

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, May 4, 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 Nancy Griffin, Janice Zecher, Kate Chaput, Rob Cunio, Mary Steel, Broy (?), Josh Shackford, Melissa Florio, Jack P., and an unnamed 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.

Babb stated there are payments available to full-time emergency personnel in the amount of \$300/week available. White will research this to find out more information. She stated that she attended a webinar offered by NH HSEM on public assistance funds through FEMA and will be attending another this week to go through the application process.

Zecher noted a problem with the video feed of the meeting. White restored the video feed and explained that the computer was moved closer to the Selectmen for better audio quality but it is not possible to view all in attendance due to seating distancing.

The Board received notification of Highway Block Grant funds from quarter 4. White stated that the State is on a fiscal year budget and there is the possibility that future funds may be reduced or not available.

Fall made a motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting held on April 27, 2020. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Agenda Items:

Old Home Week Committee Update – Committee member Nancy Griffin announced Kate Chaput Joanne Haley are also on Zoom for questions. Prior correspondence provided by email noticed the cancellation of Old Home Week activities due to the uncertainty of the pandemic and in an effort to not attract outsiders to the area. The Board was unanimously disappointed but agreed that it was a prudent decision made by the Committee. Griffin stated that the Committee will not be accepting the \$2,000 in funding raised this year. This amount will be returned to the General Fund and will be raised again next year. Chaput added that it was a sad decision to make but next year will be better than ever.

Public Input:

None presented.

Department Head Reports:

Rob Cunio, Fire Chief, reported a slow week consisting of 2 medical aid calls (1 Covid-19 precaution); 1 fire alarm activation, and no positive Covid-19 cases in Freedom. Cunio spoke with Tim at Danforth

Bay and they are closed now but may open later. There have been many questions about opening and will be seeking clarification before they make the decision to open. The Governor is to offer some revised wording within the next two days which should be helpful. In a conversation with Karl Ogren from Calumet, they are advising campers to stay home for a minimum of the next 3-4 weeks. The department is in good shape in terms of supplies and are anticipating more coming in from the State. The Transfer Station employees have been supplied with masks, gloves and sanitizer.

Police Chief Josh Shackford also reported it has been slow. Shackford questioned if there has been any decision on the other camps such as Cody, Robinhood? Babb responded that the State has not made a decision on opening yet. Cunio added that he has been unable to contact Wabanaki Campground to see what their plan is yet.

Shackford questioned if the Rubber Ducky Day is also cancelled. Griffin confirmed.

Babb stated that Governor announced today \$300 weekly payments for fire and police personnel. Cunio has received some information and will forward it.

White reported that she has been in contact with the auditors and is starting the process remotely.

White stated that the Church would like to use the Town Hall for curbside pickup of preordered meals on Wednesday, 5/20/2020 and questioned if the Board is okay with that? The Board agreed.

Agenda Items Continued:

COVID-19 Protocols - Update – Cunio provided the Board with a report from his inquiry to multiple State agencies which in summary is that there is no plan in place and will be dealt with when it happens.

Discussion:

The Board received a letter from Conservation Commission Chair Paul Eli outlining the members up for reappointment and the seats to be filled by new members Robert Oram and Jeff Nicoll, as well as requesting acknowledgement for the resignation of Frank Lumiere. The Board questioned if the letter is the intention of the Commission and if there are minutes to support the appointments. Day made a motion to accept the resignation of Frank Lumiere. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Babb stated that the appointments made for Oram and Nicoll last week were made for three-year terms. The seats available after those appointments are for a 1-year term, 3-year term, and alternate. Day requested a copy of the minutes and further clarification before appointments are made. Jeff Nicoll, present by Zoom, stated that Oram's interest was in the alternate position. Babb stated that they will clarify, and make changes if necessary.

Non-Public Session:

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:10 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 7:37 PM. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes – Selectmen's Meeting 4/27/2020	Approved
Minutes – Non-Public Session 4/27/2020	Approved
Payroll Manifest – week ending 4/29/2020	Approved

Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 4/29/2020	Approved
A-5: Land Use Change Tax – Nina Warren (Moulton Rd., M5, L43-02)	Approved
A-5W: Warrant for Land Use Change – “”	Approved
Timber Tax Levy – Mayhew (19-165-05) & Sketchley (19-165-12)	Approved
Timber Tax Levy – Piscitelli (19-165-13) & Nature Conservancy (19-165-16)	Approved
Vachon & Clukay & Company, PC – Memorandum of understanding for audit	Approved

Correspondence:

Email – Paul Elie, FCC Chair, Requests for member reappointment & resignation	Reviewed
Email – Old Home Week Committee Update on activities	Reviewed
Letter – DTC Lawyers – Interpleader filed for 70 Moulton Rd.	Reviewed
Shoreland Permit Application – Beaudet, 507 Huckins Rd. M28, L17	Reviewed
Payment receipt – State of NH Highway Block Grant Aid - Q4	Reviewed
Tax Payment Agreement – Payment received as agreed	Reviewed
State of NH BTLA – Notice of date of final tax bill mailing	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
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