

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, January 8, 2018

Present: Leslie R. Babb, Neal E. Boyle, Ernest F. Day, Jr., Selectmen; Fire Chief Justin Brooks; Police Chief Josh Shackford; Karen Hatch, Town Adm.; Scott Brooks, Road Agent; Ron Newbury, FAC Chairman; Bill Elliott, Arlene Knight and Larry Claveau.

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

Chief Brooks reviewed with the board the sale of engine 7. He inquired about the procedure of selling such as through a bill of sale. He has an interested party coming on Thursday from Erie, PA. Babb with contact the town attorney regarding the necessary paperwork.

Brooks also review his 2017 remaining budget and his proposed 2018 budget. He was asking to encumber \$5,000 to outfit compartments for the new truck coming and \$5,000 out of dry hydrants for the fire pond off Swett Hill. With these monies he could keep his proposed 2018 budget flat.

It was noted that proposing keno does not apply as there is no establishment that serves alcohol.

There was no public comment and Chief Brooks gave his weekly update. He reported that mutual aid has been slow and with this cold weather that was great. He has also been monitoring all his equipment at the Transfer Station during the cold to ensure it runs properly.

There was discussion about keeping engine 7 until the weather danger is past. No one wants to compromise the residents or taxpayers if the need arises.

Chief Shackford reported that they have been quiet as well. He did inquire about the amount of Capital Reserve Fund that would be used for the purchase of the new cruiser which will be \$10,000.00

S. Brooks asked about replacing the oldest one ton. The 2010 would pass to the fire department and the 2006 would go out to bid. He is proposing to use the aluminum chassis currently on the 2010. He will confirm numbers which will include a sander and plow gear. \$30,000 will be used from Capital Reserve Fund. It was noted that the next large purchase was not until 2023.

Ron Newbury Chairman of the Forest Advisory Committee met with the board to review an invoice from Barry Keith the forester and see if payment could be made without waiting for the FCC meeting as payment was due. This is for the stewardship update and has gone over the contract price. Babb explained that this still needed to be reviewed by the Conservation Commission and if they vote to pay the overage where the funds would come from. The board voiced they were not in favor of paying over the contact amount. Newbury will attend the FCC meeting. Newbury also noted that the new contract was in and there was a rate increase. This will be reviewed at that time also.

Babb made a motion to encumber the following:

Conservation ó Town Forest Forester	\$ 2,500.00
Fire Dept. ó Pumper Truck	100,000.00
Highway Dept. ó Gravel Crushing	15,055.00
Hot Top	68,000.00
Crack/Sealing	14,000.00
Swett Hill Culvert	53,754.00
Fire Dept. ó Dry Hydrant	5,000.00
New Truck Equipment	<u>5,000.00</u>
for a total of	\$263,309.00

Day seconded; so voted.

Babb made a motion to re encumber the following;

Planning Board ó Master Plan	2,355.00
Conservation ó Town Forest Stewardship Plan update	4,875.00
Town Forester	4,492.00
Danforth Bay Bridge	<u>11,809.00</u>
for a total of	\$23,531.00

Day seconded; so voted.

The office will be closed next Monday for the holiday but the Selectmen will be having their weekly meeting.

S. Brooks was asked if he had gotten a cost update on the bridge from Bergeron; it was decided that Brooks and Day would make a trip to their office to try to speed this process along.

Babb made a motion at 7:57pm to enter non public session under RSA 91-A:3 (II(a)). Hatch left the meeting at 8:33pm; the board returned to open session at 9:03pm and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hatch
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Leslie R. Babb

Neal E. Boyle

Ernest F. Day, Jr.