

Meeting Minutes
Freedom Board of Selectmen
Date: 4/27/2026
Approved 5-11-2026
Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 431 235 8395
Passcode: TownMeet

Select Board Meeting

In attendance: Laura Greeley, Lissa Widoff, Kory Boulier, Beth Owen-Mishou, Cindy Abbott, Jim Waterman, Stan and Kerri Taylor, Joe Freeman, Heather Donahue, Ryan Willette, Meredith Coffin (via zoom), Matt Groton (via zoom), Roy Mishou (via zoom), Bryan Murphy, Patrick Terry, Laura Greeley (via zoom), Kyle (via zoom), Matt Grotton (via zoom)

1. Call Meeting to Order / Finalize Agenda: Laura Greeley called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
2. Announcements:
 - **Kory Boulier made a motion to go into executive session for 1MRSA 405 (6) E, Legal Consultation, Lissa Widoff seconded all approved.**
 - They came out of executive session at 6:56pm and no decisions were reached.
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to approve the minutes from 4-13-2026 as written and place them on record, Kory Boulier seconded.**
 - **Kory Boulier made a motion to go into executive session for 1 MRSA 405 (6) A, personnel matters, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
 - They came out of executive session at 7:12pm and no decisions were made.
3. Fire Chief Reports: Jim Waterman
4. Treasurer's Report: Contessa Mancini (not present)
 - A/P Warrant: \$6229.01
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay the A/P warrant for the week of 4/27/2026 in the amount of \$6229.01, Kory Boulier seconded and all agreed.**
 - Camden National Balance: \$555,169.17
 - Checks Received:
 - Maine State Revenue Sharing \$9244.92
5. Public Works: Ryan Willette

- Grading work was done today. Laura Greeley stated that Ryan Willette has put in many hours and should be reimbursed for the hours he has worked. Once he submits a timecard, they will revise his contract so that he is reimbursed for the work he is doing.
 - Mowing: Laura Greeley will reach out to someone who expressed interest, Matt Clay.
 - All the cemeteries, town office area, ball field, park and triangle on road.
 - Ryan Willette will reach out for paving bids.
 - Will need bids for trucking materials.
 - Peter Coughlin, DOT: met with a team of people this morning and reviewed various aspects of the roads in town. It was suggested that we use the electronic speed sign.
 - Raven Road will remain posted.
 - Greeley Road and parking. Ryan Willette followed up with the individuals parking on the Greeley Road. The individuals did not respond positively. Ryan Willette suggested amending the road ordinance.
 - Lissa Widoff will amend our roads policy to reflect the necessary changes needed. She will bring it to the next meeting on May 11, 2026.
 - Ryan Willette suggested that the Select Board write a letter to the individual who is driving a tractor trailer down the Raven Road. Kory Boulter will write the letter.
 - Tires on the Mitchel Road. These will be cleaned up for Cleanup week.
6. Town Clerk & Tax Collector Report: Cindy Abbott
- Botanical Garden: Pass is available and people can contact Cindy Abbott to sign up for the pass.
 - Laura Greeley asked why there were 2 invoices for the rims and backboards for the basketball court. Cindy Abbott will ask Prentice and check with the company.
 - The cemetery account is in the Town of Freedom's name, not the Overlocks.
 - Shredding: Every two weeks for a month was suggested
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to engage with the Records Management Center Shredding on site with a biweekly serve for a month with a 54-gallon container, Kory Boulter seconded and all approved.**
 - Cindy Abbott will schedule the first service for two weeks from this meeting.

7. Correspondence:

- none
- 8. Citizens Issues:
 - Heather Donahue: Legal Update: All charges against her, while she was a selectperson were dismissed under prejudice. She read the judges responses to the claims. She would like apologies for the disparaging comments that were made. A judge has confirmed that she has done nothing wrong.
 - Lissa Widoff acknowledged what Heather has been through. How do we create an environment where lawsuits are not the norm?
 - Laura Greeley thanked Heather for her service to the town and acknowledged that the situation was not fair to Heather.
 - Patrick Terry thanked Heather for the great work that she has done.
 - DPW Question: Brian Murphy asked about “Wicked Bump” on Ayer Ridge Road. Ryan Willette will look into the bump and has a plan for correcting it.
 - Brian Murphy expressed concern about the reopened Cannabis grow on Belfast Road and he was frustrated with what had occurred there in the past. Laura Greeley stated that the town can change their ordinance and plans are underway to make that happen.
 - Stan Terry asked about it being a business as opposed to a “home grow.”
- 9. Town Officials Reports
 - Code Enforcement: Cindy Abbott
 - Lissa Widoff asked about the notice of violation for the property on Rt 137. Cindy Abbott is waiting for DEP to send the letter.
 - Assessors Agent: Jackie Robbins (not present)
 - Health Official: Patricia Ashland (not present)
 - School Board Director: Eleanor Hess (not present)
 - General Assistance Officer: Kory Boulier
 - No new requests this week.
 - 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
 - Should we put a moratorium on Data Centers until we can get an ordinance written.
 - Cindy Abbott will provide the Select Board with information about what they need to do to have a Moratorium.

