Meeting Minutes
Freedom Board of Selectmen
Date: 10-5-2026

Approved 10-19-2026

Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 431 235 8395
Passcode: TownMeet

Select Board Meeting

In attendance: Laura Greeley, Lissa Widoff, Kory Boulier, Beth Owen-Mishou, Stan and Kerri Taylor, Jim Waterman, Brian Murphy, Joe Freeman, Roy Mishou (via zoom), Maryann and Dave Bennett, Jon Thornhill, Heather Donahue

1. Call Meeting to Order / Finalize Agenda: Laura Greeley called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
2. Announcements:
    - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to accept the minutes from 9/28/2026 as amended and place them on record, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
    - Laura Greeley mentioned that Lissa Widoff is writing a letter regarding any misinformation in the letter that was sent to residents recently by a select group of town citizens. She will provide clarification and a response from Atty Kelly.
        - The Select Board is not taking peoples land away.
        - They are not asserting that the town has maintained the road.
        - They have acknowledged that the abutters were very generous with letting people walk on the road.
        - The sheriff's department and forestry department did not say it was up to the town. When the select board reached out to the sheriff's department the town was informed as long as the law suit was active then they would not enforce.
        - The Select Board brought the consent decree to the town's people.
        - The opinion of the town was a majority, the Select Board did not falsely say that it was a majority, it was a majority.
        - Laura Greeley stated that she thinks the plaintiffs will continue to sue. The law allows for this.

        - The amount spent was incorrect. A total of $85,000 which is the entire budget for legal fees. It is for all legal purposes, not just Beaver Ridge.
        - The discontinued roads. Putting the town at risk for opening up 25 additional roads. Some of these roads are already discontinued and have a public easement forever.
        - The Select Boards have been very diverse and have negotiated and worked collaboratively.
        - Laura Greeley believes that the individuals that wrote the letter would allow foot traffic and allow snowmobiles use the land.
        - Laura Greeley would like to negotiate she encouraged the individuals who wrote the letter to go back and speak with the plaintiffs.
            - Dave Bennett asked if the total amount spent on legal fees included the mailings and all the other fees regarding Beaver Ridge Road.
    - Maryann Bennett said that the Hadyniaks let people use the road until there was a situation. Laura Greeley reviewed statements that had been taken stating that people have been prevented from traveling on the road.
3. Fire Chief Reports: Jim Waterman
    - Jim Waterman asked when the bridge on 137 would be completed. Lissa Widoff clarified that it is her understanding that it would occur next summer.
    - Lissa Widoff asked about a Road Maintenance and Mailbox Policy. Triad has reflective numbers that can be purchased. A discussion ensued regarding private roads and what needs to occur with regard to access for emergency vehicles. Lissa Widoff asked Jim Waterman to write up something to reflect accessibility needs for emergencies.
4. Treasurer's Report: Contessa Mancini (not present)
    - Payroll Warrant: $9172.17
    - AP Warrant: $78076.88
    - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay the AP warrant for the week of 10/5/26 in the amount of $ 78076.88, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
    - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay the payroll warrant for the week of 10/5/26 in the amount of $9172.17, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
    - Camden National Municipal account: $1048973.34
    - Checks Received:
        - USPS $928.42

5. Public Works: Jon Thornhill
    - Jon Thornhill spoke with Wellman this am and they are confirming October 6-8. They would like to wait on the curb and sidewalk until the spring. The price would remain the same. Laura Greeley reviewed why it is important to get the curb completed.
    - The trash truck passed inspection.
    - Truck 4 is having a turbo leak fixed and will come back with a sticker.
    - Truck 6 is working with no more leaks.
    - Truck 7 plow repaired
    - Laura Greeley thanked him for the way he presents the invoices. He has been working with Contessa.
    - Jon asked what they would like done with junk iron and tires. He knows of a company that will bring a container and take it away.
    - There was a discussion about a camera at the town maintenance area.
    - Jon asked about tools. Laura Greeley asked about setting up an account at Harbor Freight. She will check with Contessa about setting up an account.
    - He purchased the parts for the riding mower. There were some questions as to whether the individual would be shoveling.
    - Jon Thornhill will take Donny out next week to view the area he will be plowing.
    - Jon Thornhill will look into selling the plowing body for truck 3. He will write up a bid for the plow body.
    - Joe Freeman asked about us picking up trash in other towns. Laura Greeley clarified the history of this. Lissa Widoff asked how you would price it out and what our billing rate would be. She suggested they create a proposal with actual numbers.
        - Brian Murphy asked about how that would affect spring clean-up for those towns. Jon Thornhill clarified that those towns have a different system for spring clean-up.
    - Jon Thornhill asked that the select board keep him up to date with in services with regard to Dig Safe.
6. Town Clerk & Tax Collector Report: Cindy Abbott (not present)
    - **Abatements**
        - **Laura Greeley made a motion to abate account #195, Lynn Hadyniak in the amount of $142.56 due to an adjustment to tree growth acreage and rates, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**

