

**APPROVED MINUTES/FREEDOM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
March 23rd 2015 REGULAR MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:04 pm

PRESENT: Selectmen Ron Price (Chair), Ken Overlock and Steve Bennett. Also in attendance was Erna Keller, Cindy Abbott, Bob Gerrish, Glenn Sporie, Ronnie Littlefield, Brian Jones, Joe Freeman, Bob and Pam Herman, Tom Carroll & Rebecca Howard-Beaver Ridge Wind.

REVIEW MINUTES:

Minutes from March 9th 2015 were reviewed.

Ken/Ron, made motions, to accept as written and place on file; motions passed.

Minutes from March 16th 2015 were reviewed.

Ken/Steve, made motions, to accept as written and place on file; motions passed.

TREASURER:

Erna reported:

Treasurer's Disbursements Warrants needs to be looked over and adopted by selectmen- (in case there is a time when they are out sick, gone on vacation or meeting cancelled due to snow) Hold off until selectmen get a chance to look over –discuss next meeting

Meeting Agenda: Will this be staying the same? Will it be Monday nights with one week regular meeting and then next week with an AP & Payroll meeting? Stay the same

Steve Bennett- Please fill out W-4 info for payroll. You have 2nd half of March that will be paid to you next meeting. Usually we pay selectmen for the month on the first pay period. Steve worked on and handed back, sent email to stop by and fill out the rest

Steve: Do you Steve or Stephen on paperwork? Steve

Selectmen mail-Sometimes the bills come directly to the selectmen (please get to treasurer asap to be added to upcoming warrants)

Key Bank-We are down to 4 checks outstanding

*Ck -10456 Spec Olympics of Me \$20.00 (5/14/2013)

*Ck-12202 Dottie Chase \$96.42 (1/22/2015)

*Ck-12462 Key Bank withdrawal for 941 taxes (1/22/2015)

*Ck- 12596 MFCA \$89.00 (02/06/2015)

Budget is still being added-hope to have completed by next meeting

Payroll Warrant this week is \$2,214.06 (clerk, deputy clerk, treasurer, cleaning lady and road crew)

A/P this week is \$5,919.84 (Maritime Energy, CMP, Thorndike Auto, Ingraham Equipment, PERC, BMV, Fairpoint, AAA, Interstate Fire Protection, Waldo County Registry, Mac's Hardware, Yeaton's, Travis, White Sign, Ron-reimburse for Mallside Discount, Staples-(credit), Don Berry, Northeast Truck & Refrigeration, Seacoast Securities, Standard Distributors)

Key Bank balance.....\$91,107.46 - \$3,734.05 (4 outstanding checks)= \$87,373.41

Bank of Maine.....\$428,624.77 (3/1/2015)

Ending Checkbook balance.....\$515,998.18 (Still working on these accounts)

We received a check from Revenue Sharing for March \$2,245.41

Tingley Property- How would you like to continue with this property? Are we sending the standard Notice of Tax Sale-copy in folder along with letter from Scott Herrick (Lawyer for Tingley @ Drummond & Drummond) and from Tim Roi (also interested in property). Or are we contacting an agency to put property Out for Sale with maybe some pictures or descriptions like "Hunter's Paradise" etc... Table until end of meeting under old business

Keene Hall-Has anyone talked to Myrick?

Ron/Ken made motion for Freedom Community Historical Society to use the town lawyer for deed work @ their expense for a title search

All in favor

Steve asked If Kelly might have any objections where they are the Town's lawyer and it's a town foreclosed property

Ron hasn't talked to Kelly

Your expense & revenue reports are in your paperwork

Steve/Ken moved to accept and sign the payroll; motion passed.

Ken/Ron moved to accept and sign the A/P warrant; motion passed.

Steve/Ken moved to accept treasurer's report, motion passed.

CITIZEN'S ISSUES:

Bob Gerrish commented that it would be nice to have the town reports and budget done earlier next year to give more time to look over before town meeting.

Bob Gerrish also commented on turbines being very loud and he would like to add to the minutes the sound survey for a month. He said Glen Bridges had added Beaver Ridge testimony @ one time.

