

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, December 11, 2017

Present: Leslie R. Babb, Neal E. Boyle, Ernest F. Day, Jr., Selectmen; Fire Chief Justin Brooks; Police Chief Josh Shackford; Patrolman Jon Evans; Karen Hatch, Town Adm. Road Agent Scott Brooks; Laura Robinson, Bill Elliott and Larry Claveau.

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

Dave Charrette Trail Administrator/Master for the Scrub Oak Scramblers Snowmobile Club met with the board asking for renew trail permission on town properties. The board agreed and signed the approval for another five years.

Babb asked for public comment and Bill Elliott stated that the tree in the square and the gazebo (bandstand) lights looked nice.

Chief Shackford gave his department update which included several car vs deer; car vs coyote; accident on Moulton Road, juvenile issue along with the usual alarms and safety checks.

Shackford had received a quote from TMD to refurbish the radar trailer for \$1,950.00 which could be encumbered for this year's budget. They can pick up this week.

Shackford shared a very nice thank you note from the kids that had been stranded this summer at Camp Cody.

Shackford announced that Evans was retiring and today was his last day. He went on to explain the passion that Evans has for the job and how much he was appreciated. The Selectmen presented him with a certificate of appreciation and Shackford presented him a retired Sergeant's Badge. A round of applause was given.

Fire Chief Brooks reported that someone has looked at the possible purchasing of engine 7. It appears that the new truck will be in at the end of February. Brooks reported that along with regular calls they have now reported to several chimney fires. He also reported that the air pacs are in service on the trucks. Brooks also shared that there was a dumpster fire at the Transfer Station and he was not certain what started it; there was no damage to the dumpster.

The road agent report all was good and are now in winter mode.

Library Trustees Laura Robinson and Chuck Brooks along with Librarian Elizabeth Rhymer met with the board to review their 2018 budget proposal.

Brooks did give a brief overview of the past year with the addition of a book drop now at the school; the success of the adult entertainment program; hiring of a part time librarian

assistant and a thank you to all the volunteers including the Mountain Garden Club and the Friends of the Library.

Robinson spoke about the request from the Library to have monies taken from the Trust to pay for an air exchange system and some outside tree work. Day made a motion to expend \$6730.55 from the Library Building and Maintenance Trust Fund, seconded by Boyle so voted. Robinson also reported that the library would have to be finding a treasurer in March as she was retiring.

Chief Shackford brought up the radar unit/trailer again to see what the board wanted to do moving forward. The board decided to just use the radar trailer for another year before purchasing a radar unit to mount. There is still the one that was purchased earlier that will be put on town roads and if necessary can be placed on the state road without the messaging that the state does not allow.

Hatch asked when the board would be meeting as Christmas fell on a Monday. The board will meet on Wednesday the 27th at 3pm for their weekly meeting.

Also discussed was the date for the deliberative portion of town meeting. After a brief discussion and a voice vote of the audience, the board agreed to hold it the same as voting day on Tuesday the 13th. The Budget Hearing will be held on Monday February 12th.

Babb made a motion to enter non public session at 7:47pm under RSA 91-A:3 II(a). Returned to open session at 8:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hatch
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Leslie R. Babb

Neal E. Boyle

Ernest F. Day, Jr.