

**Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, August 07, 2023**

Chairman Babb called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Chairman Les Babb, Selectmen Ernie Day , Melissa Florio, and Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator, who recorded these minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Hall.

Also, in attendance were: Scott Brooks, and Rob Cunio.

Public: None: Libby Priebe, Darwin Moulton , Frank Lalumiere, Nicole Hart, Kelly Park, Richard and Jennifer Ullrich

Public Meeting

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 Selectmen's Meetings minutes of July 24, 2023, and nonpublic meeting minutes of July 24, 2023, as written for public minutes Melissa seconded. All in favor, the motion Passed 3-0-0.

Department Head Updates:

Highway- Scott reported that they have been working on Cold Brook Rd this week, and the weather may hold them up at the end of the week. They have two more to do, and one of them is a 30" culvert. The road will be closed next week as well due to not being able to complete the work due to the weather.

Fire Department- Rob reported the department responded to seven medicals, two motor vehicles, one mutual aid fire, and one tree & wire. One water rescue.

Touch a Truck Day went well; Madison and Effingham's K9s were there. Rich Ullrich is finishing his last week of practical's testing and will be doing EMT testing next week. Chief has also purchased essentials for the new rescue such as brackets. He will need an insurance binder; putting the old truck out to bid was discussed. Green Mountain will not give Chief a number because they need something to compare the truck to. Les suggested looking at municipalbid.com. Melissa suggested Lindsay putting pictures on line when the time comes to sell it.

Rob confirmed the fire escape measurements on the plans are correct. Stacy will get the invitation to bid posted.

Office- Stacy reviewed the correspondence in the red folder. Stantec quote were reviewed it came in at \$8,415.00 for 2023 water quality sampling and post-closure monitoring. Les asked that Melissa call Lakes Region to see if anyone else does this scope of work to get another quote.

NH Retirement rates were reviewed and discussed. It was decided it was too expensive to join. The Horizons letter was also reviewed regarding Sherwood Forest to West Bay Rd. The letter encouraged the town to speak with the town attorney to discuss what must be done to convert this Class VI Road to a Class V Road for seasonal winter use.

The demolition permit was reviewed, and it was stated we do not charge a fee for demolition permits. The permit is to update the tax card to reflect what is on the lot for assessing purposes.

Police- Jamie was not there

Transfer Station- Nothing to report.

Public Comment

There was no public comment

Appointment

Rick Pelton and Barry Keith came before the Board to discuss the Freedom Village Water Precinct. Because there were health issues involved, Rick requested a non-public. They will be heard later in the agenda.

Friends of Danforth Ponds

Frank Lalumiere came before the board to update the board on the grant. They do not have the grant but expect to have it in September. He explained that he and Bruce Howlett, Selectmen Florio, and Scott Brooks walked Ossipee Lake Rd. to see what needs to be done to improve water quality in that area. Scott provided a breakdown of the costs for the improvements to prevent runoff into the lake. Since they met, Frank stated that the State is requesting an independent engineer's design for that area. Frank explained he would like to get an engineer and will share Scott's write-up with them. He will also share with Scott what the engineers come up with to see if they can agree what needs to be done. Ultimately there would be an agreement on what the Town can contribute. The grant pays 60% of the costs and the town would fund 40% in labor or machinery. Frank wanted to know if this sounded ok with everyone. Les said some of the projects that the town has done in the past, the design costs as much as the project. Frank said the State does it by identifying the companies that are qualified to do the design you need and then negotiating a price. Scott said it's the same process the town went through to get an engineer for the bridge. Scott estimated \$30,000 for an engineer. Discussion ensued around what the engineer will be looking at. Frank will keep the board up to date. Frank concluded with the septic survey they are sending out and hoping to get a good response. In September the Friends of Danforth Ponds will meet on September 1st at 10:00 am to discuss the EPA grant for \$100,000 to restore the water quality on the Danforth Ponds. Melissa suggested inviting the FCC to explain the water quality which will hopefully generate some interest.

New Business

Les made a motion enter into a non-public session at 7:15 pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), reputation employee Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Les-yes, Ernie-yes, Melissa-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion to resume public session at 7:40 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Les recapped the meeting with the Water Precinct, explaining they are having trouble getting people to fill their open commissioner seat, and stated the water is good, still there may be a time when the town has to take over the water precinct.

Les made a motion enter into a non-public session at 7:50 pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (e), litigation Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Les-yes, Ernie-yes, Melissa-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion to resume public session at 7:54 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

It was determined that Mr. Dabek did not need nonpublic because his complaint was against the town and should be heard in public session.

Mr. Dabek read a letter into the record stating the damage to his property due to the town not doing its due diligence in cleaning the culverts. He got an estimate from a landscape company estimating the damage to be \$ 2,300.00. The culvert that caused the damage is located under the driveway located at 129 Durgin Hill. Pictures and the estimate were provided. A pond was also filled in with debris from the failed culvert. His home insurance will not cover the damages.

Melissa asked if Mr. Dabek had spoken with the road agent. Mr. Dabek said the only person he talked to was Stacy. Ernie said he spoke to Scott, and Scott said the damage was an act of God. Melissa said this rain event in question has just been declared a disaster. Ernie will give Scott Mr. Dabek's phone number so; he can schedule a time to address Mr. Dabek's concerns. Mr. Dabek also commented that the road is overdue to be graded and is very rough. Ernie said this was also a result of the rain. Les added the grader had been down for a week. Les recounted that this storm in question was declared an emergency and said the road crew was not deficient. Freedom fared very well compared to surrounding towns like Madison and Alton which, still have roads closed for travel. Melissa added that

the culvert in question may not even be the towns. Les explained if the culvert is not the towns, it is illegal for the town to spend money on it. After a brief discussion about private culverts, it was decided Scott would assess the situation. Mr. Dabek left the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Les made a motion enter into a non-public session at 8:05 pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (A), employee Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Les- yes, Ernie-yes, Melissa-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion to resume public session at 8:20 pm. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Old Business

None

Adjournment:

Being no further input, Earnie made a motion to adjourn. Melissa seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Consent Agenda:

Accounts Payable – Week ending 8/4/2023	Approved
Payroll Manifest – Week ending 8/2/2023	Approved
Request for Abatement – Anne Marie Graceffa	Approved
Brian Smith	Approved
Karla & Bob Polce	Approved

Correspondence:

Newsletter – N/A	Reviewed
Vachon Clukay & Company	Reviewed
Zach Stark letter	Reviewed
NH DOT Highway Block Grant Aid \$88,519.69 for 2023- 2024	Reviewed
Frank Evetts Resignation letter	Reviewed
Stantec Proposal for 2023 Water Quality Testing and Post Closure Monitoring Quote	Reviewed
NHRS Employer Contribution Rates	Reviewed
Demolition Permit	Reviewed
NH Municipal Association Classes	Reviewed

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Melissa M. Florio