

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, September 20, 2021**

Present were Selectmen Leslie Babb, Ernest Day Jr., Melissa Florio, and Stacy Bolduc, Administrative Assistant, who recorded the minutes. Town Administrator Ellen White was absent. This meeting was held at the Town Office.

Also, present were Road Agent Scott Brooks, Justin Brooks, Police Chief Mullen, Fire Chief Cunio, Public: Linda and Michael Mailhot, Bill Elliott.

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

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 accept the minutes both public and non-public for September 13, 2021, with spelling corrections motion seconded by Florio; Motion passed 3-0-0.

Department Head Updates:

Fire Department- Chief Cunio reported:

- Two medicals/one smoke investigation
- 1 to 4 for COVID
- Chief Cunio stated the drawings for the new rescue are still being finalized and he does not have a final price yet.
- \$180,490 for the radio grant has been approved. Freedom's portion is \$9,024.00 (will come out of Capital Reserve) he has met with OME (Ossipee Mountain Equipment) to review everything and there has been a slight price increase.
- Two members have started a firefighter one class in Bartlett and another member started an EMT class in Tamworth.
- Annual testing for turnout gear has started and one of the moisture liners for the jackets failed and had to be sent back to Globe today.
- Three trucks are left for service and inspection. The tank truck had an exhaust issue so that bill was more than Chief expected.
- Danforth Bay held firefighter's weekend. They had a parade but not the muster. Freedom had a couple of trucks in it.
- Dredging and hydrants are all done. Chief Cunio thanked Scott Brooks and his crew at GW Brooks for a job well done on a dry hydrant on Durgin Hill.

Chief Cunio informed Selectmen that there may be a couple of Mondays in the near future he may not be able to attend Selectmen's meetings.

Transfer Station- Justin reported that the transfer station will start winter hours in a couple of weeks. Business has been steady. Justin is having an issue with the trucking company up North. They want a call ahead of time when the trash cans are half-full or if they are not ready to go yet. The new container will be here Wednesday and be put into circulation.

Road Agent Scott Brooks –The CMA Engineers culvert replacement proposal for Watson and Durgin Hill was reviewed. The quote is within \$3,000 of what Brooks thought the number should be and he wanted to know how the selectmen wanted to proceed. There was a brief discussion around the timeline and the winter months approaching. Some points discussed:

- Durgin Hill is a priority and the funds were encumbered for Durgin Hill only. There is also money left over from the Danforth Bay Bridge in the Infrastructure account.
- The permit is good for five years after it is issued. However, under the current regulations, a five-year extension can be requested if the request is submitted to NHDES before the permit expires. so, the project can be spread out.
- Babb questioned “shovel ready”. Brooks replied that Swett’s Hill is and would like to push to get Durgin ready because it will be a big job.

Day made a motion to approve the CMA Engineers proposals Task one (1) for Durgin Hill for \$24,800 and Watson Hill Task one (1) for \$13,000, motion seconded by Florio; Motion passed 3-0-0.

Babb made a motion to authorize Day to come into the office and sign the CMA proposals referenced above, motion seconded by Florio; Motion passed 3-0-0.

Brooks reported the highway crew has been mowing bushes and will be cleaning out ditches and doing some grading to get ready for winter. Brooks asked if the board is planning on moving forward with the sand shed this year. Babb replied he thinks so. Brooks will measure the sand pile to get a good idea of the size.

Old/New Business

Day commented on an email from the Freedom Elementary School Student Council Project requesting to come before the BOS in October to propose a project idea. It was agreed to hear their idea.

Bill Elliott’s resignation letter for the FAISC was accepted for the record.

Short Term Rentals

Babb updated that the Planning Board has done a great job with outlining everything that they are moving forward with regarding STR’s. The question was posed to Babb from the Planning Board (PB) if the BOS will be moving forward with them. Babb informed the PB that the BOS will keep up with them at the same speed but may not implement licenses until June or July.

It was agreed it would be nice to know how many STRS are in Freedom. Florio suggested inquiring to the State to get a report on who is paying taxes to the State on the Airbnb’s to use as a guide.

Public Comment- None

Brooks reported that the Tahoe is not running well and questioned if they should get a body for the 550. Discussion ensued around what to replace the Tahoe with. Brooks will price out a body for the 550 and see what a trade looks like.

Jamie Mullen entered the meeting at 7:00
Police Department/ Jamie Mullen

Mullen reported on the Reach the Beach run. He had court Thursday and obtained three indictments for three sexual assaults. He is preparing for court next week. There has been an increase in car stops since Officer Diaz hours have increased. The issue with the radio in the F150 has been resolved and is back in service and the cruisers will be inspected in the next couple of weeks. The batteries for the radar trailer are dead. Mullen said he is not opposed to getting new batteries if someone would like to see it out for another month.

**Babb made a motion to go into non-public, seconded by Day under 91-A3:II(1) at 7:10 p.m.
Roll call vote: Babb-yes, Day-yes, Florio-yes.**

Public Session reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting – 9/13/21	Approved
Payroll Manifest – week ending 9/17/21	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 9/17/21	Approved

Correspondence:

Newsletter – N/A
Letter – N/A
E-mail – N/A

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Bolduc, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Melissa M. Florio