

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, March 25, 2024**

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

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

Also, present Chief Cunio, Jamie Mullen

Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, Approval of Minutes

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

Alan made a motion to accept the March 18, 2024, meeting minutes and nonpublic minutes.

Motion was seconded by Erine; Motion passed unanimously.

Allan questioned why an STR application is approved for eight people when the application states it is only a two-bedroom home. Stacy explained that if the application states a three-bedroom septic then it would $3 \times 2 = 6$, and adding two more to that would give you eight. Alan responded that they are only being taxed on a two-bedroom, and his opinion is that they cannot have it both ways. Stacy will have the assessor look at the property card and get his opinion.

Department Heads-

Police: Jamie reported he made an arrest for stealing a skidder up on Youngs Hill Rd. He also stated that the Highway crew did a great job with keeping up with the last storm. There was nothing too major to report regarding the storm. Jamie will take the new hire to get outfitted for a uniform this week.

Office- Stacy reported that she has finalized the town meeting results with the DRA and the office will be very busy tomorrow with training provided by the DRA, and Rod the assessor, will be here as well.

Alan reported he has been trying to contact Andy Bramhall regarding renting space at the old Freedom Hardware for the office staff during the office renovation. He has left a message for the architectural firm that did the plan for the Fire Station and reached out to Bergeron to see if they would be interested in doing the interior design for the renovation as well.

Alan made a motion to request \$4,875.00 to purchase a trailer for the fire station from the trustee of the trust funds, Motion seconded by Ernie. Motion passed unanimously.

Alan made a motion to request \$6,500.00 for the final payment for the installation of the furnace at the Office from the trustee of the trust funds; Motion passed unanimously.

Stacy asked the board to acknowledge the \$9,000 for the down payment for the furnace. She could not find in minutes that a motion was made. The motion could have been overlooked because of the budget hearing/ bond hearing when it was requested in the folder.

Ernie made a motion to acknowledge the request for the withdrawal of \$9,000 from the trustee of the trust funds for the down payment on the furnace at the town office; motion seconded by Alan; motion passed unanimously.

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Minutes

Public Comment

Dawin asked when the committee would be formed for the office renovation. Ernie responded that at this time, Alan is doing leg work, and there is no committee.

Paul Elie asked how he could access the job description for the transfer station supervisor and why the job did not have a closing date in the ad. Stacy responded that the job is open until it is filled. Ernie said that in the past, they have, but times have changed, and it is hard to hire qualified people. Jamie supported the comment and explained that police have gone from an open process to an ongoing recruiting process.

Rob reported that they will pick up the new trailer on Wednesday and they are looking for a new place to do the bailout practice. He reported one medical aid call.

Alan said he and Rob looked at the house at 50 Eaton Rd, and they found the roof to be in poor condition, and black mold was present from water damage. He questioned if the house should be looked at and assessed for rehabbing and he thought the location would be ideal to relocate the office during the rehab. It may be worthwhile to rehab it, if the town sells it, they will get the money back. It was agreed to have Gary look at it and give his opinion.

Ernie reviewed a letter in the file regarding not having public access to Loon Lake to fish after it has been stocked by the State. The writer's issue is that if they are not residents, they do not have access to the lake that has been stocked with fish paid for by taxpayers. Jamie said this is not the first time this has come up. There is a state boat ramp that accesses the lake. Alan responded he thinks the problem is getting access from Alfred Godfry Rd. because, in the past, tickets have been issued for not having a pass to park there.

Alan recited an RSA that stated that every sovereign body of water and Great Pond should have state access. It is the State responsibility to provide State access. Loon Lake does have state access off Loon Lake Road he sees this as something other than a town issue.

Ernie reviewed a letter from Tim Nolan that he needs to extend the timber harvest for the Nature Conservancy. The board did not have an issue with this.

Board appointments will be made next week.

Barry Keith emailed letting the board know that demolition debris has been dumped at the gate at Trout Pond and does not recommend sending a truck out until the road dries out.

Oram questioned parking at the gazebo at Loon Lake. Alan said that belongs to the Beach Club and you need a beach club pass to park there. Rob got permission from the Beach Club to park there during the fishing derby. Ernie said the town owns the ramp to the right. Oram questioned what document gives them that space, Alan responded the Beach Club owns the deed to the property. Alan gave the history that goes back to the turn of the 20th century.

Ernie made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:24 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), reputation Alan seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Ernie-yes, Alan-yes, Les-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Ernie made a motion to resume the public session at 7:30 pm. Alan seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

The nonpublic session next week will start at 6:30 PM and Gary will be available at 6:15 PM to brief the board.

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Minutes

Ernie asked Stacy to reach out to Jeff for recommendations for the FCC. Ernie talk to Yvone Hoyt about FAC appointments and she will get back to Ernie next week with any recommendations.

Stephen Baldrige's letter was reviewed and discussed. Alan will drive by the property to see if he can assess the tree in question. Stacy talk to NHMA about a tree trimming policy. Steve Buckley references RSA 231:150 and RSA 231:146 for noticing.

Agenda item next Week:

Being no further input, Alan made a motion to adjourn. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Consent Agenda:

Payroll Manifest – week ending – 3/20/2024	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 3/22/2024	Approved
Trustee of the Trust Fund Letter signed \$4,875.00 Trailer	Approved
Trustee of the Trust Fund Letter signed \$6,500.00 Furnace	Approved

Correspondence:

Transfer Station Supervisor Ad	Reviewed
Food Pantry Update	Reviewed
Jarrold Heard Bill \$6,500 for Furnace Balance	Reviewed
Matt Beauregard Gaftek	Reviewed
David Hayes confirming Meeting with the Selectboard	Reviewed
Curtis Quimby Fish Stocking Program on Loon Lake	Reviewed
BH Keith Trash Dumping in the Town Forrest	Reviewed
Town of Freedom Permitted STR's	Reviewed
Tim Nolan Timber Harvest Extension	Reviewed
Primex Sample Policy Against Harassment	Reviewed
Stephen C. Baldrige Complaint	Reviewed

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Alan G. Fall