

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, April 15, 2024**

Present: Selectmen Less Babb, Ernest Day, Jr., Alan Fall, and Lindsay Pettengill, Administrative Assistant, 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 Chief Cunio, Rich Laferriere, Cameron Emmett, Scott Brooks, Jeff Nicoll, Darwin Moulton, Robert Oram, Paul Elie, Brian Taylor and Vinnie Vacarro.

Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, Approval of Minutes

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

Department Heads-

Highway- Scott reported the last storm brought 20 inches of wet heavy snow to town. As of Friday morning there were 13 roads closed but by 4pm on Friday all but 4 were back open. Mike Eldridge was hired to take care of the logs. All highway crew members were equipped with a chainsaw during the storm and were cutting as they were plowing. The crew continued last week cleaning up uprooted trees and pushing snow back. Tomorrow they will be working with Mike Eldridge to clear more and then hope to get to the maintenance needed on the winter vehicles. As of right now he has not heard of any state/FEMA aid for this last storm.

Fire- Rob reported on the week of the 1st where there were four medical aids, one mutual fire aid, twenty-six trees/wires down and two service calls. The week of the 8th there were six medical aids, two mutual fire aid, and one service call. At one point during the storm there were 18 roads closed or impassible for emergency vehicles. Sunday morning Eversource liaison reported 106 residents with no power with an eta for restoration by end of day. We had a warming shelter at the Town Hall, but suggested we look into partnering with Effingham as they had the Red Cross running their emergency shelter and Effingham Chief was open to discussions to invited Freedom residents to use their facility. Selectboard gave permission to the Chief to open the line of communication to this opportunity. Annual fire hose testing was completed. 3-40' lengths failed and need replacing. He had his final ortho appointment to clear him of light duty and has a follow up in six weeks.

Police- Rich introduced Cameron Emmett to the board/community as he is the newest part-time member of the department. He has been doing ride alongs with Rich this week and as he grew up in Freedom, he knows the area well. He works full-time in Bartlett. The Ford will be going to Advanced Diesel for approximately \$600 in repairs and should be ready to go to Gary once the new Tahoe arrives.

Office- Lindsay reviewed the red folder, Stacy is on vacation and Susan will be training this week on administrative duties.

**Ernie made a motion to accept the April 1, 2024, meeting minutes and nonpublic minutes as amended.
Motion was seconded by Alan; Motion passed unanimously.**

Appointments

Vince Vaccaro came before the board requesting permission and guidance on allowing the Trittech triathlon event looking to be held August 24th. The race starts at Camp Calumet and there are two different routes. One goes down the Ossipee Lake Rd to Bennett Rd to 153 to Ossipee Lake Rd and back to Calumet. The other leaves Calumet, goes

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down to the Crossroads in Madison/Tamworth, up Rte 41 to Rte 113 to East Madison Rd, 153 and join the other racers. He is willing to add more signage, and pay for additional officers.

Rich agrees that more signage and additional officers will be needed. He also stated the athletes needed to be more aware of their surroundings.

Alan is not in favor of the race due to past year issues and the lack of respect from the athletes.

Les agreed that there have been many complaints in the past. He would like Jamie to take point on this and for them both to report back after the race as to if it can be done again the next year or whether it will be stopped.

Public Comment

Darwin commented that there always seems to be multiple athletes wide on the roads and this has caused many problems in the past.

Jeff Nicoll came before the board at their request to discuss needing to merge the FAISC and the FCC due to the number of members being so low. Jeff was amiable to this request and that he would discuss at tomorrow nights meeting with the FCC how to make this happen and will report back. There will need to be updates made to the rules of procedure and such.

Public Comment

Oram stated the board could be changed to accommodate these additional members and Paul questioned why the FAC meeting was cancelled for this month. The board stated there were not enough members to hold a quorum.

Oram and Paul came before the board questioning the transfer station revenue numbers for 2021, 2022, and 2023 based off of the Annual report copies they had with them. Les provided feedback in regard to the numbers differing when we have a new year of permits and the rise in revenue being larger during the beginning of that period and dwindling after. During Covid was also a time when we were not selling as many permits as we were trying to eliminate contact and possible transmission of the virus. It was also clarified that they number of TV's taken in was not as individual items but as pounds. Oram requested the number of stickers sold and the revenue from them during 2020 be provided to him. Les stated Stacy will get this for him when she returns from vacation.

Les announced that we have hired Alan Libby as the new Transfer Station Supervisor and we look forward to the experience and new ideas he will bring to the station. There has been a lot of work gone into the transfer station over the past few years and we believe this will only make it better.

Darwin asked if the scales were still up for discussion. Les stated they will not be an option for this year.

Alan wanted to discuss the brush on Freedom Shores Rd. As it is a Winter Road the maintenance begins in November 15th and ends on April 1st.

Lindsay mentioned a resident called in regard to Davis Point Rd and how they needed to bring the Winter Road back to acceptance and Scott stated it needed to go back as soon as possible to the accepted road and to be able to allow emergency vehicles access. She will send the inspection report to the resident for reference.

The Board wanted to recognize and thank they Highway Crew, Emergency Departments and the Office for all of their amazing effort that went into the management of the town during the storm and after. It was truly a team effort.

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Alan mentioned two gentlemen who had visited the office in regard to the boat launch on Loon Lake. It was brought up at a previous meeting about having the sign removed as they do not need a permit to access the boat launch. The board gave Scott permission to remove the sign.

Alan brought up needing to initiate the design or potential renovation of the Town Office and the Masonic Hall. The major concern is the foundation and getting the structural report on the buildings. Custom Concepts he believed was who designed/worked with constructing the Safety building and all that were involved were impressed with the company and we may want to look into contracting with them.

Darwin felt that this idea was great and that the potential far surpasses any that have been presented thus far.

Non-Public

Ernie made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 8:10 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 8:35pm. Alan seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Les made a motion to resume the public session, motion seconded by Ernie; Motion passes unanimously.

Agenda item next Week:

Being no further input, Alan made a motion to adjourn. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Consent Agenda:

Payroll Manifest – week ending – 4/15/2024	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 4/11/2024	Approved
Meeting Minutes 4/1/2024	Approved
Correspondence:	
Lindsay email to Doug W – JLMSC	Reviewed
Paul M – Library email	Reviewed
Barry K email	Reviewed
Primex – repairs email	Reviewed
Abutters Notification for Zoning Board Application Map 27 Lot 20	Reviewed
Estimate for White Mtn Overhead Doors	Reviewed
Henney Historical Fund email	Reviewed
Horizons Masonic Temple Structural Review	Reviewed
LEOP Memorandum	Reviewed
2022 Revised Statutes 31:112 Management	Reviewed
Title V Taxation Section 80:88	Reviewed
LRPC Regional Transportation Newsletter	Reviewed

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Alan G. Fall