

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, December 9, 2013

Present: Neal Boyle, Leslie Babb, Ernest Day, Jr., Selectmen; Road Agent Scott Brooks; Karen Hatch, Town Administrator and several citizens.

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

The board signed a request to the Trustee of Trust Funds for various withdrawals from capital reserve funds.

Members currently on the Milfoil Committee are Robert Oram, Jim McElroy and Bill Elliott who were in attendance.

Boyle stated that the Milfoil Committee needed to be established and town council has indicated that the Board of Selectmen can do this or a vote at Town meeting. Babb indicated that he felt where the work on this had been going on for several years that the Selectmen should establish the committee, Day agreed.

There was discussion about other aquatic invasive species and currently McElroy stated that this committee has been called the Freedom Aquatic Invasive Species Committee. McElroy also asked of there would be other responsibilities such as water quality testing. The board agreed that it would just be for õmilfoilö.

The board agreed that it would be a five member committee. Babb asked the board if he could work with McElroy to set up the tasks and responsibilities of the committee and report back in a few weeks. Boyle made a motion to have Babb work with McElroy, seconded by Day.

Boyle asked for public comment and Elliott brought up the November 25th Selectmen's minutes and wording that was used by Rob Hatch. He felt the wording was too strong. It was explained by Babb that it was Hatch had said and went on to explain that the issue of too many members voting was a valid one. Alternate members are not to vote unless they are filling a position that is vacant by a regular member.

Boyle asked the road agent for an update and Brooks reported they were into the winter season and there was plenty of sand and salt. He also stated that residents are welcome to sand only for personal use.

Library Trustees Laura Robinson, Tom Luke and Librarian Elizabeth Rhymer met with the board to review the 2014 budget. Robinson reviewed the ongoing programs offered at the library. The patronage has stayed about the same but due to new software was unable to provide the usual figures. Along with asking for \$70,165.00 they would like to put \$2,100.00 in their Capital Trust Fund.

Anne Cunningham Chairman of the Planning Board was present to review her 2014 budget. She has reduced the regular budget by \$50.00. She did pass out a Capital Improvement Plan worksheet and inquired whether they should continue to update this.

It was noted that no buildings were on the plan. Boyle asked about reviewing and discussing again.

Cunningham also spoke on planning for the update to the Master Plan. Day and Babb feel it is important to move forward with the update. Day made a motion for her to come back with budget numbers for this, Babb agreed, Boyle was against.

Sarah Owen Tabor was present because she was aware of a discussion on plowing the small fire station which she is an abutter.

Brooks had drafted a letter for the board to review regarding the plowing of the station, the dry hydrants that are next to her driveway and plowing the driveway so she access to her house which she is now living in full time.

Babb stated that due to public safety concerns and having those hydrants clear, he is in favor of the proposal. The board agreed and signed the letter. Tabor thanked the board for the offer and she will meet with Brooks onsite to review.

Again there was more discussion on the cell tower site, the clean up and the repeater. Babb had made email contact to Buggeln but had not heard back.

Discussed next was the office closings over the holiday week. The office will be closed Tuesday the 24th and Wednesday the 25th. The building department has already decided they will be closed on Thursday the 26th.

Boyle made a motion to enter non public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(a) at 8:24pm.

Returned to open session at 9:02pm and meeting was adjourned.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Neal E. Boyle

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.