

**Town of Freedom  
Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, March 18, 2024**

Present: Selectmen Chairman Les Babb, Ernest Day, Jr., Alan Fall, and Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Office.

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

Also, present Scott Brooks, Chief Cunio, Rich Laferriere, Rich & Jennifer Ulrich, Roberta Macarthy, Susan Marks, Brandon, and Kerri Buttrick.

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

The accounts payable and payroll manifests were reviewed as well as the red folder containing correspondence.

Ernie made a motion to accept the March 4, 2024, and March 11, 2024, meeting minutes and nonpublic minutes for March 4<sup>th</sup> as amended, correct the spelling of *trailor to trailer on the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes*.

Motion was seconded by Les; Motion passed unanimously.

Stacy updated the board that the office phones have been double billed since the new phone system was installed. We will be refunded for the extra charges back to 2022, and the internet line that was being billed for that was not in use will also be refunded.

**Ernie made a motion to accept the March 4, 2024, and March 18, 2024, meeting minutes and nonpublic minutes of March 4<sup>th</sup> as written Motion was seconded by Les; Motion passed unanimously.**

Election of officers-

**Ernie made a motion to elect Les Babb as Chair, motion seconded by Alan. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Alan made a motion to elect Ernie as Vice Chair, motion seconded by Les; Motion passed unanimously.**

Les welcomed Alan back to the board and assigned the following tasks to Alan and Ernie:

Alan was tasked with making a list of everything we needed to do regarding renovating the town office. The first thing was how to access the money from the Trust Fund. Stacy found the article that stated the Board of Selectmen are agents to expend. Other points discussed:

- Having a survey done. Alan said a survey was done in the 80's that shows the building was on district property and the boundary line adjustment between Martindale and the school district. Alan didn't think a survey needed to be done, Les said that Mr. Carney thinks the pillar for the fire escape is on his property.
- A binder with Mr. Carney for a temporary easement.
- Les also wants the employees' input on the design. He mentioned the designer who did the design for the fire department. Alan said we should go through the professional selection process. There was a brief discussion that Shawn Bergeron has done much of the work and should be consulted.
- Les wants to start the process of putting together the insurance committee.
- Ernie's task is recruiting for the boards.

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Stacy suggested starting to look at what can be cleaned out, for example, the books behind the selectmen. The historical society was present and said they would take a look at them this summer to see if there was anything they might be interested in and mentioned possibly getting them online like they have with all the town reports.

### **Department Head Updates:**

**Highway-** Scott reported they are still cutting brush, and the roads are drying up good. The road bans will be on for a couple more weeks. The new chipper will be picked up tomorrow or Wednesday. Scott will call the dealer to let them know he is ready.

**Police-** Rich reported that the Ford cruiser had an exhaust leak, and he is waiting for a quote from Advanced Diesel to get it fixed. Rich also reported that Chief Mullen was approached at town meeting by a gentleman who voiced his concern about right-hand turns being made off Mouton Rd onto Cushion Corner Road and also said this is also the time of year when dogs want to roam free and remind the public about the leash law.

**Fire-** Rob reported five medicals and two downed trees. He asked about the process for getting a check for the trailer.

**Les made a motion to authorize Chief Cunio to purchase the trailer for \$6,875.00 from Central NH Trailer with a trade-in on the current trailer of \$2,000; motion seconded by Alan; Motion passed unanimously.**

**Les made a motion to request \$4,875.00 from the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, motion seconded by Ernie; Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Town Meeting Recap**

Les asked Scott if any paving should be done at the Transfer Station. Scott suggested waiting until the scales were in to see how everything will be laid out. Les asked what should be done this year. The brush pile will be hauled off when the road bans come off. We can't burn the brush anymore because the ash covered the cars at the house across the street.

Ernie asked when Scott was going to do Watson Hill. Scott said in August.

Rich was not sure if Jamie had contacted the dealer about the cruiser yet.

Rob still needs to contact Cribbie about the fire pond.

Putting the gate up at Alfred Godfrey Beach was discussed. Scott and Les will access where the gate should be, and the hours the beach will be open will be posted. Residents can get a key if they want access to the beach when the gate is closed.

Beach times still need to be determined. This will be an agenda item next week.

### **Public Comment**

Roberta MaCarthy commented on how well town meeting went. Brandy thanked Les for his comments after he made a motion to reconsider. He appreciates the path forward that Les outlined in his comments.

Stacy reported that she took a call from the Lakes Region Planning Commission regarding the Town's decision not to participate in the 2024 Household Hazardous Waste Collection. They were surprised and asked the board to reconsider the decision not to participate. Les and Ernie recapped the reason the Town did not participate, because the price jumped to \$4,797.00, and Wolfeboro is an option to dispose of hazardous wastes at minimal costs. Stacy said the director of the Planning Commission explained the reason for the jump in the costs, is because who they use

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to dispose of the wastes jumped in costs and furthermore, Freedom is factored into the contract this year, so to back out now is disappointing to the Planning Commission and to have no notice. The Planning Commission also explained to Stacy that prices have not increased for five years. After a brief discussion the board decided not to participate in the 2024 hazardous waste collection due to the costs and the fact that it was able to use Wolfeboro. Stacy will let the Commission know the board's decision.

Megan Broderick's request to put up a sign at 50 Eaton Rd. and sell tickets at the transfer station for Ducky Days was discussed. The board has no problem with either.

The joint loss committee will meet tomorrow at the highway garage.  
The first LEOP meeting will take place at the school April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. – 7:00 pm.

Les will be the selectmen's representative on the Planning Board, Alan be the Selectmen's representative for Heritage and Ernie will be the representative for the FAC.

Les asked Stacy to reach out to Megan Broderik and Steve Genest to see what their availability is for meeting for the Insurance Advisory Committee and send both what we currently have.

**Alan made a motion to appoint Steve Genest and Megan Broderick to the Insurance Advisory Committee, motion seconded by Ernie; motion passed unanimously.**

All department heads and employees are welcome to attend these meetings.

*Les made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:45 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a), reputation Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Ernie-yes, Alan-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 to enter into a non-public session at 8:00 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), reputation Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Ernie-yes, Alan-yes, Les-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion to resume public session at 8:30 pm. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.*

**Agenda item next Week:**

Being no further input, Alan made a motion to adjourn. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.  
Adjourned at 8:30 pm.

**Consent Agenda:**

Payroll Manifest – week ending – 3/13/2024	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 3/15/2024	Approved

**Correspondence:**

2024 JLSMC Meeting Schedule	Reviewed
Kyle Clifton STR Ordonnance email	Reviewed
Abutter Notice for Map 1 Lot 16	Reviewed
Abutter notice for Map 21, lot 1and 1-1	Reviewed
Zachary Branscom NH911 Communications	Reviewed
Annual Leak Monitoring	Reviewed
Tim Nolan Forester for Nature Conservancy	Reviewed

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Wabanaki Campground Purchase and Sales Agreement	Reviewed
LEOP Meetings Schedule	Reviewed
JLMSC Meeting Minutes	Reviewed
Primes letter for Claimant	Reviewed
Lakes Region Planning Commission 2024 Hazardous waste Notice	Reviewed

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan G. Fall

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