

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, May 11, 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 and was also available on the Zoom platform. Also, in attendance was Josh Shackford and Rob Cunio, Carol Stokes, Justin Brooks, Mary Steel, Daniel Brooks, Janice Zecher, Melissa Florio, Libby Priebe, Paul Elie, Terance (?), and an unknown caller via Zoom.

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

Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, Approval of Minutes

The accounts payable and payroll manifests were reviewed as well as the red folder containing correspondence.

Day made a motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting held on April 30, 2020 and May 4, 2020. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

The request for appointments to the Conservation Commission was brought back up for discussion. White stated the minutes from the Conservation Commission meeting that was held on April 21, 2020 have been included in the correspondence for review. Fall made a motion to rescind the previous appointments made for Robert Oram and Jeff Nicolls to three-year terms. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Fall made a motion to appoint Jeff Nicoll to a one-year term expiring in 2021 (replacing Frank Lalumire); Robert Oram as an alternate for a two-year term expiring in 2022; and Alice Custard, Sue Hoople and Paul Elie to three-year terms expiring in 2023. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Babb noted the resignation of Frank Lalumire was already accepted last week.

Public Input:

Bill Elliott commented on the article in the Conway Daily Sun regarding budget cuts the Selectmen have made stating it was very well done.

Melissa Florio announced the Freedom Beach Club will not be opening the beach at this time. The beach cleanup and dock installation are on hold with the current stay at home guidance in place.

Carol Stokes stated she spoke with Chief Shackford and Ellen White with her concerns about the speeding on Eaton Road. Stokes has witnessed traffic including heavy construction vehicles not observing the 35 MPH speed limit in both directions and requests the speed monitor sign be put up. Shackford responded that he will pull the sign out and as long as it is operational can have it up by the end of the week. Babb commented that he has also noticed Coleman Concrete trucks utilizing Ossipee Lake Road as a shortcut.

Paul Elie stated he missed the Conservation Commission appointments. The Board reviewed the reappointments made as recommended.

Department Head Reports:

Police Department - Police Chief Josh Shackford reported receiving the call from Carol Stokes with

the speeding complaint, several other calls with ongoing questions related to the pandemic, and drug arrests made. The new cruiser was picked up Friday and is now at Ossipee Mountain Electronics for equipment installation and could be ready as soon as the end of the month. Shackford requested a non-public session.

Transfer Station - Justin Brooks also requested a non-public session with the Board. The Transfer Station has been busy like it's July. There has been a lot of brush and he has been turning away truck loads from property cleanups as they do not have the capacity to handle heavy volumes of commercial disposal. Babb stated that they may have to review the regulations and amend if necessary. Brooks stated brush and pine needles are an issue as well. Brooks was asked to jot down some notes for further discussion next Monday.

Fire Department - Rob Cunio, Fire Chief, reported it to be "summer" busy as well with two medical calls, one mutual aid for a fire in West Ossipee, a smoke investigation, outside fire and no positive COVID-19 cases in Freedom. Cunio filled out a form for eligible businesses to receive PPE on behalf of the Transfer Station to get some additional protection for the employees.

The Governor issued some new wording on the campground opening guidance and it allows seasonal camping regardless of residency, and a transition into transient camping to NH residents only at 50% capacity or every other site. Danforth Bay Campground is enacting stricter guidelines than what is included in the emergency orders; the bathhouses and common areas are to remain closed as well as the pool. They will be doing a soft opening Wednesday for seasonal and this weekend for NH residents for transient campers. Wabanaki opened up on Thursday and there were several out-of-staters. Cunio stated he was not sure who is responsible for enforcement of emergency order guidelines. Babb stated that it is the Health Officer's responsibility for enforcement and guidance has been issued accordingly.

Day questioned if there is any update on the Danforth Bay Bridge. White responded that CMA is awaiting the final on the shop drawings then the precast will go into production with an approximate lead time of 21-days thereafter.

Cunio announced that he submitted the paperwork for the first responder stipend program which will enable payment of up to \$300/week. White stated that as soon as the payment is received from the State, payments will be issued to qualifying individuals through the payroll system with taxes withheld. The employer's

White stated that Freedom is eligible for up to \$37,444 in grant funds for COVID-19-related expense reimbursement per the guidelines issued by the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery.

Non-Public Sessions:

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:16 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) for a personnel matter. Day seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Babb-yes, Fall-yes, Day-yes. All in favor, the motion carried. Babb made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:22 PM. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:22 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c) for a matter which may affect the reputation of an individual. Day seconded. Roll call vote was taken:

Babb-yes, Fall-yes, Day-yes. All in favor, the motion carried. Babb made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:45 PM. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Babb made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session to protect the reputation of a person for a period of 3-years or until the court case has closed. Day seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Babb-yes, Day-yes, Fall-yes. All in favor, the motion carried.

White informed the Board of a scheduling update for the Selectmen's Office starting next week. Janice will be back working in the office Monday-Friday and Ellen will be there during regular office hours on Monday and Wednesday and on a flex schedule Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The office will remain closed to the public although accepting appointments as necessary.

Babb commented that he was also pleased with the article in the Conway Daily Sun.

Day noted that next week is the last meeting before the Memorial Day holiday.

White informed the Board that the Property Tax Warrant will not be ready for signatures until next week because the Assessor issued a letter requesting missing camper registrations by 5/15/2020. The new construction was picked up and data entered but there was no update on the amount of value picked up at this time.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes – Selectmen's Meeting 4/30/2020	Approved
Minutes – Non-Public Session 4/30/2020	Approved
Minutes – Selectmen's Meeting 5/4/2020	Approved
Minutes – Non-Public Session 5/4/2020	Approved
Payroll Manifest – week ending 5/6/2020	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 5/6/2020	Approved
A-5: Land Use Change Tax – Janvrin (West Danforth Rd., Map 33, Lot 8)	Approved
A-5W: Warrant for Land Use Change – ""	Approved

Correspondence:

Letter – Lifeflight Foundation – thanks for appropriation	Reviewed
First Responder COVID-19 Stipend FAQ's	Reviewed
Letter – DTC Lawyers – Notice of Summary and Verified Petition for Interpleader of Tax Sale Proceeds to be served...70 Moulton Rd.	Reviewed

Being no further input, Babb made a motion to adjourn. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen White
Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Alan G. Fall