

Meeting Minutes
Freedom Board of Selectmen
Date: 9/8/2026

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

Select Board Meeting

In attendance: Laura Greeley, Lissa Widoff, Kory Boulrier, Beth Owen-Mishou, Joe Freeman, Bob Kanzler, Kevin Greeley, Kyle (via zoom), Roy Mishou (via zoom), Elaine Higgins, Stan and Terri Taylor, Troy Nelson, Clint Spaulding, Christopher Spaulding, Bob Herman, John Thornhill, Heather J (via zoom)

Select Board Meeting

1. Call Meeting to Order / Finalize Agenda: Laura Greeley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Announcements:
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to accept the minutes from 8-31-26 as amended and placed them on record, Kory Boulrier seconded and all approved.**
 - **Kory Boulrier made a motion to go into executive session for 1 MRSA 405 (6) F, a discussion of confidential records, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
 - They came out of executive session at 6:46 and no decision was made. All bids for winter plowing for North Polermo Road/South Freedom should be submitted by Thursday 9-10-2026. A decision will be made by Monday, 9-14-2026.
3. Fire Chief Reports: Jim Waterman
 - EMA Director: One strong letter of interest has been submitted. Kory Boulrier has asked the person to reach out to Lissa Widoff to set up an interview. Kory Boulrier will contact the other applicants.
 - When an EMA director is chosen, Jim Waterman will need to speak with them regarding the requirements and access.
4. Treasurer's Report: Contessa Mancini (not present)
 - AP Warrant: \$10800.63
 - Payroll Warrant: \$5507.46

- **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay the AP warrant for the week of 9/8/26 in the amount of \$10800.63, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay the payroll warrant for the week of 9/8/26 in the amount of \$5507.46, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - Camden National Municipal account: \$314,308.66
 - Checks Received:
 - \$884.17 USPS for rent
 - **Kory Boulier made a motion for Cindy Abbott to use the town Credit Card up to \$80 for an upcoming town mailing, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
5. Public Works: Ryan Willette (not present) Jon Thornhill: Road Commissioner (present)
- Sand is coming.
 - Jon will meet with Wellmans regarding downtown (Pleasant Street).
 - They will look at the rocks on the Greeley Road. Lissa Widoff asked if the rocks are in the town right of way. John will ask the homeowner to press down the loose rock. Lissa Widoff asked what is the procedure when a citizen wants to work on their property near the road. She would prefer that there be clear communication between the homeowner and the town prior to doing the work.
6. Town Clerk & Tax Collector Report: Cindy Abbott (not present)
- Abatements:
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to approve \$4235.76 in homestead abatements and veterans' abatements submitted to date for 77 accounts, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to approve an abatement for Michael Smith's property due to an over evaluation in the amount of \$531,037 for an abatement of \$7646.93, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to abate John Shaw for account #16 in the amount of \$91.54, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - **Laura Greeley made a motion to abate Account #15 due to lack of tree growth for 12 acres in the amount \$121.80, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - **Laura Greeley made a motion to abate John Shaw for account #17 in the amount of \$440.90, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**

- **Laura Greeley made a motion to abate Tyler Hadyniak for account #193 for an incorrect amount and in the amount of \$449.36, Kory Boulter seconded and all approved.**
- The Select Board will have an assessors' meeting from 5-8 pm to complete their review of the town property assessments on 9-14-26.

7. Correspondence:

- An email was reviewed regarding the new location for dropping off the town's garbage. Joe Freeman stated that he is familiar with that facility.
- Other materials were reviewed and will be sent to the appropriate departments.
- A Certified letter was received regarding residents who would like their tax bill reviewed.
- An email for an additional FOIA request from Mr. Paquette was reviewed with regard to withdrawal penalties. Most of the information requested in the first request has been sent.

8. Citizens Issues:

- Clint Spaulding has requested that the end of his driveway be fixed by the town. He reported that 6 feet have been removed from his property. The driveway is higher than the road. He spoke with Bill, and Bill informed him that he needed direction on what to do. Joe Freeman reported that they were told to build it up by 6 inches. Laura Greeley will speak with Jon and Ryan and will get back to Clint Spaulding. Clint Spaulding said that they have to bring out gravel and match the driveway to the road.
 - Elaine Higgins confirmed that she has seen a difference in the location of the road but then said that she was mistaken regarding the location of Clint Spaulding's property.
 - Clint Spaulding also asked if everyone is expected to respect setbacks? Laura Greeley asked that he present the name and location and the select board will look into it.
- Bob Kanzler asked about work being done on the Greeley Road. Cindy and Ryan were going to look at the work and the Select Board has not heard from them yet.
 - Bob Kanzler also reported that there was a confrontation with another citizen while he was on an ATV.
- Joe Freeman asked if they are done with the Rollins Road. He also informed the Select Board that they are out of gravel. He asked what they should do. He was directed to Jon and the select board will check in with Ryan.

9. Town Officials Reports

- Code Enforcement: Cindy Abbott (not present)
- Assessors Agent: (position not yet filled)
- Health Official: Patricia Ashland (not present)
- School Board Director: Eleanor Hess (not present)
- General Assistance Officer: Kory Boulrier
 - No new requests this week.
 - The training course is in September
- 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
 - Recreational Committee: Chair yet to be determined
 - Appeals Board: (chair to be determined).
 - September 15th hearing
 - Cemetery Committee: Steve Holmes
 - Budget Committee: Laura Greeley
 - CDAC Committee: Sean Murphy (not present)
 - Comp Plan Committee:
 - Thursday meeting
 - Historical Society:
 - Sunday September 13th there will be a reading

11. Old Business:

- Personnel Policies: Lissa Widoff presented the corrections and all reviewed these.
 - **Laura Greeley made a motion to approve the employee handbook as presented, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
 - Lissa Widoff thanked everyone who helped with the personnel policies and their development.
- Annex Clean-up: Kory Boulrier will reach out to Cindy Abbott regarding dates.
- Budget Committee: they are trying to coordinate a meeting to continue to work on the Public Works department.
- **Lissa Widoff moved to approve the wage rate of \$30/hour for the new public works employee, Kory Boulrier seconded and all approved.**

12. New Business:

- Public Hearing Schedule:
 - Recall Ordinance Update, Data Center Moratorium: September 17, 2026.

- Public Hearing Saturday September 19th at 9am location to be determined, to discuss the hiring of an appraiser to appraise the properties on Beaver Ridge Road along the road in question. The town can use eminent domain to deal with this situation. The purpose of the hearing would be to provide the citizens with information about this. Then there would be a question on the ballot for the November vote.
 - Cindy Abbot will be asked to check with the school regarding a space for the meeting.
 - Elaine Higgins asked what happens if the town votes this down what happens. It was explained that the course case would continue.
 - Resilience Grant:
 - Transportation Planning: Lissa Widoff suggested that the Comprehensive planning committee or CDAC work with the consultant with that.
 - Mitchell Road Bridge: approximately \$35,000 for design and engineering.
 - Ordinance Book Records: Rene Ouellet has offered to update the ordinance book with Cindy Abbott.
 - Moratorium on Data Centers: draft was reviewed by the Select Board Members.
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to bring the draft Data Moratorium to the town of Freedom in a hearing on September 17, 2026, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday September 14, 2026 at 6:00 pm.
14. Adjourn: Kory Boulier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm, Lissa Widoff seconded the motion and all approved.

Recording Information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/QOwOLM46rncJhCpNWrJW1g6p0Pg5ZBUxK5MOWATEKiyyt7e2c2Yx8EQMkNmSzW4.rsR81cRyReNLWmMg>

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