Erna Keller has copy to add to minutes BRW Survey 2009-2014 & SE Ambrose 1-16-2014

Bob mentioned that he has contacted David Schofield about the noise meter but he never showed & when he saw him at Hilltop he said he sent the machine out to be fixed (Decimal Meter that Jay Guber had before and gave to Dave) He mentioned that Ken Overlock was there when the windmills was running slow and they was noisy.

Ken Overlock- Yes there was running very slowly and there was low noise.

Tom Carol- Usually when you have a sound study by DEP they take out any background noise

Tom asked- If someone uses a hand held meter is this what the town would believe. There are all kinds of them some apps on your phones but they register all surrounding sound without removing any that aren't essential.

Protocol for sound by DEP

Last yr. there was a sound study done when the mills was running by a 3rd party & DEP specifications. That way there was no bias. DEP has a list of independent Contractors

Steve Bennett-I am new here and who are you (to Mr. Carroll) Are you saying you have to be a sound engineer to read these

Mr. Carroll responded "No, that is not what I am saying. There is strict criteria & protocol that is used.

Steve- So am I hearing that if Dave was there with his hand held that the reading might not be accurate?

Tom replied: We can have a sound expert come and answer questions that you have. Maybe someone from the DEP third party list. This would give us a starting point to go from.

Discussion continued

Brian Jones I would like to plant a seed for the Waldo County Wood Shed maybe opening a spot

here in Freedom. Would like to say that the old town dump site would be a good place. _ - _ acre for the woodshed and if this would be feasible.

Joe Freeman- I have a Daily Time Ticket that I thought might work good at the town garage when greasing trucks, changing oil or whatever maintenance that's needed.

Ron asked- Do you punch in and out for each job?

Joe- If it is more than one job on one truck you do what needs to be done then punch out- If you start work on next truck then you punch in on another ticket.

Ron- Thank You- this is something for us to look into.

Joe asked "Is the sand put out for bid with a contract every year or does the selectmen just decide?"

Ron replied "There is no contract but we check with several different contractors."

Joe asked "Did the town decide not to use the state camp to save money on fuel?"

Ron "Not at this time- we are looking into it again this year."

TOWN CLERK:

Cindy reported:

Town Meeting minutes were done and she gave a copy to the selectmen.

MVP New England Patriots Charitable Foundation

Ken suggested that Viola Greeley would be a great nomination

Steve/Ron made a nomination for Viola Greeley. All in favor

Ken will write up the nomination paperwork

Update Emails-MMA website

Training on MMA website- Right to Know is the only requirement as of right now. There are other trainings coming up that the selectmen might be interested in.

Order to pay oldest tax first

Ron/Ken made motion to pay oldest tax first. All in favor

Drug Policy-Steve/Ron motion to accept drug testing policy for Town of Freedom All in favor

Random Drug Testing Pool- All selectmen have gone for testing, Cindy will set up one for Steve.

Ron/Steve motion to remove Clint from List of truck drivers. All in favor.

Appointments to accept & sign:

a) Secretary: Erna Keller

b) ACO: Scott Holmes

c) CEO/Plumbing: David Schofield

d) Health Officer: Frances Walker

e) GA Deputy: Cindy Abbott

f) EMA: Christine Spaulding

g) Assessor: Jackie Robbins

Ron/Ken made motion to go into executive session @ 7:20 pm to discuss personnel matter

1MRSA 405 6 (A)

Out @ 7:40 pm No decisions made

Ron/Steve made motion to accept all appointments on list except for David Schofield, replacing him with Jackie Robbins. All in favor.

Ron will contact Dave to discuss him finishing until the end of month and to ask about the decimal meter. Check to see if Dave is filing Flood Plain Ordinance with state.

Cindy typed up the appointments and selectmen signed them

FIRE DEPT:

Jim Waterman reported:

Truck #2 has had a mirror replaced by Dave Bennett

Truck #2 back door still hasn't been fixed by K & T yet because they have been so busy but are hoping to be here soon.

Truck #2 also has a problem with wiper modular that we have ordered.

Ken asked "Has any of the firefighters discussed any interest in AFLAC?"

Jim replied "Yes, They was told to contact one of the selectmen- I can ask them at the meeting when I go over."

Steve mentioned that there is a bill in legislation right now for fire fighter volunteers by taking up to 750 off property taxes.

Jim- Right now we have 22 regular fire fighters and 3 junior

Steve asked "Have the number of volunteers been steady?"

