

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, January 27, 2020**

Present were Selectmen Leslie Babb, Ernest Day, Jr., and Alan Fall, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Office. Also, in attendance were Josh Sandahl, Scott Brooks, Jim and Denise MacDonald, Scott Lees, Rob Cunio, Don Johnson, Josh Shackford, Justin Brooks, Bill Elliott, Rick Davidson, John Shipman, Ann Babb, Sandy and Neal Boyle, and Cindy Fleming.

Chairman Babb called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Don Johnson, Moderator, reviewed the upcoming election on 2/11/2020 stating polls open at 8:00 am and close at 7:00 pm. Selectmen attendance is requested. Day agreed to stay for the duration while Babb and Fall will split the day to maintain presence of a quorum. Johnson requested Day act as a greeter directing voters to the Supervisors of the Checklist. Mark McKinley will be asked to setup for elections as well as for the Budget Hearing upstairs on 2/10/2020.

Babb made a motion to request a withdrawal from the Town Hall and Office Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$1,990.15 for the reimbursement of expenses paid to NAE Automation and Rockingham Electric for the Town Office lighting retrofit. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Public Comment:

John Shipman, Freedom Historical Society, thanked the Board for their past support of their petitioned Warrant Article for records preservation in the amount of \$2,000. Shipman stated the request will be the same this year.

Shipman then discussed the increasing cost of telephone and cable service and questioned when the Town's contract with Spectrum is due for renegotiation. White will provide the date of the contract expiration to Shipman.

Department Head Reporting:

Police Department – Chief Josh Shackford reported it was a quiet week.

Highway Department – Scott Brooks reported all is fine.

Transfer Station – Justin Brooks informed the Board that he received the activity report for the year and it is very similar to 2018.

Town Office – Ellen White reported the 1099's will be issued this week and she has been working on compiling reports for the Town Report and updating the budget and Town Warrant.

Fire Department - Chief Rob Cunio reported three mutual aid calls, two motor vehicle accidents, a lift assist, two fire alarm activations, and a snowmobile fire. The request for grant reimbursement has been submitted to the State and should be incoming. The Department will be doing ladder testing on Wednesday and January has been a busy month. Cunio will be making a decision on the fishing derby tomorrow and if it is canceled, it will not be rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts with the Winni

Derby the following weekend and a snowmobile race in two weeks. The ice house raffle will still be drawn on Saturday.

Agenda Items:

Ann Babb, Tax Collector – Babb requested a date for tax deeding eligible properties. The Selectmen agreed on 7/13/2020. Babb provided a list of properties currently eligible for tax deeding.

Rick Davidson – Committee on the Aging – Davidson along with several members of the Committee were present to discuss the need of a Senior Resource Coordinator and to request consideration for funding in 2020 to include the hiring of a new employee to fulfill the needs of the senior community. Discussion took place on the weaknesses of the position last year resulting in its failure. Day spoke positively of the support received at Town Meeting. Fall stated his disappointment with the length of time it took to get the position rolling and stated the appropriate person should be experienced and not act as a case worker. Further discussion ensued. The Selectmen agreed to put a Warrant Article on the Town Warrant for funding in 2020.

Day made a motion to accept grant funds from the NH DES in the amount of \$18,603 for milfoil treatment and to appoint the Chairman to sign and initial the grant agreement. Fall seconded. Babb abstained. The motion passed by majority.

The contract for services to be provided by Solitude Lake Management for herbicide treatment was presented for review. Babb questioned whether the contract can be signed without Town Meeting approval of the Warrant Article to fund the services. This item will be tabled.

Scott Lees, ZBA Chairman – Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:27 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (l) for a legal matter. Fall seconded. Roll call vote was taken:

Babb	Yes
Fall	Yes
Day	Yes

Fall made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:46 PM. Babb seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Josh Sandahl – Fall made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:48 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) for a personnel matter. Babb seconded. Roll call vote was taken:

Babb	Yes
Fall	Yes
Day	Yes

Babb made a motion to reconvene public session at 8:15 PM. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Other Business:

White provided an updated overview of the proposed budget and Warrant Articles. Discussion took place on offset funds to be used on various articles.

An invoice for drainage repairs completed by the Highway Department at 100 Burnham Road was presented for review. Fall stated that a letter acknowledging the revocation of the Driveway Permit should be included with the invoice.

White requested information for the recipient of the Town Report Dedication.

Brief discussion took place on the Boston Post Cane. White reported that the replica has been received and the office is in the process of having it engraved.

Consent Agenda:

<u>Item Description:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting 1/13/2020	Approved
Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting 1/21/2020	Approved
Minutes – Non-Public Session 1/21/2020	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest week ending 1/15/2020	Approved
Payroll Manifest week ending 1/15/2020	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest week ending 1/22/2020	Approved
Payroll Manifest week ending 1/22/2020	Approved
Abatement – Map 24, Lot 7, Sub 1, 131 Haverhill Street	Approved
Supplemental Property Tax Warrant – Map 24, Lot 7, Sub 1, 131 Haverhill Street	Approved

Correspondence Received:

Letter – Anne Cunningham in reference to Senior Resource Coordinator	Reviewed
Letter – Gibson Center for Senior Services, Inc., Acknowledgement of MWV Age Friendly Community	Reviewed
Public Notice - Invitation to Bid on 2 Dumpsters	Reviewed
Public Notice – Request for Qualifications Bridge Construction Admin Svcs.	Reviewed
Tax Deeded Property List	Reviewed
Email from Effingham Selectmen in reference to ambulance service provider	Reviewed

Being no further input, Babb made a motion to adjourn. Day seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen White
Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Alan G. Fall