

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, April 13, 2026**

Present: Selectmen Alan Fall, Gary Williams and Linda Mailhot, Admin. Acting Recording Secretary, who recorded the minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Office. Fall called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Absent: Les Babb

Also present: Scott Brooks, Rich Laferriere, Alan Libby, Kyle Thomas

Review of Mail, Sign Manifests:

The accounts payable and payroll manifests and the red folder containing correspondence were reviewed.

Department Head Updates:

Transfer Station- Alan Libby updated the board that the bucket for the new machine is now available and is scheduled to be delivered 04/14/26. At that time, he will discuss with them the invoices for machine rental.

Facilities – Kyle Thomas said the tennis nets are up; the mosquito spraying is scheduled to start April 25th

Highway Department – Scott Brooks said that the new truck should be delivered by the end of the month; salt has been ordered in an effort to lock in the price; road bans have been lifted on all roads as of 04/13/26 except for Scarboro Road and the hills which will likely take place closer to the end of the month.

Police Department – Chief Rich Laferriere said the cruiser is at NEVO; the old K9 machine is having an issue starting which will need to be looked at; he would like to purchase (3) vests in the amount of \$4,917.20 with funds to come from the Special Reserve Fund.

Bookkeeping – Linda Mailhot mentioned that the Transfer Station was closed on Easter. The personnel policy does not list Easter as a paid holiday thus the Transfer Station employees were not paid for that day. Does the Board want to compensate those employees since it was a mandatory day off.

Alan Fall made a motion to pay the Transfer Station employees holiday pay for Easter. Motion was seconded by Gary Williams.

Approval of Minutes:

Gary Williams made a motion to approve the minutes from both the public and non-public meetings on 03/30/26. Motion was seconded by Alan Fall.

Alan Fall made a motion to approve the minutes from 04/06/26. Motion was seconded by Gary Williams.

April 14, 2026

New Business/Old Business

Alan Fall made a motion to withdraw \$13,310 from the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund. Motion was seconded by Gary Williams.

Gary Williams introduced an email with a draft contract from Green Mountain Conservation for Ossipee Lake Road Stormwater Control & Mitigation Project. Scott Brooks inquired why the Town would be contracting with them when the Town is not a contractor for hire. Alan Fall said his thought process was that it was because it was in the best interest of the public but perhaps that isn't correct. Warrant Article 27 has the appropriation of some funds from a grant and some from taxation. Gary will go back to them for further discussion regarding changes to scope of work, etc.

Alan Fall said the Heritage Commission met the other night. They are moving ahead and are getting Jarrod Hurd to look at heating & cooling the Town Office. North Country Architect has some minor revisions to get back to them on.

Bid Openings - 7:00

Steel plates on concrete pad at Transfer Station – only 1 bid was received, and it was from Whittier Service Center in the amount of \$15,020.00. The funds appropriated for the project are only \$12,000.00.

Alan Fall said the Selectmen need to figure out how to pay the balance. That discussion should happen with a full Board present.

Paving at the Transfer Station entrance – 2 bids were received. The first bid opened was from North Country Paving in the amount of \$16,250. The second bid was from Bryant Paving in the amount of \$28,040. The funds appropriated for the project are only \$15,500.00.

The bids were circulated to Alan Libby and Scott Brooks for review. Scott said perhaps the Selectmen want to consider only putting down a 3" winter binder coat for this year.

Painting of Town Hall – 4 bids were received. The first bid opened was from Painter by the Pond in the amount of \$17,500.00. The second bid was from G.S. Bostic Painting in the amount of \$25,300. The third bid was from Jay Hounsell in the amount of \$37,200. The fourth bid was also from Jay Hounsell in the amount of \$42,800. Jay Hounsell was present and said that this fourth bid included the option of installing vinyl siding on the back side of the Town Hall as opposed to painting it. The funds appropriated for the project are only \$17,000.00.

The bids were circulated to Kyle Thomas for review. Alan Fall said the Selectmen will have a discussion at the next Selectmen meeting with the full Board present to discuss where the additional funds will come from.

Public Hearing on Proposed Building/Permit Fees – Opened at 7:29; Closed at 7:39

Gary Williams gave an overview of the proposed changes.

Public comment:

Steve Capoccia of Young's Hill asked about the fees for tree cutting. His concern is that it would be very expensive to have to pay \$75 for each tree plus \$15 for abutter notices. Gary Williams clarified those fees

April 14, 2026

are only applicable in the Shorefront District. The Selectmen discussed clarifying on the list of permit fees that those are only applicable in the Shorefront to avoid any confusion for the public. Mr. Capoccia also said he wanted to make a statement about paving the transfer station. He said he thought the Town did a wonderful job maintaining Town roads and thought paving may be unnecessary. Scott Brooks commented that it is to pave the entrance only and it is more about how what happens at the entrance impacts Bennett Road.

Other Public Comment:

Susan Hoople asked if the environmental issues at Wabanaki have been brought into compliance so they can open on time. She is primarily concerned with the septic. Alan Fall said the Selectmen are working through the process with Mr. Salvati and the attorney. Sue went on to say that she has been trying to get a map showing the electrical on the Wabanaki property. Gary Williams said that it is all private.

Pickleball:

Gary Williams said there are 3 prices/options for painting the pickleball courts. Those prices are \$820.00 for option 1, which is preferred by the Recreation Director, \$561.00 for option 2, and \$411.94 for option 3. There are also 3 prices/options for the pickleball nets. Those prices are \$998.00 for option 1, which is preferred by the Recreation Director, \$801.34 for option 2, and \$1,007.86 for option 3. Alan Fall said he would like to hear from the Recreation Director why they prefer those particular options even though the pricing falls within the appropriated amount.

Consent Agenda:

Payroll Manifest – week ending – 04/08/2026	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending 04/08/2026	Approved

Correspondence:

Letter from Alan Libby to Milton CAT	Reviewed
NHDES Wetlands Application re: Michael Zammitti	Reviewed
Letter of Appointment from Kelly Ayotte to Rene Wheaton to New Hampshire Commission on Aging	Reviewed
NHDES Shoreland Permit-By Notification re: Ossipee Lake Rd	Reviewed

Being no further input, Alan Fall made a motion to adjourn. Williams seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

_____ Leslie R. Babb	 Alan G. Fall	 Gary R. Williams
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April 14, 2026