

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, March 23, 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 Hall. Road Agent Scott Brooks arrived at 7:02 PM.

Selectman Day called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Review of Red Folder, Accounts Payable and Payroll Manifests

Discussion:

Babb suggested holding off on funding the highway-related articles except for the Danforth Bridge project due to the loss of Room & Meals Tax revenue and Highway Block Grant revenue. A review of Warrant Articles took place. Agreement by all to hold off on the funding of \$75,000 toward the winter sand storage building preconstruction and engineering costs, \$13,000 for Swett Hill Road reclamation and paving, and \$99,000 in road paving. Anticipated revenues were reviewed. The total for the Room and Meals Tax and Highway Block Grant is \$170,000. The total funding reduction discussed above will take care of the anticipated loss in revenue. If the revenue is received, the funding for the articles will be encumbered.

Babb stated he has been fielding calls from various departments questioning what to do due to the covid-19 virus. He has been advising Department Heads to do whatever makes them feel safe. The Board agreed to continue with business as usual until advised further from the Governor.

Bid Opening - 70 Moulton Road:

At 6:45 PM, Day announced the opening of the sealed bids received on the 70 Moulton Road property. Two bids received are as follows:

Martin Sholomith	\$15,000
Patty Cragin	\$37,601

Day made a motion to award the bid to Patty Cragin in the amount of \$37,601. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Discussion continued:

Day mentioned that Lee Fritz questioned if the Town Hall kitchen requires a food service license. The kitchen was investigated, and no license was found. White will check with Mark McKinley to see if he is aware of one.

Further discussion took place on a request received to close the Highway Department. It was determined to be unnecessary at this time. With only 4 employees in the department, social distancing is not an issue. Day suggested posting the Highway Garage with notices at each entry door closing the building to the public and direct inquiries to the Highway Department phone number.

