

**APPROVED MINUTES  
FREEDOM BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
August 31st 2015**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:04 pm

**PRESENT:** Selectmen Ron Price (Chair), Ken Overlock and Steve Bennett. Also in attendance were Erna Keller, Cynthia Abbott, Tom & Hilary Fleming, Marilyn Perry, Sallyann Hadyniak, Scott Holmes, Myrick Cross, Barb & Ron Littlefield, Bob Gerrish, Dave Bridges, Brian Jones, Tim Biggs, Jim Waterman and Kim Holmes.

**REVIEW MINUTES:** Minutes from August 24th 2015 were reviewed. Steve/Ken, made motions, to accept as ammended and place on file; motions passed.

1. Pg. 2 bottom Brooks cost is \$285,000 & 1100 more square feet

**CITIZEN'S ISSUES:**

- Steve-Reminder tm night is a road committee meeting at 6 here
- Thursday night at Grange @ 7:00 pm is a Drugs in Waldo County forum given by the Sherriffs Dept
- Sallyann concerns about a property & garbage on Ayer Ridge
- Ron- We have a health officer we can send, if the buildings are uninhabitable then the town will have to put them up in a motel til it is cleaned orthey find new place.
- Steve- Do we have town ordinance?
- Ron- No but it is a State Mandate
- We can opt to use general assistance and have Sullivan's go clean it up
- Steve- Is it bad enough to send health officer in?
- Ron- Conditions arent very good
- **Steve/Ken** motion to send Health Officer & CEO in to visit and report back to board
- Jim Waterman- Still having an issue with Sullivan's trucks being overloaded and no sides
- Ron will contact Sullivan's

**TREASURER:**

Erna reported:

Payroll Warrant..... \$2755.64

A/P Warrant..... \$17541.22

Ending checkbook balance.....\$

- Payroll Warrant this week is \$1679.55 (clerk, treasurer, secretary, cleaning lady & road crew)  
Plus Aflac \$534.96 & 941 Payment \$2755.64
- A/P this week is \$17,541.22 (Sandra Greeley-roadside mowing, Thorndike Auto, MMA-Erna Convention, WC Registry of deeds-lien discharge, American Red Cross, Glidden Construction, Gorham Leasing, TechSource, Lakeview Lumber, AE Hodsdon, Hilltop, Mechanic Savings, K & T, Derek Larrabee)
- **Ending Checkbook balance**.....\$252,401.95
- We received a check from USPS for \$630 August Rent
- Capital Account Balances
  - Public Works \$64,103.27
  - FVFD..... \$52,973.84
  - Town Dam.....\$5376.31(before pay AE Hodsdon) **after** \$4811.43
- Important Info/ Upcoming Meeting

- Ryan has been here working on set up of computers– the contracts are in the AP folder  
**Selectmen signed contract for a year. Paying Sept-Dec and set up fee Ken/Steve** motion for Ron to sign on behalf of the board
- MMA CONVENTION Oct 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> in Augusta (each of you have a copy-If you are going I need last page filled out & returned to me)

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

**Ken/Steve** moved to sign the A/P warrant; motion passed.

#### **TOWN CLERK:**

Cindy reported:

#### **FIRE DEPT:**

- Jim has had a request for fire dept to burn an out building at Harriet Bernosky's.
- Also couple of big brush piles on Bryant Road
- Ron-Can fire dept wash out couple of culverts?
- Jim- Yes, just contact Dave, Scott or Brian

#### **PLANNING BOARD:**

- **Wednesday Sept 8th @ 7 pm**

#### **ROAD COMMISSIONERS:**

- Work on Summer roads is almost done, still a couple more culverts to do
- next we need to get salt and sand
- Steve- PW committee workshop Wednesday @ 6
- SAND & SALT BID
- Need to contact Todd Garnett, FC Works, Derek Larrabee, etc. bid must be good quality sand- tested and name of pit it will be coming from
- Ken: Clint would also like to put bid in

