

## **Selectmen's Meeting Monday, May 8, 2023**

The Freedom Board of Selectmen attended the School Board meeting on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the Freedom Elementary located at 40 Loon Lake Rd. in the art room then resumed their regular meeting in the Freedom Elementary Gym at approximately 7:00 pm

Points discussed:

- Sarah explained the Board wants to bring food service back to Freedom. They would like to redesign the kitchen to provide food service for both the students and host community events but, they have been challenged with finding someone to design the kitchen.
- This is a negation year for the school. Sarah explained they have a lot of turnovers this year and will need to access positions that may have been underfunded. They will need to bring those positions in line to stay competitive.
- Transportation is going better, and they have a candidate for the bus driver position.

There was a brief discussion on student enrollment, cost of living, and housing shortage.

Les stated the Town would go out to bid in August for fuel and Stacy is the contact person to get the numbers to. Other areas in the future to look at where contracts could be combined might be landscaping (mowing).

Les asked how the Jr. High and High School talks were going and who is leaving the contract. Sarah clarified that only Albany Elementary is leaving because they are on a different contract schedule. Sarah explained that they have had constructive meetings with Freedom, Madison, and Tamworth at the end of April and all the sending towns will get together at the end of this month for another meeting. The sentiment is that they will not renew the contract and will be renegotiating. The sending towns need to notify Conway by next June, of their intent not to renew which means for next year's school Districts meeting they could be bringing a recommendation or a vote to not continue with the current contract. A brief discussion ensued.

Sarah brought an incident that the school custodian had at the transfer station to the attention of the Board. She explained he called ahead to dispose of cardboard, plastic and, some pallets from the setting up the new playground. When the custodian got the refuse to the transfer station, he could not dispose of it despite calling ahead and explaining who he was and what he had for pallets. He was informed that he had to break down the pallets because they were too big, and stated the attendant was very rude about it. The principal stated they were rude to him and insinuated that he was lying and did not have permission. The issue was how poorly he was treated. The Board will look into it.

**The selectmen left the School Board meeting to meet in the gym at the Elementary School at 7:00 p.m.**

Les called the meeting to order at 7:00. Present were Selectmen Les Babb, Ernie Day and Melissa Florio, and Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator, who recorded these minutes. This meeting was held at the Gym at the Freedom Elementary.

Also in attendance were Jamie Mullen, Rob Cunio, Charlene McCurtain.

Public: David Cribbie, Justin Brooks, Robert Libby.

## **Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, Approval of Minutes:**

The accounts payable, payroll manifests, and red folder, including correspondence, were reviewed.

***Ernie made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2023, Selectmen's Meetings and. With the following correction: All in favor, the motion passed.***

## **Department Head Updates:**

**Police Department** – Jamie is back from training and explained the academy is in the process of changing the curriculum and he is learning it. Sargent Laferriere investigated a missing elderly person this weekend. The women have been found safe in Lovell Me. Officer Diaz made an arrest for assault and strangulation. He had help from Madison and Carroll County Sheriff's office.

The candidate for the open position at the police has passed the background check and verbally accepted the job.

It was discussed when needles are found on the side of road to call dispatch or Chief Cunio, who can provide a sharp container.

**Fire Department-** Chief Cunio reported they will be doing hose testing. The Association spring fishing derby will be held May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., with prizes at 11:30 a.m. More progress has been made on the Rescue. Glen will be going out in two weeks for the inspection. The lights for the console have been received it just needs to be scheduled.

**Transfer Station** – Charlene is having a problem with the fencing around the C & D on both sides. Ernie said bring to bring it to the attention of the highway crew when they are there to do the metal bins. Melissa confirmed that Ed White still has us on schedule to do the wiring.

**Highway Department** – Scott is out.

**Public Comment- None**

## **Under old/ New Business**

**A & B Lock-** Stacy reviewed the A & B Lock estimate for the card swipe system for the Town Office against the Lockley estimate. The A & B Lock estimate is \$6,504.00 the Lockley system is \$299.99. Permission to go with the Lockley system was granted to try on the front door.

