**Meeting Agenda**

**Freedom Board of Selectmen**

**Date: 1/9/2023**

**Approved 1/16/2023**

**In attendance:** Ron Price, Steve Bennett, Elaine Higgins, Jim Waterman, Travis Price, Beth Owen-Mishou,Prentice Grassi, Joe Freeman, Tyler Hadyniak and Anne Marie Adamson via zoom, Cindy Abbott,

1. Call Meeting to Order / Finalize Agenda: Ron called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
2. Review and Approve Minutes: Secretary’s Report:  Elaine made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and Steve seconded, all approved.
3. Fire Chief & EMA Director Reports:  Jim Waterman
   * Propane generator has been installed and the propane has been installed as well.  It will be programmed and tested on 1-13-2023 at 2pm.
   * Notified of approval for the Maine Forest service grant.  Will need a SAMS number for reimbursement by March 10, 2023.  Ron will look into acquiring a number.
   * Maine municipal grant was denied but Jim will submit it again this year.It is a safety grant for 2 sets of turnouts.  Steve moved to allow Ron to sign this grant and Elaine seconded, all approved.
   * Central Maine Cost Recovery:  It may not be as helpful as it has been, insurance companies are beginning to write it out of policies.
4. Public Works Director Report:  Travis Price
   * Trailer on Russell Road is currently parked in the turn around used by our public works department.  The land belongs to Jonathan Plengy. Ron will check on who owns the trailer and will ask that it be moved.
   * Burnham Hill Road, the right of way is being used and causing issues with road drainage. The skid steer is causing damage to the road. Steve made a motion that we instruct Clinton Spaulding to keep his construction materials out of the right-of-way.  A letter will be sent to Christopher Spaulding.  Elaine seconded and all approved.
5. Treasurer’s Report:  Cindy Abbott
   * Payroll warrant: $6703.17; AP warrant: $23,703.48  Cindy is holding some bills from 2022 to submit together on a 2022 warrant.  Tonight's warrants represent 2023 bills.
   * Chart of accounts for 2023 has been in development for years.  Steve would like it used. Cindy and Karen Olivera will have to work together to make it active.  Cindy was sent the changed and final chart of accounts on January 4th after spending 2-3 hours with him on January 3, 2023, and he would like that used.  He had asked that that be forwarded to Karen. The most recent change was sent to Karen Olivera on Friday, January 13th following the budget committee meeting.  Elaine suggested that Karen Olivera be contacted tomorrow and that this be fixed and that our current bills be paid.  Ron suggested that the payroll be paid and that Karen be contacted between now and next week to set up the new summary of accounts. Elaine made a motion to pay the payroll warrant in the amount of $6703.17 and that the A/P warrant be held until Karen Olivera can be reached to start the 2023 chart of accounts, Ron seconded this and all approved.
   * Bangor Savings CD statements are in the treasurer’s report.
   * 2020 Automatic Foreclosure deadline was yesterday and all were paid.
   * Alexis Toothaker is our representative for KeyBank
   * Updated wages for 2023 were presented.
     + Ron questioned the registrar of voters and Cindy clarified if that the amount reflected was outside of the regular work hours.
     + Ron made a motion to accept the wage statement for 2023 as corrected, Elaine seconded and all approved. All signed it.
6. Town Clerk & Tax Collector Report
7. Citizen’s Issues and Questions:
   * Steve bought the insulation for the post office repair.  It will be sheetrocked as well.
   * Steve called Jean Bourg regarding the grant process for solar panels.  The economic development committee is meeting tonight to discuss it. The past year we paid around $6600 for electricity for the town.  This would be three towns that are looking to benefit from the solar array.
   * Prentice
     + Heat pumps, 3 quotes for the town office.  Upright Energy appears to be the best cost.  New electrical panel and 3 heat pumps. $1600, $8216.80 for the heat pumps. $9829.30=total cost.  Elaine and Prentice applied for a rebate from Efficiency Maine.  Rebate $5600.  Total town cost $4229.30.  Proposed cost savings/heat savings $2300 annually.  $2100 per year over 25 years is the average.  The boiler is leaking but is still able to be in service.
       - Ron discussed having an on demand hot water heater,  Prentice will look into this.
       - Elaine suggested that the ARPA funds be used to pay for the heat pumps so they could be installed prior to the March meeting.  Elaine will bring it up at the upcoming Budget meeting.

1. Review Correspondence:
   * Steve received 4 new requests for charitable donations and these will be presented to the budget committee.
   * KVCOG is having a planning meeting,they will provide an overview of PFAS issues.
2. Town Officials Reports
   * Code Enforcement Officer
   * Health Official
   * School Board Director
   * General Assistance Officer
   * Plumbing Inspector
   * Solid Waste Director
   * Animal Control Officer
3. Town Boards & Committee Reports:
   * Planning Board
   * Recreational Committee:
     + Heidi Smith has donated 5 Easter Baskets for the Easter drawing.
   * Appeals Board
     + Mike Smith got the information on the course, MMA appeals board training.
   * Charter Committee
     + They have requested a meeting with the select board.
   * HIstorical Society
   * Cemetery Committee
   * Budget Committee:  upcoming January 11, 2023 6pm
   * CDAC Committee:  Working on solar arrays.  The Broadband committee is waiting on the grant.
4. Old Business
   * Steve has made a motion to go into an executive meeting under MRSA 405 (6) E  to discuss a legal matter at 7:15 pm. Came out of executive session at 7:40pm and no decisions were made.
5. New Business
   * Select Board to have a work session to go over the tax maps and the commitments 1/19/2022 at 9am
6. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 1/17/2023 at 6pm
7. Adjourn:  Ron made a motion to adjourn at 7:43 pm, Steve seconded and all agreed.