

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, September 30, 2024**

Present: Selectmen Chairman Les Babb, Alan Fall, Gary Williams and Stacy Bolduc, Admin. Assistant, who recorded the minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Office.

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

Also present were Rob Cunio, Scott Brooks, Rich Laferriere, Mark McKinley

Public: Jen Ulrich

Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, Approval of Minutes

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

Alan made a motion to accept September 23, 2024, meeting minutes and nonpublic minutes as written, Williams seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

Department Head Updates

Grounds- Mark McKinley came before the board to update them on a quote for mini splits for the Town Office. He also inquired about painting the front of the Town Office. The quote for the mini splits is \$8,000 and does not include electrical wiring. Alan supports painting the front of the building. It will not interfere with any of the L-Chip grant, and he can't imagine that the redesign would not include mini splits anyway. Discussion ensued around where the units would be placed outside on the back of the building. The quote does not include the room with the server. Les is hesitant because the quote is only for upstairs and seems high. Les said the purchasing policy requires three quotes. It was stated that Jarad Hurd is the heating guy the Town uses for all of its heating needs, and we have had no issue with him. Les supports painting the front of the building. The decision does not need to be made tonight regarding the mini splits.

Mark said there is also interest in getting mini splits installed at the Town Hall on Elm St. Mark is in the process of getting a quote.

Transfer Station- Alan Libby reported he disposed of the old fire escape that was on the side of the Town Office. It weighed 1,300 lbs. Alan said he had the containers assessed and one of them needs a new door. A new 40 yd container is over \$9,000.00 and a 30 yd container is over \$7,000.00. The one container that is not in good shape you can look out through it. The existing container is 40 yds. To fix the door is \$4,500.00. Spending half of what it cost to buy a new one was discussed and cycling buying new ones. There is \$58,000 in the trust fund and the compactors are in good shape. Les supports buying two new ones instead of throwing good money after bad. Scott Brooks was asked for his opinion, and he said he agrees with getting new ones. It was agreed that Alan Libby will get three quotes for new ones. Having the compactors' maintenance and the A frame where that the compactors slide into also need maintenance.

Highway- Scott reported that the new loader was delivered on Thursday. Most of the trees that needed to be cut on Huckins Rd. for the road project have been cut and, on another day, or so the sand sweeping will be completed. The construction signs will be going up on Huckins Rd.

Fire- Rob reported three medic intercepts, one motor vehicle accident, two fire alarms, two missing persons. The parking brake has been replaced on the Polaris 6x6 and all annual inspections are done.

*September 30, 2024
Minutes*

Police- Rich updated the board on the house that was his on Elm St. The office will need to provide the police with the cost of the signs. The costs of damages to the house are estimated at \$75,000.

Office- Stacy didn't have anything to report except the flags in the village will come down within the next couple of weeks.

Alan- Alan reported that the Town has been awarded the \$4,500.00 from the preservation alliance. This will pay for half of the Historical Assessment for the Masonic Lodge.

Les asked the board what they thought the approach should be in hiring a Zoning Officer/Building Inspector before going into non-public. He wanted to know if they wanted to hire one person for a combined position or individual positions for Zoning and Building Inspector. Gary, having done the job supports hiring as a combined full-time position. Alan also supports hiring one person because Gary has streamlined the position so that it works for one. Les stated the challenge will be hiring someone with the right skill set. Other challenges discussed:

- Part-time people committing to the job
- Lack of knowledge
- Health Officer to be included in the position
- Les mentioned sharing an inspector that does multiple towns because the regulations are the same. Gary questioned if it would work because contractors cannot wait long periods of time to get inspections done due to time constraints.
- Violations are high and could cover the cost of the position.
- Chief Cunio commented it was rough with communications before Gary took the position. He works closely with the zoning officer to do inspections. He would like to see continued success in this area.
- Gary is willing to work with whoever takes the position to get them trained.
- Full-time vs. part-time.
- Continuity for all three positions.

Non-Public-

Alan made a motion to enter into nonpublic at 7:35 pm, under RSA 91-A:3, II (L) motion seconded by Gary;

Roll call vote:

Les Babb -yes

Alan Fall-yes

Gary Williams- yes

The Board reconvened the public session at 7:38 pm

Shall the minutes be publicly disclosed: NO

If no the following motion is required:

Motion made by Alan Seconded by Gary

_____ *Pending litigation*

_____ *x* _____ *Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the board or*

_____ *Render the proposed action ineffective*

_____ *Pertain to terrorism.*

Alan made a motion to enter into nonpublic at 7:40 pm, under RSA 91-A:3, II (E) motion seconded by Gary;

September 30, 2024

Minutes

Roll call vote:

Les Babb -yes

Alan Fall-yes

Gary Williams- yes

The Board reconvened the public session at 8:20 pm

Shall the minutes be publicly disclosed: Yes

If no the following motion is required:

Motion made by _____ Seconded by _____

_____ Pending litigation

_____ Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the board or

_____ Render the proposed action ineffective

_____ Pertain to terrorism.

Alan made a motion to enter into nonpublic at 8:25 pm, under RSA 91-A:3, II (A) Compensation motion seconded by Gary; Roll call vote:

Les Babb -yes

Alan Fall-yes

Gary Williams- yes

The Board reconvened the public session at 8:40 pm

Shall the minutes be publicly disclosed: NO

If no the following motion is required:

Motion made by Alan Seconded by Gary

_____ Pending litigation

_____ x _____ Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the board or

_____ Render the proposed action ineffective

_____ Pertain to terrorism.

Stacy will schedule the applicants she has for the Zoning Officer position for Wednesday October 9th . The board will not meet October 7th or the 14th.

Consent Agenda:

Payroll Manifest – week ending – 9/25/2024

Approved

Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 9/27/2024

Approved

Meeting Minutes 9/23/2024

Approved

Correspondence:

Hazard Mitigation Application completed

Reviewed

Carroll County September Minutes

Reviewed

Mini Splits for Air conditioning Quote for Office

Reviewed

Being no further input, Babb made a motion to adjourn. Fall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Adjourned at 9:00 pm.

September 30, 2024

Minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Alan G. Fall

Gary R. Williams