

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday February 4, 2013

Present: Leslie Babb, Scott Cunningham, Neal Boyle Selectmen; Josh Shackford, Police Chief ; Justin Brooks, Fire Chief; Scott Brooks, Road Agent; Karen Hatch, Town Administrator; and Ernie Day Jr.

Meeting opened at 6:30pm. Manifests were signed and general mail was reviewed.

The board voted on the warrant articles that needed Selectmen's recommendations.

Babb asked for public comment and there was discussion on why Babb was not in favor of the purchase of the new highway truck.

Dean Robertson inquired about employees bonuses. Babb explained the rationale of the Board's decision to grant performance rewards to all employees and that there would be no raises given in 2013.

Hatch reported that the total 2012 budget under run was \$56,345.00.

Boyle stated that he had spoken with Mark McKinley about the Town Hall windows; and because of the savings so far due to the added insulation, McKinley recommended that the plastic not be put up as it was so late into the heating year. Board agreed not to have done this season.

Shackford reported that he will be deposed at the end of the month for a wrongful death suit. This stems from an ATV accident on Durgin Hill Road a number of years ago.

Chief Brooks stated that he has received the insurance check for the claim on the door.

Road Agent Brooks reported that they were working on removing the ice build up in ditches and culverts and cleaning up the trees that came down during the wind event on various town roads.

There was discussion whether to put on the warrant the article for the Blue Loon if the petition was not received tomorrow. Cunningham was in favor of placing on the warrant, Babb and Boyle were not.

Next the board reviewed was a note from the assessor asking if the board would like to tax for "permanent campers". The state was now allowing towns to; our current policy was not to tax anything under 320sq ft. The board agreed to go with the assessor's recommendation and keep the same policy of not taxing under 320sq ft.

The board reviewed a proposed fund balance policy. After much discussion Babb and Cunningham agreed to adopt and sign the policy.

Another topic discussed was the letter of credit on the cell tower. The board agreed that they would not lower the letter of credit at any time. When the project was complete they would then release the letter.

Cunningham announced that he would not be available next week for the meeting and budget hearing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Leslie R. Babb

Scott M. Cunningham

Neal E. Boyle