#### **ASSESSORS:**

- 2 abatement request
- 1-Shawn Gilley assessed at one amount but appraised at another (Give to Jackie)
- Nancy Bailey- Septic and base lot (Give to Jackie)
- Steve: I am looking into a subdivision and need to ask Kristin few questions
- Ron: Jackie said that this was done correctly but can talk to her when she gets back

#### **DAM COMMITTEE:**

- Steve has draft for warrant for special town meeting
- Discussion and few changes
- Expend \$4811.43 from BRW donation balance in the Sandy Pond Dam acct and expend no more then \$25000 from undesignated fund.
- Need to get a detailed estimate from Clayton Larrabee and Larry Hotham
- Derek Larrabee has shoreline certificate credentials
- Ken: We should see if they can meet us at selectmens meeting next Tuesday before special town meeting on Wednesday. We have our stamped for construction designs.
- Ken will do leg work to get numbers from contractors
- **Steve/Ken** motion to approve warrant & hearing for Sandy Pond Dam September 9th at 7pm in election hall. (approved)

#### **CEO/LPI:**

- Jackie is dealing with 2 code enforcement violations & is writing a letter to them
- Need to contact Jackie about coming to selectmen's meeting once a month for updates

**EMD:**

- Is suppose to be going to a 10 week comp program which is once a week
- Need to contact Christine about coming to a meeting monthly for updates

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**HISTORICAL:**

- Myrick: We are wondering about the Quit Claim Deed now that historical has paid for Keene building.
- Ron: We will mention to the lawyer and get that done
- Myrick: The old town meeting house floor has been installed. We need to sand & poly it and just finish the lights & windows.
- Erna has given them the new report since last bill came in. Reminded Myrick that he has copy of bills and reports everytime a new bill comes in on the wall in the Historical box. It hasn't been picked up in months.
- Keene Hall: We recieved a call from State Preservation that Keene Hall is listed as one of the top 10 most endangered buildings. Keene Hall is a finalist.
- We are planning on having a studio apartment on the second floor to help cover the maintenance and self preservation
- Ron asked: So if you get this status what does it mean for Historical?
- Myrick: It helps when writing grants & getting donations for us to announce that the state has us on the top 10 most endangered.

**RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

- Backyard Builders
- Puchase price Gabel 12 x 20 is \$2860.00 (floor 3/4 advantech, hemlock skids, they level, ramp, walls-drop lap pine, roof-metal grren, doors-1 standard, 1 oversized)Delivery 11/4/15 **This will be place on cement by basketball court**
- Puchase price Gabel 10 x 16 is \$2295.00 (floor 3/4 advantech, hemlock skids, they level, ramp, walls-drop lap pine, roof-metal grren, doors-1 standard, 1 oversized)Delivery 11/5/15 **This will be placed behind town office and will also house the lawnmowers, weedwacker, leaf blower, wheel barrow and tools of cemetery committee/town) Steve needs to contact them back about the electrical and report back how much it would cost out of building maint.**
- This is more that rec had agreed to but 4 members was here at meeting (Erna, Cindy, Marilyn and Sallyann) They agreed for rec to pay for the full \$2295 out of the money that they have in special revenue that has been raised in past few years
- Kim- We have one of these building and they are very solid

**SCHOOL BOARD REP:**

- **Myrick Cross reported**
- School started today
- Annual news letter was sent out to each citizen in the mail-Myrick went over this newsletter
- 25 New staff members
- Superintendent Paul Austin spoke at the Unifree Reunion
- Paul Austin-friendly, warm, very approachable and has great potential. He is anxious to get out into the community and meet everyone
- Myrick is looking forward to a good year

- Steve: I like Paul Austin, he is a regular guy. His father graduated from from Freedom Academy. He is looking for a place here to move to. I would like to invite him to a selectmen's meeting ASAP
- Myrick: I will talk to him and set it up
- Myrick: I would like to invite everyone to support our school events & community activities. It would be nice to have the community support again