        - **Laura Greeley made a motion to abate account #891 Maryann and David Bennett in the amount of $358.11 due to duplicate entry for solar, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
        - **Laura Greeley made a motion to abate account #892, Maryann and David Bennett in the amount of $368.35 due to an additional solar, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
    - **Supplements**
        - **Laura Greeley made a motion to supplement account #213, Jason Wade in the amount of $599.37 due to the land value being omitted, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved**
        - **Laura Greeley made a motion to supplement account #129 Peter Bundrick in the amount of $1017.45 due to septic, well and tree growth that was not applied, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
        - **Laura Greeley made a motion to supplement account #294 Map 08-08-03, Mareisa Weil and Jebediah Cestaro in the amount of $695.09 due to the building value being decreased in error, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved**
        - **Laura Greeley made a motion to supplement account #233 Toby Allan Map 6 Lot 12 in the amount of $23.73 due to 2 acres being taken out as a base lot, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved**
    - Lissa Widoff will write a letter of explanation regarding supplements for Cindy Abbot to attach to the bill going out.
    - Lissa Widoff has a call in to the firm that submitted a proposal in February regarding assessing.
    - Cindy Abbot presented reports to the select board:
        - Cash Receiving:
        - Taxes: 22 balance $39148 (foreclosed property)
            - 23 $47717(foreclosed property)
            - 24 $26,741.63 (16 accounts)
            - 25 $42148.06 (23 accounts)
            - 26 $325450.59 (233 accounts)
            - Prepaid for 27 $3859.16
        - Excise Tax Report
    - Laura Greeley noted that anyone who receives a supplement has 60 days to pay not 30.
    - Cindy Abbott asked if Laura Greeley has met with the Carters. Laura Greeley will reach out to them to set up the appointment.
    - Absentee voting is in place. Ballots can be placed in the drop box.

- Laura Greeley asked if Cindy Abbott has responded to the Adamson's. Cindy Abbott stated that she would do this this week.
- Lissa Widoff asked about the KVCOG contract. Lissa Widoff will look into it and contact Cindy.
- The counting machine was received this week and Cindy Abbott will need to take a training on its use.

7. Correspondence:
    - FOAA requests with the Planning Board.
        - Kirk Thomas asked for the planning board's second chair recusal due to her having a conflict of interest in his opinion. Lissa Widoff reported on the guidance from the Charter. There has to be a discussion of the process and what the conflict is. Conflict of Interest can fall into a couple of categories. One is where there is a clear conflict of interest, a perception of conflict can be treated as a conflict by parties. This is messy due to the inter relationships. The Planning Board needs to have a conversation about how they want to resolve actual and perceived conflict of interest. The Select Board cannot tell the Planning Board what to do but they can provide guidance.
        - Heather Donahue mentioned that Maryann Bennett's name is on the amended complaint.
        - Kirk Thomas' FOAA was regarding the Adamsons and the planning board and all correspondences concerning the Adamsons case. These would be private and personal emails.
            - There was a stop work order that was not sent to the planning board.
            - Brain Murphy asked how this all could have been avoided.
    - FOAA request Lincoln Frasier
    - FOYAA Request from Stan Taylor:
        - The content of the request was reviewed. Regarding a just cause review
    - Mr. Paquet was also requesting information on the issues above.
        - Maryann Bennett stated that the FOAA has been submitted so why not wait until the information is reviewed by those individuals.
        - Lissa Widoff stated that the Planning Board has the ability to make decisions. They need to decide if Tyler needs to recuse himself from the case.
        - The Planning Board needs to meet and have a quorum and decide how they want to proceed. Cindy Abbott reviewed the process of filing an application and how she then sends the application to the

planning board. Cindy Abbott will get Maryann access to MMA so she can look at documents and information. The process of what needs to occur with regard to the Planning Board was reviewed.

