6:30pm. Manifests were signed and general mail was reviewed.

Mark McKinley met with the board about various town hall items. There was discussion about the large difference between the two prices for painting the town hall upstairs ceiling area that was recently replastered along with which application would be better. Babb suggests that it wait until next year; fix the chimney and the portion of the damaged ceiling around it and then paint the entire ceiling. McKinley was not sure about leaving the plaster unsealed so he will check with the plasterer and get back to the board next week.

McKinley next provided options for the downstairs windows at Town Hall. Prices varied from a hundred dollars for plastic to \$3,400 for window replacement. There was more discussion on the window replacement and that the citizens had not been in favor of this before because it would change the look of the outside of the building. It appears that these windows can be made to look the same as what we have. Carney thinks that people would have a different opinion if they looked the same.

McKinley will have Granite State Glass bring in a window sample next week.

The board next met with CarePlus Ambulance Service about our contract coverage. For CarePlus were Scott Quilty Director of Communications and North Conway Operations and Mitch Gove North Conway Operations Manager. Also in attendance were Tamworth Selectmen Steve Gray; Madison Selectman Mike Brooks and their Town Administrator Melissa Arias; Mike Brownell Fire Chief Center Ossipee precinct.

Owner Eric Damon was unable to attend the meeting. He had notified the towns via email of the way they would be providing coverage now that they were also providing interim service to the Town of Ossipee. He also had stated that there would be no change in our coverage.

Several questions were asked by the various Selectmen and CarePlus explained the current placement and staffing of each ambulance (truck). They have 9 trucks total in the area and currently they are rotating each one down to Merrimack for annual maintenance and repair.

They also explained that they are maneuvering trucks differently now that they have another base. Chief Brooks had a concern with call volume now that they are covering Ossipee and Gove explained their practice in reviewing volume and making adjustments.

Brownell spoke on the bids just opened earlier that day in Ossipee and the high prices. Babb did state that he feels we are better off as towns to work together and keep an open mind to potentially continue to keep costs down.

Boyle asked for public comment and Frank Almedia approached the board about a town employee. He was asked to get on a future Selectmen's agenda for a non public meeting as personnel issues are not heard in public session.

Although most department heads had reported at the Public Officials Meeting held earlier the Fire chief did bring up about his budget and if the Selectmen wanted to take monies out of his capital reserve fund.

Babb asked that this be addressed next week as they had just received an updated budget report.

Administrative Assistant Linda Farinella joined the meeting to take the non public minutes. Boyle made a motion to enter non public under 91-A:II(a) at 7:25pm. Returned to open session at 7:49pm and meeting was adjourned.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Neal E. Boyle

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.