#### **Cemetery Committee:**

- Kim: Thomas Stevens after meeting with them has agreed to replace footstones that was broken (said his workers didn't know where they went so they threw them over rock wall) unacceptable
- I feel he is upset we are questioning him, not that his workers did such a lousy job
- Hutchins Cemetery: Dug out a base , broke the stone and also thru that over rock wall
- Erna: What they did to fix Hannah's stone was unacceptable
- Cindy: It is a disgrace to have put 1/2 the stone in the middle. It looks terrible and he said it would have to be chiseled apart to fix the issue. Not sure if he can
- Abbott Cemetery: Cindy was very upset about her families stone that the base was removed, set upside down right beside it, filled hole in with cement and set stone back. Hole is now like 4-6 inches below (He claimed that was unacceptable- they claimed worker's said they couldn't find any gravel/sand to refill area)
- Kim suggests paying him for the cleaning only- because that they did do a good job on most. There was places that still hadn't been done that needs to be finished
- Ron said: Thomas stated that when working in a cemetery if there are stones that they don't know where they should go, they usually remove them and take them with them... **This is unacceptable- It should of been cleaned and left there for committee to see if they could figure it out**
- Also he gave no reason and didn't seem to understand why we was upset
- He has been sick and was unable to supervise in the cemeteries that we had issues in
- He came up with a reason for everything that wasn't acceptable when pushed on subject, giving lame excuses or I have them do this for this reason on stones with cracks and unsteady.
- He was also told before he left that we wanted him to have his crew fix all the issues and fix them to our satisfaction. He was to work on one cemetery at a time and have someone inspect before moving on to the next cemetery
- Cindy received an email that stated " This wasn't gonna happen, that he can fix these small issues in half a day and he would be there at 8:30 in morning. This is when someone needs to be available.
- Ron suggest calling lawyer to see what options we have. We can kick him out and not pay him. Then hire Kim, Steve and Scott to fix the issues he left.
- Ken- I don't want him even back in town. This was a disgrace and vandalism as far as I am concerned.
- Ron- I agree
- Steve- Even his repairing & cement is nothing close to what is in his brochure that he advertises. Also the granite base work was unacceptable.
- Vandalism to our cemeteries is unacceptable
- Erna: When Cindy and I met him at convention we talked about how the items would be fixed and that he had a cd of the restoration of other cemeteries and brochures. His website also explains the work that would be done. He had pictures of the many cemeteries he restored and came highly recommended. I can't believe that he is backing his workers after the damage and shabby work they did. He went around to all the cemeteries ahead of time and looked at the stones that needed to be fixed and any issue in the cemetery. Cindy was on vacation and I didn't get the message until a day or so after he started. I saw the Penney cemetery had been cleaned. We didn't think he needed to be supervised with the great recommendations and years of experience. Unfortunately his workers should of been.

- Steve: I think we should contact lawyer- he needs to pay for the damage that has been done
- Ken: He needs to be kept out of town, maybe call police about the vandalism for a police record
- Steve: Lets contact lawyer and get their advice on how to proceed and I will call him and tell him not to come back until we can further explore what to do.
- Ron: We will need an estimate on damage that needs to be fixed. Our lawyer would be fighting against his insurance company to get fixed.
- Ken: Give him a chance to redeem himself and his company?
- Ken/Ron a motion for Steve to send email to lawyer with all of our points and disapproval of his work. Plus have Steve contact Thomas Stevens to let him know why we are upset and that he is not to show up tomorrow. (approved)

**ACO:**

- 2 lost dogs
- 1 lost cat
- Ron any news on Rabies Clinic
- Kim- it would be nice at rabies clinic to have micro chips added
- Scott- rabies shot is free, chip is like \$15

**SOLID WASTE REP:**

- Hilary: Contract with Sullivan's will be up for renewal.
- Are selectmen putting this out to bid?
- Survey that Meredith and Hilary has made went out to each citizen in the town mailing- This will give them the info needed for DEP survey that they receive
- Recycling: is getting better all the time, seems to be increasing
- Info on #2 plastics & colored

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Fire Permits: Dave Bennett, Jim Waterman and Scott Holmes
- Scott needs to be sworn in

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Cindy mentioned a wasp problem in election hall. Steve sprayed

**Ken/Ron motion to adjourn meeting 8:38 pm**

**Next Regular meeting will be Tuesday September 8th 2015 @ 6:00 pm**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Secretary**

Ernestine Keller