

**Town of Freedom  
Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, June 7, 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 6:00 PM.

Also, present was Jamie Mullen and family, Rich Laferriere, Rachel Sharples, Renee Wheaton, Mark & Nancy Bossi, Josh and Linda Shackford, Justin Brooks, Robert MacCarthy, Don Johnson, Rob Cunio, Pat McCoy, Linda Habif, Alan Fall, Melvin Fall, Beverly Mason, Velma Hormell, Jeff Nicoll, Scott Brooks, Joyce Watson, and several other unidentified.

**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 made a motion to appoint Road Agent Scott Brooks to the Lakes Region Planning Commission's Transportation Technical Advisory Committee. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Day made a motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting and Non-Public Sessions held on 5/24/2021, 5/26/2021, 6/1/2021 and 6/3/2021, and the Public Hearing held on 5/24/2021, as written. Florio seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

**Public Input:**

None presented.

**Old / New Business / Discussion:**

*Chief of Police Retirement* – Babb recognized and thanked Chief Josh Shackford for 23-years of service to the Town of Freedom and announced his retirement effective June 3, 2021.

*Appointment of New Police Chief and Swearing-In Ceremony* – Babb announced the promotion of James “Jamie” Mullen to Police Chief and introduced Moderator Don Johnson to perform the oath of office.

Mullen introduced new full-time Officer Rich Laferriere to those present. Babb also announced that Josh Shackford will be staying on with the department part-time.

*Award of Boston Post Cane* – Velma Hormell was presented with a proclamation and the Boston Post Cane as the oldest Freedom resident at 96-years young.

The meeting was recessed at 6:42 PM for social gathering and cake prior to the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:00 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 7:14 PM following the closing of the Public Hearing at 7:11 PM.

**Department Head Updates:**

Police Department – Chief Jamie Mullen reported the triathlon took place this past Saturday with no

incidents. Officer Laferriere started full-time on Sunday and is getting familiar with the layout of the town and standard operating procedures. Mullen reported actively working on closing out (4) felony cases. Florio reported receiving concerns on traffic not being able to get through during the triathlon and questioned if signage can be put up in advance. Mullen responded that signage was in place and added that Vinny Vaccaro can be contacted to address these concerns for future events.

Fire Department – Chief Rob Cunio reported call volume for the past two weeks including 1-4 cases on the Covid-19 list, 11 medical aid, 1 mutual aid-fire, cancelled. Call volume is 5 ahead of last year. Forestry II is back in service with a new carburetor. Forestry I had a bad motor in one hose reel and wiring on the second is questionable, both are being addressed. Rescue training with the Mule took place at the Trout Pond last week. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, an extrication training will take place on cars at the Transfer Station. Cunio reported hot weather conditions and reminded all to hydrate.

Transfer Station – Supervisor Justin Brooks reported activity has slowed down, demolition is down, and scrap iron recycling generated \$5,600 in revenue.

Highway Department – Road Agent Scott Brooks reported roads have been cleaned and graded around the lake; two road remain left to apply dust control. Durgin Hill is also complete. Work will continue onto Scarboro, Cold Brook, and vicinity.

Senior Resource Coordinator – Renee Wheaton reported a reduction in covid-related questions. Recent call volume consists of resources for transportation and how to assist neighbors. Social activities have been requested and are being planned with more people vaccinated and returning to normalcy. A recent wine tasting event resulted in 35 attendees. Wheaton is awaiting an update on the \$15k grant applied for through AARP in April for the community garden. With grant funding, a garden committee will need to be established quickly in order to expend the funds by November as required. Wheaton has also secured affiliation with Carroll County Regional Coordinating Council and Mount Washington Valley AARP Committees. Question as to whether the use of the 50 Eaton Road property has been formally approved. Babb, Day and Florio were all in favor.

Town Office – Town Administrator Ellen White reported a busy short week at the Town Office, many meetings for a non-meeting week were held, a lot of foot traffic into the office and phone calls received. The Town Clerk's office is busy with registrations, people are anxious to pay their tax bills. Stacy is actively working with the Zoning Officer to get information input into the building permit software and both are doing great in their positions.

**Non-Public Session(s):**

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:23 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 7:27 PM. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Babb made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:34 PM pursuant to RSA 91-a:3, II (e) for legal. Florio 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 8:10 PM. Day seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

**Discussion continued:**

Correspondence received from Attorney Ratigan regarding short-term rentals will be forwarded to

Selectmen Day and Florio. The topic will be on the Planning Board agenda for the July meeting.

Babb requested meetings be moved back to the Town Office starting 6/14/2021.

Day informed the other Board members of concerns received from another elected official on processes.

White reported the fight with Spectrum on the Transfer Station phone has come to an end. The number has been reassigned and a cell phone has been placed at the Transfer Station so they have means to communicate. Additionally, the Transfer Station Ordinance requires updates as the fee schedule is included and was not updated to reflect the new charge for mattresses and box springs.

**Consent Agenda:**

Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting & Non-Public Sessions – 5/24, 5/26, 6/1 & 6/3/2021	Approved
Minutes – Public Hearing: Land & Building Acquisition – 5/24/2021	Approved
Payroll Manifest – week ending 6/2/2021	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 6/2/2021	Approved
Supplemental Property Tax Warrant – Donna Stuart, Crapser Lane, Map 19, Lot 18	Approved

**Correspondence:**

Letter – Committee on Aging – In support of Sr. Resource Coordinator’s work	Reviewed
NH DNCR – Division of Pesticide Control – Herbicide Treatment Special Permit	Reviewed
Receipt – Tax payment as agreed	Reviewed
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Senior Resource Coordinator Monthly Reports – February – May, 2021	Reviewed
2021 Operating Budget Report – January-June 2021	Reviewed
Minutes – Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting - 5/25/2021	Reviewed

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen White, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on \_\_\_\_\_:

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Leslie R. Babb

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Ernest F. Day, Jr.

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Melissa M. Florio