

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, February 1, 2021**

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. Also present was Gary Williams, Rob Cunio, and Josh Shackford.

Chairman Babb called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Non-Public Session:

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 6:00 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (b) for hiring. Day seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Babb-yes, Day-yes, Fall-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Babb made a motion to reconvene public session at 6:42 PM. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

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 and Non-Public Session held on Monday, January 25, 2021 and Tuesday, January 26, 2021. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Department Head Updates:

Fire Department – Chief Rob Cunio reported call volume including 2 medical aid; 1 mutual aid for a fire-canceled; smoke investigation; and 5 positive Covid-19 cases in town. Round 2 of Covid-19 vaccinations will be administered on Wednesday for fire/rescue personnel. The fishing derby is on for 2/6/2020 with 10+” of ice reported on Loon Lake. Request to borrow a few tables for the derby, granted. Day questioned if a bill has been received from West Ossipee Fire for the coverage during the bridge closure. Cunio responded that he had not received one and stated there were only 5-6 calls during the period, but he will follow up with Chief Huddleston. Discussion on Eaton's fire service coverage contract. The contract amount will be increased to \$1,000 per call for a total of \$15,000 per year.

Police Department – Chief Josh Shackford reported a busy week including an early morning disturbance, abandoned vehicle, OHRV accident, snowmobiles on closed trails, routine motor vehicle stops, general patrols, missing person, and (2) registered sex offenders. Discussion on a new management company (High West Vacations) to take control over Purity Springs Resorts and Danforth Bay Campground while the Hoyt family will retain ownership of the properties and the need to contract any police details from here on out.

Public Input:

None presented.

Old / New Business/Discussion:

Fall presented a request on behalf of the Town Office Advisory Committee to withdraw an additional \$10,000 from the Municipal Land and Building Capital Reserve Fund to be used toward the engineering costs. The Committee has chosen to move forward with Bergeron Technical Services,

but they cannot begin until November 2022. The second-choice company was not much sooner. A 2023 Town Meeting proposal is anticipated allowing plenty of time for planning and public hearings on the matter. In preliminary discussions, the already allocated \$40,000 was less than needed. Babb made a motion to move forward with the requested Warrant Article. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

White questioned if all contents of the Ossipee Lake Road property are to be cleaned out or if items are to try to be salvaged. Discussion on the condition of the property and what could be salvaged. The Board agreed to have the companies quoting the work to proceed with a figure for a full cleanout.

The Senior Resource Coordinator has questioned if there is a town-owned property that could be used for a community garden space. The Board reviewed similar requests received in the past that have been denied and agreed to hold that decision.

Non-Public Sessions:

Not applicable.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting & Non-Public Sessions – 1/25/2021	Approved
Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting & Non-Public Sessions – 1/26/2021	Approved
Payroll Manifest – week ending 1/27/2021	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 1/27/2021	Approved
Application for Elderly Exemption	Approved
Timber Tax Levy – Map 12, Lot 7; Eaton Road	Approved
Intent to Cut Wood or Timber – Map 16, Lot 1-2, Hampton Lane	Approved
Requests for Abatement:	
Map 60, Lot 1-YAD18, 18 Adams Ave.	Approved
Map 60, Lot 1- YOW21, 21 Owls Head Road	Approved
Map 60, Lot 1-YLA20, Lafayette Street	Approved

Correspondence:

Minutes – Town Office Advisory Committee Meeting 1/26/2021	Reviewed
Petitioned Warrant Article – Freedom Historical Society	Reviewed
Receipt – State of NH – Q3 Highway Block Grant	Reviewed
Receipt – Tax Payment Received as Agreed	Reviewed
Receipt – Tax Payment Received as Agreed	Reviewed
Report – Town Office Advisory Committee	Reviewed
Report – Senior Resource Coordinator	Reviewed
Email – Dick Fortin re: Regional Ambulance Contract Call Volume Review	Reviewed
Decision rendered: Hold call volume adjustments until next year	
Email – Carolyn Stone re: Broken headstones in Towle Cemetery	Reviewed
Sample Employment Contracts	Reviewed
Letter – Matt Tyler re: Intentions	Reviewed

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen White, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Alan G. Fall