Jim replied, "I have been here for 25 years- There has been between 18-25 volunteers a year. There is a lot involved to be state certified you need 200 hrs. In one year. Right now I have 2 volunteers doing a basic fire fighters training, this is a 10 week course. You have to have this before you can enter a burning building.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE:

Ken reported that the town received a letter from state that they will continue to reimburse at 50% unless we try to ask for a different amount.

Discussion to keep as is

ROAD COMMISSIONERS:

Buses have been stopped from traveling on Rollins Road and off the untarred portion of Mitchell Road & Raven Road

Ron has been appointed acting road commissioner by Steve/Ken

Ron suggested getting together for a work session for public works

Ron/Ken motion for work session Thursday night @ 6:00 pm @ office. All in favor

EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

ASSESSOR'S:

Beaver Ridge Wind abatement

Jackie said they would like to meet with assessors anytime to discuss

Mike Rogers from Maine Revenue also will attend to help in discussion

Ken/Steve motion to contact Jackie with three options as follows (March 30th @ 2:00 pm April 6th @ 2:00 pm or April 13th @ 2:00 pm,

Assessor's Meetings are a public meeting

Discussion

Selectmen will be interested in giving 10 minutes or so for comments at the end with the understanding that this is about the ABATEMENT and that they need to stay on topic.

ACO:

Cindy stated that there is one individual since 2012 that has outstanding dog taxes on 2 dogs. She now has 3 dogs

PUBLIC WORKS:

HISTORICAL:

RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE:

Meeting this week

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

SCHOOL BOARD REP:

Steve is on the superintendent Search Committee starting tomorrow night. If anyone has any questions that they would like asked when they are interviewing.

Ken-What is the life expectancy of the building and who is in charge of this?

Steve- maintenance supervisor

Ken-What is their administrative plan?

Ron- April 2nd 2015 @ 6:00 pm is the school budget meeting where all the select boards from all towns are invited to attend.

April 13th 2015 they are planning on approving budget that they will put in front of towns for voter approval.

SOLID WASTE:

Ron went to meeting at the Rec Ctr for MRC. The guy in charge went over the plans for the new waste facility which uses a chemical process to break it down into ind. Sugar and biochemical. The plant will be built across the street in Hampden from the PERC site.

Ken asked "Is PERC still in denial?"

They can still run and sell the energy but it won't be at the same rate as now.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jim returned to let selectmen know that there are 5 interested in Aflac. (Karen & John York, Russell Spaulding, Chris & Amber Bowles)

Ken will contact Michelle and set up a meeting hopefully Monday after AP & Payroll warrant meeting.

Tingley Property: Town Meeting it was decided to sell by public bid and to market property
Discussion about how

Advertise ourselves, with Quit Claim Deed

Ken- The lower road by Drew Fales and his sister was claimed to be abandoned. The main access for property is off the Rollins Road which might impact the value of property.

Option to have Lawyer send a letter to Drummond & Drummond attorney for Tingley to state that TOWN voted and what the vote was

Contact Lawyer Kelly or Collins to ask if property can be auctioned off and what the process will entail.

Ken/Steve motion for chairman of board (Ron Price) to contact lawyer and ask about process and what they think would be best to do.

Ken/Steve motion to have Kelly & Collins to send a letter if they think it is necessary.

Report back from chairman at the AP/Warrant meeting next Monday March 30th

NEW BUSINESS:

Select Chairman of the Board

Steve/Ken motion to nominate Ron Price as chair All in favor

Steve has made a list of items that he would like to discuss and prioritize to go over weekly.

Ken thinks that 6-14 can be addressed at the work session for public works Thursday

Ron thinks keys at town garage needs to be changed

Discussion on all town keys and that town office has to have a code to enter. Still out is Joe Richardson & Janet Boynton

Central Maine Disposal was wondering about being able to drive on posted roads. Only with smaller trucks-roads are posted and Sullivan's also can't use their big trucks

David Schofield also has 2 keys that will have to be returned. Election hall and the side door

Ron/Ken motion to change locks at town garage. All in favor.

Ron/Ken motion to adjourn meeting 8:55 pm

Next AP/Warrant signing meeting will be March 30th 2015 @ 6:00 pm

Next Regular meeting will be April 6th 2015 @ 6:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary

Ernestine Keller