- It was suggested that Freedom update their Food Sovereignty Ordinance.
 - Recreational Committee: Chair yet to be determined
 - Mitchel Field Clean-up went well
 - Everyone was thanked for helping out.
 - The flag bill was for all the markers and this would come out of the cemetery budget.
 - Appeals Board: pending new appointment
 - Cemetery Committee: Steve Holmes
 - Budget Committee: Laura Greeley
 - Wednesday May 13, 2026 at 6pm
 - CDAC Committee: Sean Murphy (not present)
 - The knot weed work day happened.
 - Broadband Committee: Phil Bloomstein (not present)
 - Ad Hoc Policy Committee: Elaine Higgins
 - Comp Plan Committee:
 - Historical Society:
 - Keene Hall work is beginning
 - Back to the Land Series May 2nd at the Town House

11. Old Business:

- Jackie: TRIO access. Is Jackie able to access her TRIO account?
- Deputy Clerk Update: Cindy Abbott has reached out to the Montville contact in Searsport and she is waiting to hear back. Lissa Widoff asked about the person in Knox and what the status of that was.
- Re-schedule personnel policy workshop: Lissa Widoff stated that the Select Board has enough information to work on the personnel portion of the updates. Laura Greeley suggested meeting before the next Budget meeting. Wednesday May 13, 2026 at 5pm was suggested as a meeting time. This would be before the budget committee meeting.
- Re-Schedule Annex storage organizing.
- Government Window
 - **Kory Boulier made a motion to provide a voided check to be sent to Government Windows credit card processing, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
- State Assessors: It is assumed that Jackie has provided the requested information.
- Key Bank: regarding the cemetery fund and a withdrawal. Laura Greeley was able to communicate with them. The Overlocks stated that the town has to make the withdrawal. Laura Greeley will have Contessa make a transaction to keep the account open.

- Oil Leak: Laura Greeley reached out to the appropriate state agency. She reached out to Haskel's and they stated that no one had reached out to them. Haskel's will come tomorrow to clean up the overflow and they will contact the state if necessary.
- Grange: The grange was fixed and is handicap accessible. The town has a copy of the report where everything was fixed. Lissa Widoff will pull the report and review it.
- Website updates:
 - Content management not design is the job of the secretary
 - Updates can be made from Lissa's emails to both the clerk and the secretary and do not have to come from the clerk directly.
 - The select board secretary will continue to update the site weekly.
 - Kory Boulier is looking into the design issues.
- Annex Cleaning: Thursday May 14, 2026 at 3pm will be the date for the cleaning.

12. New Business:

- Jim Murphy Assessing:
 - The contract for the Windmill needs to be sent to Jim Murphy.
 - Jim Murphy will create a new land schedule which should be completed by June.
 - **Lissa Widoff moved that they sign the contract with Jim Murphy Assessing in the amount of \$10,000, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - **Lissa Widoff moved to add the Real Estate Sketching model to the TRIO app in the amount of \$1650 and an annual maintenance fee of \$412.50, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - Laura Greeley will send a copy of the contract to Cindy Abbot for the contract book.
- Public Works Employee: Lissa Widoff created a flyer and has them available for any site where they might want to post it.
 - Advertising:
 - Craigs List
 - Indeed
 - Zip Recruiter
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to spend no more the \$100 available to cover advertisement for a Public Works employee, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**

- **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay for said advertising up to \$100 using the town credit card, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
 - Cannabis Ordinance: Laura Greeley provided the policy for the town of Berwick, for the select board to review and consider. The Albion policy has also been reviewed.
 - Under home rule the town can restrict the number of caregiver licenses per home.
 - Charitable Budget Payments: Lissa Widoff asked when those payments can be sent out. It is \$6005 total. Laura Greeley stated that it is ok to disperse that now.
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to accept a donation of a refrigerator from Easterly Wine to be placed in the annex, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday May 11, 2026 at 6:00 pm.
15. Adjourn: Lissa Widoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm, Kory Boulier seconded the motion and all approved.

Recording Information:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/2kliW2u4YU-2_kHEUYti3Q91UBrGTVXH22ISoLuUFRx91Y5iVOdKefomudDVDIcx.kJhIjCF_F3PvKvO7

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