

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting, Town of Freedom, NH 03836
Monday, January 20, 2014

Present: Neal Boyle, Leslie Babb, Ernest Day, Jr., Selectmen; Fire Chief Justin Brooks; Police Chief Josh Shackford Karen Hatch, Town Administrator, and several citizens

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

John Shipman of the Green Mtn. Conservation Group met with the board and submitted a petitioned warrant article for \$5,000.00 which he went on to explain. This is to pay a consultant to do a build out analysis around the Danforth ponds and the Ossipee Lake bays and how this would affect our waters. He also stated that it would not cover the main lake. This will be part of a watershed management plan and the prediction of water quality years from now. GMCG has received a \$65,000 grant from the EPA through the State Department of Environmental Services for studies in all areas of the watershed area. This petition will appear on the Town Warrant in March.

The Board had received a request for funding from The Lifelight Foundation which is a helicopter service based in Maine that fly patients in emergencies. Fire Chief Brooks explained that our resource helicopter is out of Dartmouth but Lifelight can be on scene quicker at times. Day made a motion to budget \$100.00; Babb seconded, so voted.

Brooks also presented material on RAD 57 which is a carbon monoxide levels tester they can use on patients so that they can better treat the patient. He is asking for a Warrant Article for \$5,500.00. The board agreed. Also reviewed was the overall Fire/Rescue budget and it was agreed that there will also be an article for \$11,000 to be put in the Capital Reserve Fund.

Brooks also reported on the Transfer Station budget that is down \$15,300 partly because of the savings with the new contract for the transport of recyclables.

Brooks next inquired about the Police Department's third cruiser. His Tahoe is in need of replacing and now that there are only two full time officers he asked if he could have on of those. The board agreed to swap; the Fire Dept. Tahoe would be put out to bid and the light bar on the police cruiser would be stored by the Police Department for future use.

Boyle asked for public comment and then moved on to Dept. Head updates and Hatch inquired about a letter and phone call received from a resident asking that the Selectmen write Verizon to ask for full coverage in town. The board agreed that they would do nothing at this time as they don't usually get involved with private businesses. However, letters written from the private sector may have more of an impact.

Hatch submitted a list of proposed encumbrances for 2013. Babb made a motion to encumber \$26,362.00; Boyle seconded, so voted.

Chief Shackford stated that he had been receiving calls from residents in Square Brook regarding the proposed article for the town to accept their roads year round. They also wanted coverage at their meeting at Town Hall this weekend.

The board did an overall review of the budget. Not all articles have been submitted and the last day to accept petitioned warrant articles will be Tuesday February 4th.

Boyle mentioned that he has had several inquiries about paying taxes by credit card. Hatch will be researching this after the Town Report deadline.

Boyle made a motion to enter non public session at 8:47pm under RSA 91-A:3 II(c) for a tax payment issue, returned to open session at 9:12pm and then returned to non public under RSA91-A:3 II(a) for employee reviews.

Returned to open session at _____ and meeting was adjourned.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Neal E. Boyle

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.