

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, May 21, 2018

Present: Leslie R. Babb, Ernest F. Day, Jr., Alan G. Fall, Selectmen; Fire Chief Rob Cunio; Police Chief Josh Shackford; Karen Hatch, Town Adm.; Scott Brooks, Road Agent; Linda Habib and Bill Elliott

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

Peg Scully President of the Heritage Commission presented to the board the NH Preservation Achievement Award that they had received May 9th from the NH Preservation Alliance. This was for the restoration of the roller shed. Mark McKinley and Mike Gaudette both received certificates for their participation in the project. Fall thanked Scully for all her work and efforts with the state register. Scully did ask that possibly the shed now be cleaned out.

Babb asked for public comment and Habib asked for background regarding the award and roller shed which Fall explained.

Habif also commented on the proposed office hour change. She thought maybe there should be evening hours as well. She also thought the Tax Collector should be more available. It was explained that she is an elected official and set her own hours.

Chief Shackford gave his department update and encouraged people to attend the AARP speaker that the library was having on Wednesday at 7pm. This will cover the most recent scams and frauds that everyone should be aware of. He felt it would be most beneficial.

Chief Cunio gave his update and also reported that the Fishing Derby on Sunday was a success with more kids this year. He believes that moving to a different day to not conflict with baseball, helped with attendance. He also gave an update on vehicle repairs. He did note that they are currently not issuing burn permits due to the fire danger.

Brooks reported the ongoing ditching and raking which will be another 2-3 weeks.

Next was a review of RSA 31:105 Indemnification for Damages. Fall had learned about this at a recent class and felt it was important that the board adopt if there was ever a negligent claim brought against officials or employees. It was uncertain if a prior board had adopted and so Fall made the motion to adopt RSA 31:105, Day seconded, voted yes unanimously.

Janice Zecher and Bonnie Elie had joined the meeting and were present for the review of the proposed change in office hours. Hatch made a presentation for not changing the hours citing many reasons. Zecher spoke on putting the property cards online and the time savings that would be. She indicated that could be discussed at a future time as there is a cost involved.

After much discussion Day made a motion that Hatch's hours would be 7:30am until 2:30pm and the office hours covered by Zecher would be from 8am until 4pm. Fall seconded. Babb wanted to review effective dates and the trial period. The board agreed the new hours would be effective beginning June 4th through August 31st at which time the board will review the need for any change. The change in hours was voted yes unanimously.

Fall shared with the board an agreement he had been working on with Joyce Fall one of Lakeview Cemetery's directors. Under the RSA there has to be a written agreement even though it was the intent of the cemetery association to provide burial space. The Association will review the proposed agreement at their next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hatch
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Alan G. Fall