

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, May 10, 2021**

Present were Selectmen Leslie Babb, Ernest Day, Jr. and Melissa Florio, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Hall.

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

Also present was Bill Elliott, Rob Cunio, Alan Fall, Josh Shackford, and Justin Brooks.

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 Sessions held on 5/3/2021 as written. Florio seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Brief update on the Danforth Bay Bridge construction. White stated that she was able to get ahold of Ron Kleiner at NH DOT regarding the contract amendment and change orders submitted in late March and they have not been acted on but he will address them this week. Day reported that the paving is on schedule to be completed prior to Memorial Day. Brief discussion on concerns regarding drainage control that were expressed by abutting property owners that were addressed in a meeting with Scott Brooks and NE Earth. All present were able to come up with an agreeable solution.

The Highway Department help wanted ad has been advertised for a Laborer. No interest has been received at this time. Day suggested forwarding the information to the high schools for any interested seniors that may be good candidates.

Discussion on ZBA cases to be heard at the May meeting. White informed the Board that seven applications were received along with one request for late submittal due to a misunderstanding on the submittal deadline which was denied.

Department Head Updates:

Fire Department – Chief Rob Cunio reported 7 active cases of Covid-19 per dispatch while the State reports 1-4. Call volume included 1 medical aid and 2 fire alarm activations. The AED's arrived Friday and Cunio will arrange to have the boxes mounted. The units will be held aside until at least one person at each location receives training, a requirement of the State funds used to obtain the units. Cunio reported that it has been difficult getting ahold of the appropriate contact at the State Fire Marshall's office regarding standards for short-term rentals and whether they would fall into the same category as a dormitory or boarding house but he is awaiting an email response. If there is no specific category that would apply, they should be able to be regulated as a combination. Licensing short-term rentals appears to be a very common topic amongst other towns. Florio reported that Conway has issued cease and desist letters to property owners who have their properties listed as short-term rentals. Day stated that many are utilizing the property as a business rather than as family home.

Police Department – Chief Josh Shackford reported call volume including a juvenile assist, child custody, welfare check, domestic disturbance, multiple civil issues, theft of catalytic converter from a vehicle, speed check on Ossipee Lake Road around the 5 am hour during work commute, several

other speeding complaints.

Transfer Station – Supervisor Justin Brooks reported two additional loads of brush were hauled out from the Transfer Station as they prepare for the upcoming Memorial Day holiday weekend. Brooks offered his thanks to the Selectmen and staff for their support during his absence.

Town Office – Town Administrator Ellen White reported the Town Office reopened its doors to the public this morning and it was nice to see some walk-in visitors. The Town Clerk’s new office hours also commenced today; Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 11 am – 5pm and Wednesday 9 am – 5 pm. The Tax Warrant has been generated and is the folder for signatures tonight. Once signed, tax bills will be sent to the printer to be mailed out by the end of this week.

Old / New Business / Discussion:

Florio reported the roadside pickup went very well although she hoped for more children to participate. It was a nice day and those who participated were treated with an ice cream cone at Bobby Sues. The 1-ton pickup was filled and hauled to the Transfer Station. More attention is needed along Bennett Road and Ossipee Lake Road.

White announced the notice for the Public Hearing for the Masonic Lodge acquisition will be in the newspaper this week. The Public Hearings are scheduled for Monday, May 24 and Monday, June 7.

Public Input:

None presented.

Non-Public Session(s):

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 6:58 PM pursuant to RSA 91-a:3, II (a) for personnel. Day seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Day-yes, Babb-yes, Florio-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Babb made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:06 PM. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:06 PM pursuant to RSA 91-a:3, II (b) for hiring. Day seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Day-yes, Babb-yes, Florio-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Babb made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:12 PM. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:12 PM pursuant to RSA 91-a:3, II (a) for hiring. Day seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Day-yes, Babb-yes, Florio-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Babb made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:50 PM. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Discussion continued:

Day reported that he had the heat checked at the Masonic Lodge and the system is good and will last a long time. The only need for replacement would be if there is more heat needed. The electrical was also looked at and a panel replacement is recommended at an estimated cost of \$800-1,200. Brief discussion on information needed to prepare for the public hearing.

Florio questioned the disposal policy for demolition materials at the Transfer Station stating contractors are dumping in the wrong areas. Babb responded that the Transfer Station is for residential use only, not commercial.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting & Non-Public Sessions – 5/3/2021	Approved
Payroll Manifest – week ending 5/5/2021	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 5/5/2021	Approved
Request for Abatement – Sullivan, Monroe Road (Map 60, Lot 1-YMO03)	Approved
Property Tax Levy	Approved
Delegation of Deposit Authority	Approved
Investment Policy – Annual update requirement, no changes incorporated	Approved

Correspondence:

Minutes – Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting 4/27/2021	Reviewed
Letter – Carroll County Delegation – Public Hearing Notice/Schedule	Reviewed
Letter – Appointment to Office:	
Karrie Buttrick, Heritage Commission	Reviewed
Susan Hoople, Heritage Commission	Reviewed
Scott Cunningham, Heritage Commission	Reviewed
Help Wanted Advertisement – Highway Department Laborer	Reviewed
Letter- Greater Ossipee Area Chamber of Commerce – 2021 Advertising Contract	Reviewed
Receipt – Tax lien payment	Reviewed

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen White, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

_____	_____	_____
Leslie R. Babb	Ernest F. Day, Jr.	Melissa M. Florio