- Stan Taylor stated that there is more than one conflict of interest. He reviewed his thoughts on the conflict of interest. He referred to his review of information from the Maine Bar Association. He spoke about the CDRO and home-based businesses.
    - Lissa Widoff asked what the Select Boards process is to respond to a just cause hearing request. Laura Greeley will request information from Atty Kelly. Lissa Widoff will follow up with Tyler Hadyniak to see if he had followed up with the MMA recommendations to contact the bar regarding an ethics review.
    - The next planning board meeting is scheduled for the 13th of October. Cindy Abbott feels she made it clear that the Adamson's need an application completed prior to meeting with the planning board.
    - Cindy Abbott suggested that the planning board reach out to DEP regarding shoreland zoning.
    - Laura Greeley will print off the citizens' concerns so that the planning board can read it and discuss it.
    - Lissa Widoff will send Stan Taylor a copy of the most current CDRO

- Request from Meredith regarding the wording in the recall ordinance was reviewed by Bill and his response was reviewed during the last board meeting.
- There was a letter from the Supt Lisa Rioux requesting to come to a select board meeting.
- MMA reminder regarding workers comp renewal. Contessa forwarded this to Bangor Savings.
- Peace Ridge application reminding the town that they are exempt.
- Lissa Widoff asked who would be responding to the Paquette request for information and he is asking when the information is going to be given to him.

8. Citizens Issues:
9. Town Officials Reports
    - Code Enforcement: Cindy Abbott
        - Stop work order on a building that had no permit. It will be the first fine of $2500. It was made clear that no work should be occurring without a permit. Cindy Abbott asked that the person come to the

town office to file a permit. Laura Greeley stated that she has concerns about Cindy Abbott going there alone. She suggested that Cindy Abbot take a law enforcement officer with her when she goes there.
        - Lissa Widoff asked that the refrigerator people on Smithton get a letter regarding removing the refrigerator.
    - Assessors Agent: (position not yet filled)
    - Health Official: Patricia Ashland (not present)
    - School Board Director: Eleanor Hess (not present)
    - General Assistance Officer: Kory Boulier
        - No new requests this week.
        - The training course is October 13th. He will reach out to MMA regarding options for taking this class. He has a call in to Dave Bailey to find a course outside of the work day.
    - Plumbing Inspector: Cindy Abbott
    - Solid Waste Director: Phil Bloomstein (not present)
    - Animal Control Officer: Johnna Hatt (not present)
    - Town Boards & Committee Reports:
        - Planning Board: Tyler Hadyniak
            - 10-13-2026 Meeting
        - Recreational Committee: Chair yet to be determined
            - Meeting tomorrow at 3pm to discuss trunk or treat and Veterans Day.
        - Appeals Board: Samantha Turner, chair (not present)
        - Cemetery Committee: Steve Holmes
        - Budget Committee: Laura Greeley
            - Laura Greeley will send out something in 2 weeks.
        - CDAC Committee: Sean Murphy (not present)
        - Comp Plan Committee:
            - Meeting this week on Thursday at 5:30pm Kory Boulier will open the door for them.
        - Historical Society:
11. Old Business:
    - Audit: Laura Greeley has forwarded all of the requested information and asked what they are missing?
    - Annex Clean up suspended: they noticed that there are notebooks in the vault that are out of date that could be disposed of. The shredding pick up is on hold. Lissa Widoff suggested that it start back up after election day in November.
12. New Business:

- KVCOG got funding to do a vulnerability assessment for Freedom. Lissa Widoff will bring together a team to schedule a meeting to gather the information needed.
- Atty. Kelly: Eminent Domain. There is a risk that when the judge makes a decision that they may make the case go back to the beginning and start again. She received a response about why this might occur from Atty Kelly. She shared Atty Kelly's response with the other Select Board members.
- The invoice from the housing ordinance grant with the state was submitted. $10,000
- Ryan Vines: Lissa Widoff made a call regarding the appeals board email and folders.
- Lissa Widoff asked Cindy Abbott to post a notice regarding no Select Board on Tuesday next week.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday October 19th, 2026 at 6:00 pm.
14. Adjourn: **Kory Boulier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm, Lissa Widoff seconded the motion and all approved.**

Recording Information:

Shareable link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/-xuF3c5jLH8TjZuKbRHtIU-W-azMKmkA-JIih-Ca2UAUl7kPnqu9Ntz3POaWV45t.pnuV6Sd8hCTp25G6

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