

**I. CALL TO ORDER 6:00 pm** – in the basement meeting room of the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Greta St. Germain, Brett Hunter and Leon Holmes Sr.; and Jeanne Nygren Selectmen's Clerk. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

At 6:00 pm motion was made by Hunter and seconded by St. Germain to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A:3 (c) to discuss a tax hardship matter. The roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; St. Germain-aye; Hunter-aye; Holmes-aye.

At 6:05 pm motion was made by Hunter to return to public session. St. Germain seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; St. Germain-aye; Hunter-aye; Holmes-aye.

Selectmen decided that a new payment arrangement letter is to be prepared and signed by Jeremy Lennon.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS** – none.

**III. LIAISON REPORTS** – no Planning Board meeting this week.

St Germain received a letter from the Town of Danville regarding updating perambulations with that town and a request to see if the Town of Fremont would split the cost 50/50. Questions arose if GPS coordinates need to be redone and if Fremont has someone that does perambulations and what is the cost? These questions will be addressed when Carlson returns from vacation.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

St. Germain moved to approve the minutes as amended of the 21 March 2013 Board meeting. Hunter seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

**V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS**

6:45 pm Public Input – none.

At 7:00 pm Chief Butler came into the meeting with the purchase requisition from Industrial Protection Services with the bid for the SCBA'S for \$47,088.00 at MA State bid price. A motion was made by St. Germain to accept this bid and seconded by Holmes. Hunter abstained on this vote, which was approved 2-0-1. Butler asked to have the \$9,999.00 that was requested at the Deliberative Session to be put into his budget as he needs to purchase items for the utility vehicle and new flashlights. St. Germain said she would like him to see how his budget goes through the year. A discussion pursued about purchasing a used fire truck as opposed to a new truck. Both Butler and Hunter felt used equipment would only be headaches for the Department as most used trucks are ready to be taken out of service anyways. Butler left the meeting at 7:25 pm.

7:30 pm appointment - Road Agent Mark Pitkin had called Selectman St. Germain stating he was unable to come into tonight's meeting as he had a prior commitment with his son. He asked for the Board to give provide him with a list of questions so he could prepare before coming into next meeting. The Board discussed the previous issues that resulted from the request to talk with the Road Agent; all agreed that the stipend amount should be increased to reflect this additional work. More research will be done.

St. Germain passed out information regarding the Selectmen's Institute that supplies general educational information if any of the other Selectmen wanted to sign up for a course.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Annual Policy review (follow-up to last week) of a new Complaint Policy. After review and corrections by the Board, a motion to adopt this policy as a first draft was made by Hunter and seconded by Holmes. The vote was 3-0. Hunter will email the corrections.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. A motion to approve the payroll manifest of \$19,207.06 for the week of 29 March 2013 was made by St. Germain, and seconded by Holmes. The vote was 3-0. A motion to approve the accounts payable manifest of \$41,342.55 for the week of 29 March 2013 was made by St. Germain and seconded by Hunter. The vote was 3-0.

2. The Board then reviewed and approved next week's bills for payment

3. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence and outgoing correspondence drafts.

4. Formation of Committee to search for a new Police Chief:

There was discussion about the friendship between Holmes and the former Police Chief. It was stated that the public is aware the former chief had campaigned and placed political signage around town for Holmes, as well as his presence on election night to cheer on Holmes after winning the seat. This presents a bias on any decisions that Holmes might make in regard to the ongoing legal case. St. Germain said while Holmes still has a vote as a Board member she and Hunter would strongly urge Holmes to recuse himself from this case.

Holmes stated he believes he can make decisions best suited for the Town especially if there have been wrong doings. Holmes inquired as to the status of the case. St. Germain will provide him with the contact information of our legal counsel, for update and legal requirements of Holmes as a new Board member.

St. Germain stated that as a Board the process of moving forward to find a new Chief needs to begin. Hunter agreed this needs to be done. Hunter would like to find out how other Towns have handled situation like this for getting a committee up and running; but goals and guidelines need to be set by this Board. Suggestions on advertising include website and LGC are also avenues to use during this process. The Committee needs to consist of 5 or more members minimum, a completion time frame needs to be set (e.g. No longer than 3 months) consisting of a law enforcement member; and one or more members of the public by submitting a letter of interest in searching for this part time position.

A motion was made by St, Germain to start the process of cleaning the office at the police station and storing away contents; seconded by Hunter. All were in favor 3-0 and another person will be needed during this cleaning process.

5. A draft Employee Media Relations Spokesperson Policy was tabled to see if this may have been covered under another adopted policy.

6. A draft Town Vehicle Policy was tabled until further information is gathered.

7. A letter to Fire Chief Butler was signed, announcing the resignation of Leon Holmes, Sr. from the Fremont Fire Rescue Department in order to serve as the newly elected Selectman. Holmes also at this

time stated he wishes to resign as part-time Town Highway Department employee and highway contract worker as he feels he needs to be able to participate fully as a Selectman after being elected.

8. The Board reviewed an Intent to Excavate for parcel 02-151.02 for Darlene Olson. Further action was tabled until after the Planning Board meeting of April 3, 2013.

9. Letter from State of New Hampshire Department of Safety regarding the disaster declaration from the blizzard was reviewed and Pitkin will be attending the session on April 3, 2013 in Stratham to register Fremont for aid.

10. Letter to Citizens Bank from Treasurer Kimberly Dunbar regarding authorized signatures of the Town credit card was reviewed and a motion was made by Hunter to sign, seconded by Holmes. The vote was 3-0.

The next regular Board meeting will be a work session, to be held on Thursday April 4, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Hunter and seconded by St. Germain to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Nygren  
Selectmen's Clerk