

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, September 21, 2020**

Present were Selectmen Ernest Day, Jr., and Alan Fall, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. Selectman Leslie Babb was absent. Also present was Josh Shackford, Bill Elliott, Peter Park, Rob Cunio, Matt Tyler, and Justin Brooks. This meeting was held at the Town Office.

Selectman Day 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.

Fall made a motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting held on Monday, September 14, 2020. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Fall made a motion to approve the minutes of the Non-Public Sessions held on Monday, September 14, 2020. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Department Head Updates:

Police Department – Chief Josh Shackford reported problems with the internet and slow email transmittal. He will be reaching out to Dave Wells for assistance in troubleshooting since Spectrum has ruled out any issues on their end. Grand Jury resumes 10/5/2020 with a new jury panel to be set, the census work is due to complete on 9/30/2020, the Explorer went to McDonald Motors for warranty recall work, the switch over to get the MDT's up and running is awaiting internal licensing approval, and the new cruiser is hopefully going to Gemini Sign to be lettered in the near future. The radar trailer was picked up from Eaton Road for a battery recharge. A note was left thanking the Police Department for the sign stating it was very effective in reducing speed but then during the pickup Shackford was approached by a resident stating it does not work.

Fire Department – Chief Rob Cunio reported for two weeks of activity including 10 medical aid, no new Covid-19 cases, multi motorcycle accident, 1 service call and attendance to the Danforth Bay Firefighter Weekend Parade at which many mutual aid towns attended for a successful event. Forestry 1 is back in service and Forestry 3 is going for service and inspection on Wednesday. The Tahoe is scheduled to be lettered this week and the extrication tools have been ordered with an estimated delivery/in-service training date of 10/27/2020. Call volume is up 56 over last year. Discussion on fire ponds and the need to dredge and fill due to extremely dry conditions. Cunio will obtain some estimates to dredge and install dry hydrants for 2021 budget preparations. The Board was in favor of this.

Transfer Station – Supervisor Justin Brooks reported it is starting to slow down slightly. Winter hours will commence on Wednesday, 9/30/2020.

Shackford added that they patrolled the bridge for 6-hours monitoring heavy truck travel after safety concerns were posed last week. Fall reported that the contractors drove additional sheet piling and due to the unstable subgrade, truck traffic was ceased on Thursday.

Town Office – Town Administrator Ellen White announced the resignation of Rob Rand from his position in the Highway Department effective 9/29/2020. Fall made a motion to accept his resignation. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Day requested a letter of appreciation be sent to Rand. White reported the position has been advertised on the website, in the Conway Daily Sun and on NH Municipal Association’s website. She has also been working with the Department of Revenue reviewing forms in preparation for the setting of the tax rate once the new assessment values have been finalized.

Public Comment:

Welcome back to Bill Elliott? Elliott apologized for missing the past few meetings but expressed his appreciation for the fire/rescue personnel that came to his aid. Elliott questioned if there are size limitations for political signs noting that several on Ossipee Lake Road before Camp Calumet seem to be excessive. Discussion on sign regulations ensued.

Old/New Business:

Public Rights-of-Ways Regulations – this will be an ongoing topic. The Town of Chesterfield’s regulations were presented to the Board last week for review and future discussion.

Open Sealed Bids – Tax Deeded Property – Intervale Ave – Day announced the opening of two bids received for Map 22, Lot 9 on Intervale Avenue, an unbuildable lot with beach access to Ossipee Lake in Mount View Association. Minimum bid request is \$20,000 with a \$5,000 deposit.

Bid #1 – Diane Sylvia, \$13,000 with deposit check received in the amount of \$5,000

Bid #2 – Steve Kent, \$5,000 with deposit check received in the amount of \$5,000

Day stated neither met the minimum bid requirement of \$20,000 and the assessed value of the property is \$46,800. Fall made a motion to reject both bids. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Alvino Road – Day announced a request for bids was sent to the abutting property owners under the agreement that the parcel would be merged into their existing property. Minimum bid request is \$5,500 with a deposit of \$1,000.

Bid #1 – Bruce Guckert, \$10,000 with deposit check received in the amount of \$1,000.

Fall made a motion to accept the bid received. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Cunio asked for clarification on the amendments made to the Fireworks Ordinance in relation to what defines a special event. Fall discussed the intention of the allowance of a special event is to allow 4th of July celebrations outside of the 3-days allotted but by permit. Other event requests are at the discretion of the Police and Fire Chiefs for approval.

Fall discussed the census data collection process and stated that no assistance should be given to obtain residency information from Town Office staff since the information is available online. White responded that she spoke with a census worker last week and informed her of the same.

Fall updated on the Danforth Bridge project noting that the new borings were completed last week but soil sampling was unsuccessful due to very porous soil conditions. The boil detected is not a spring but rather a piping issue. The boring capacities originally calculated by HEB Engineers are much less than actual so CMA is trying to obtain the boring capacity calculations used by HEB. Day questioned if this will impact the completion date. Fall responded that more information on the two

options available to deal with the boil issue will be available by the end of the week or at Monday's bridge meeting, as of now there is no delay anticipated. Fall added that CMA has decided that it would not be in their best interest to become the engineer of record, understandably so. Peter Park questioned the completion date. Fall responded that it will be substantially complete the first week of November with question of whether pavement will be possible due to unpredictable weather conditions, but the bridge will reopen to some capacity by winter.

Park requested a non-public session to discuss a personnel issue he would like to bring to the Selectmen's attention.

Non-Public Sessions:

Fall made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:23 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) for a personnel matter. Day seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Fall-yes, Day-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Fall made a motion reconvene public session at 7:46 PM. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Discussion:

Brief discussion on a complaint received for a building being reconstructed without a permit. The complaint was looked into and was determined to be a rebuild within the original footprint and a permit was not required.

Discussion on Transfer Station regulations and mandatory receipt issuance for all transactions.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes – Selectmen's Meeting – 9/14/2020	Approved
Minutes – Non-Public Sessions – 9/14/2020	Approved
Payroll Manifest – week ending 9/16/2020	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 9/16/2020	Approved
Letter of Appreciation – Freedom Elementary School re: Primary Election	Approved
Letter of Appreciation – Calumet Lutheran Camp re: Primary Election	Approved

Correspondence:

Minutes – Planning Board Meeting – 9/17/2020	Reviewed
Minutes – Conservation Commission Meeting – 9/15/2020	Reviewed
Minutes – Danforth Bay Bridge Construction Meeting – 8/31/2020	Reviewed
Bulletin - 2020 NHMA Final Legislative Bulletin	Reviewed
Letter - A & D Klum Environmental, LLC – Visibility survey for a proposed telecommunications tower in Wakefield, NH	Reviewed
E-Mail – NH DES Drought Update	Reviewed
E-mail – CMA Engineers – Project Update	Reviewed
Letter – The Lifelight Foundation – Data Breach	Reviewed
Letter – NH Dept. of Revenue – 2018 Cyclical Monitoring Results	Reviewed
Letter – DTC Lawyers – Notice of Certified Record Filing (Worthen)	Reviewed
Facilities Update – 9/21/2020	Reviewed

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen White, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Alan G. Fall