Jim Stone was present to get the Emergency Management grant signed and get a motion for the record.

*The Select Board, in a majority vote, accepted the terms of the Emergency Management Performance Grant as presented in the amount of \$4000.00. Furthermore, the Board acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$8,000, in which the town will be responsible for a 50% match (\$4,000). Les made the motion, Ernie seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.*

Melissa asked Jim if he could work with the School Board to see if there is any grant money for improving the kitchen at the school. Jim said if the school was going to act as shelter, then there would probably be money available. Chief Cunio said by making the school the shelter you can use the rooms to separate by gender and put families together.

- Stacy will send a copy of the minutes to Jim for emergency grant.

### **Watson Hill Fire Pond-**

Chief Cunio reviewed the quote from Brooks for the Watson Hill Dredging project. The quote is for \$41,000 for time and material. The warrant article is for \$40,000. Chief said he has a \$1,000 in the dry hydrant line that he can use towards the dry hydrant section of the quote. The quote outlines time and material. David Cribbie explained the quote number at the top is for the dry hydrant \$7,700.00 and the recirculation line for \$2,800 are known variables in the project. The bottom number not to exceed \$30,500 represents the time and material portion of the work that cannot be predicted. This number also represents about three days of work. David said if it looks like we are getting close to that number, he will inform Selectmen beforehand. He hopes to finish the job in three days; if the job goes over the three days that will increase the costs. One thing that may help keep the costs down is to have the fire department pump down the pond ahead of time. Melissa said it was agreed to close down the road while the work was being done to save on time.

David reviewed the job with the Road Agent, and he pointed out the apron may need crushed gravel.

**Les made a motion to accept the amended bid, motion seconded by Melissa; Motion passed 3-0-0.** Les thanked Dave Cribbie and G.W. Brooks.

**Ernie made a motion to appoint Michel Cloutier to a three-year term to the FAISC, motion seconded by Les; Motion passed 3-0-0.**

### **Transfer Station Brochure**

Melissa suggested waiting on the transfer station brochure because she is still researching the pricing to get rid of the oil. She has called Frechette's and O' Riley's auto parts in Ossipee. She would like alternatives for people when we say we no longer take oil. Wolfeboro has a hazardous waste day in late October, and they allow other towns to come to it. She and Jim Stone are looking at grants to help offset our hazardous waste day. Tomorrow Clean Harbor starts with the Highway Station and then goes to the Transfer Station.

**Les made a motion to reappoint Scott to another two-year term to the TAC Committee, motion seconded by Melissa; Motion passed 3-0-0.**

Stacy reported a post was pushed over on 2 Pauli Point Rd. Ernie will talk to Lance to get it fixed.

Stacy asked that all new hires come to the office to complete a new hire packet.

There was a brief discussion on doing background checks on per diems.

### **Public Comment**

Robert Libby asked about the list of hazardous waste materials not being accepted at the Transfer Station. Stacy will put the lists on the website.

Robert asked about the plan with the Roller Shed and the Masonic Hall.

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

*Les made a motion enter into a non-public session at 7:50 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a), employee. Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Ernie-yes, Melissa-yes, Les-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion to resume public session at 8:00 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.*

*Les made a motion enter into a non-public session at 8:00 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (1), legal. Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Ernie-yes, Melissa-yes, Les-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion to resume public session at 8:10 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.*

**Adjournment:**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

**Consent Agenda:**

Accounts Payable – Week ending 5/05/2023	Approved
Payroll Manifest – Week ending 5/03/2023	Approved
Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting– 5/01/2023	Approved
Request for Abatement – N/A	
Supplemental Property Tax Warrant-N/A	
A & B Locks Quote for town office	Reviewed
Brooks Time & Material Fire Pond Dredging	Reviewed
State of NH Emergency Management Grant	Reviewed

**Correspondence:**

Lakes Region Planning Commission	Reviewed
Consolidation Communications	Reviewed
State of NH Department of Revenue Equalized valuation	Reviewed
Tracey Juda	Reviewed

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie R. Babb

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ernest F. Day, Jr.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa M. Florio