

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, November 20, 2017

Present: Leslie R. Babb, Neal E. Boyle, Ernest F. Day, Jr., Selectmen; Fire Chief Justin Brooks; Police Chief Josh Shackford; CC Chairman Paul Elie; Karen Hatch, Town Adm.; Joyce Watson, Bill Elliott, Arlene Knight and Larry Claveau.

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

Babb asked for public comment and Joyce Watson a Director of the Lakeview Cemetery Association stated that they wanted to submit another petition for the town warrant. This is not for the roadways but general maintenance. She explained about fund raisers that had been held over the year. She asked if there had been any changes to the process, which there were none.

Watson also inquired about the hearing next week and where this building was not handicapped accessible what happens. Babb explained that the hearing would get moved.

Claveau questioned the water on the roadway at the intersection of Elm Street and Old Portland Road; it has been freezing and is this normal. There was a brief discussion regarding this being an ongoing issue with the state trying to divert the runoff. These are state roads and they are salting the areas when necessary.

Chief Shackford had not run the numbers for the week but did report of a hit and run with a deer in front of the school that he and Chief Brooks had cleaned up.

Chief Brooks stated that he had not been in since the storm event and his frustration with Eversource picking and choosing what they repaired when there was infrastructure down. It was reported that the water precinct had gotten down to about a third capacity of their water holding tank before regaining power. There was discussion about the precinct being able to hookup a generator where as the town's emergency shelter was on that water supply. Babb questioned if there might be a grant available for this.

Brooks also inquired about housing the military 4x4 when the newer truck from the state is delivered. It was determined that there would be room to house it in the roller shed. As for the new fire engine, he expected delivery in late February. He also stated that the call volume was the same.

Brooks reported that demo was up at the Transfer Station due to residents preparing for winter.

The board next reviewed the police budget as presented by the Chief. The biggest change would be to the retirement as there was going to be a spike. He would like to see an increase for the part time officers. Next the Chief reviewed the state bid for new vehicles and the board agreed to a warrant article for a 4 wheel drive pickup. There was a brief

discussion on an article for a radar sign. He would also like to put money into the radar trailer that the town currently owns.

Chief Brooks presented the budgets for the Transfer Station and the Fire and Rescue Departments. There are no significant changes to either. Kevin Well will be in with the budget for the Emergency Management.

Brooks did report and they have received the new air pacs for the department. He also stated that they have been approved for a 2018 50/50 forestry grant.

Whereas the Road Agent was not present Hatch reported that there had been an oil leak at the town garage that had been reported to the insurance company and a call made to DES. Due to the small amount of oil it did not need to be reported to the state.

Babb reported on filling in as the Zoning Officer. He believes that things are now caught up and due to the continued volume of applicants he would like to post the position, hire and then work with them for a few months. The board agreed and he will forward a draft job description.

Babb made a motion to enter non public session at 7:44pm under RSA 91-A:3 II(a) with Chief Brooks. Returned to open session at 7:46pm. Returned to non public session under (e) at 7:47pm and back to open session at 7:53pm. Hatch left the meeting and the board returned to non public at 7:54pm under (a). Returned to public session at 8:20pm and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hatch
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Leslie R. Babb

Neal E. Boyle

Ernest F. Day, Jr.