

Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes - October 24, 2022

Select Board and officials present: Steve Bennett, Elaine Higgings, Ron Price, Travis Price, Jim Waterman, Eleanor MacMakin.

Citizens Present: None

Present on zoom: None

1. Ron Price called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Motion by Ron, Elaine 2nd, unanimous:

To accept the amended minutes for October 17, 2022.

3. FVFD: Jim reported the Tabletop exercise for EOC November 25 at 6:00 pm. You should arrive before 6:00 pm to participate in the exercise. Someone will need to take the public works director role as Travis will not be present. Participants can access the FireHouse Internet and a computer is needed for the exercise.

Reported the installation of the propane stove for the kitchen at the Fire Station.

Elaine asked about a house fire on Hunters Rd in Unity. It was arson over 3 years ago.

4. Public Works:

Travis reported no new contact with Brian Fuller on Greeley Rd.

He is waiting for the solid fuel waste account number.

A new number is needed for the new truck.

He is working on the headgear of 6.

Picked up the body and plow from Lewiston.

Asked Dick Condon to look at the body. Will put it on eBay.

Elaine presented a proposal for the Waldo Broadband project to lease land for staging material and a basecamp. www.sebagowifi.com is in talks with the WCBB to get prepared to install fiber.

Travis responded with options and possible locations and is in favor of the proposal.

Discussion about the job description for both the public works assistant and director.

5. Executive session 1.MRS.A 405(6)(A) at 6:25 pm about Public Works Job descriptions.

Session ended at 6:50 pm with no decisions.

Treasurer's Report:

6. Ron reported this week the payroll warrant in the amount of \$4,306.22 and the A/P warrant in the amount of \$60,756.27. The ending checkbook balance is \$531,269.72.

Motion by Elaine, Steve 2nd, unanimous: To accept the treasurer's report and pay the Payroll warrant in the amount of \$4,479.69 and the A/P warrant in the amount of \$60,756.27.

A thank you letter was received from the Hospice in Waterville.

7. Citizens Issues:

Steve reported on the economic development committee solar project. Jean Bourg from Unity said the charging station under consideration was off the table. Steve will set up a meeting for the 3 participating towns Freedom, Knox and Unity to discuss land, funding and support for a joint solar project.

8. Correspondence:

Steve will contact Bill Kelly regarding the letters for corrective action requested, that have not yet been received.

9. Appeal Committee:

The committee met on Saturday October 22, 2022 to review a variance request for 8 High St and concluded to approve the request.

10. Budget Committee:

Steve reported that the meeting this Wednesday at 6:00 pm will have an extensive agenda and he needs Elaine to report the progress of the WCBB for the committee. He will take 3 minutes to review the new supreme court decision affecting the school system. Another agenda item is how towns are sharing public works services, with Hallowell as an example.

11. CDAC committee:

One member has resigned.

12. Old Business:

Elaine reported on the three quotes for a heat pump from; Revision Energy; Eaton Service and Upright Energy. Only one quote included the tax rebates which was Eaton Service.

New Business:

13. All board members will meet October 1 at 10:00 am for a work session on tax maps. This is in preparation to meet with the Code Inspector.

14. Ron announced the Board's response to the Website meeting with Eleanor last Friday, October 21 at 2:00 pm. They have contacted Amanda to resume the webmaster duties and she agreed. Ron said they will look for someone to replace me as Select Board secretary and I said I was all for that idea.

19. Meeting adjourned by Ron at 7:15 pm

Respectfully submitted by Eleanor MacMakin