

Unedited Transcript from the Town Meeting

3-14-2026

24

00:10:19.580 --> 00:10:25.140

Town of Freedom: Two items, we have two candidates for office soon.

25

00:10:25.250 --> 00:10:32.529

Town of Freedom: joined us today. We let them introduce themselves, and only with a handoff, but...

26

00:10:33.220 --> 00:10:45.040

Town of Freedom: Beyond 4 minutes of speaking, we start losing voice. So, please introduce yourselves, and and...

27

00:10:45.450 --> 00:10:51.259

Town of Freedom: made a few comments, everyone, and I will have witnesses before we start on the one.

28

00:10:52.100 --> 00:10:53.709

Town of Freedom: Thank you all.

29

00:10:54.400 --> 00:11:03.870

Town of Freedom: Now, as I was standing up here looking out, couldn't help but think it's just like church, everyone's in the back. There you go, from the center.

30

00:11:04.800 --> 00:11:11.899

Town of Freedom: Do you have a, we had a St. Patrick's Day breakfast at the church this morning.

31

00:11:12.060 --> 00:11:22.249

Town of Freedom: And it was very well attended, but I apologize if I smell like a Freedom General Store breakfast sandwich. We did make... I think I made 15 to order.

32

00:11:23.460 --> 00:11:33.490

Town of Freedom: It was quite amazing. It was two years ago, in the cafeteria, that I had announced to you that I was going to be running for state representative.

33

00:11:34.710 --> 00:11:40.650

Town of Freedom: It was 11 years ago that my wife and I sold the Freedom General Store, and 27 years ago.

34

00:11:41.110 --> 00:11:43.220

Town of Freedom: At the age of 37.

35

00:11:43.730 --> 00:11:46.479

Town of Freedom: My lovely quote-unquote corporate world.

36

00:11:46.740 --> 00:11:50.430

Town of Freedom: Rolled the dice, and landed in freedom.

37

00:11:52.400 --> 00:11:58.640

Town of Freedom: It was 10 years ago, one year and one month after I sold the store, that I was asked to pass through the charge of freedom.

38

00:12:01.640 --> 00:12:05.019

Town of Freedom: For almost half my life now, freedom has been my home.

39

00:12:05.790 --> 00:12:07.850

Town of Freedom: what I call a spiritual home.

40

00:12:09.210 --> 00:12:13.210

Town of Freedom: And I must say, Entering the political arena.

41

00:12:14.700 --> 00:12:17.139

Town of Freedom: There are times when my spirit hurts.

42

00:12:17.710 --> 00:12:20.849

Town of Freedom: when I see what's happening in some of our small towns.

43

00:12:22.430 --> 00:12:27.439

Town of Freedom: And it's happening here, and I can almost see it coming over the last two to three decades.

44

00:12:28.650 --> 00:12:31.200

Town of Freedom: And I will tell you, being in Augusta.

45

00:12:31.930 --> 00:12:35.000

Town of Freedom: The political divide is very, very real.

46

00:12:36.420 --> 00:12:38.670

Town of Freedom: And it's here, it's among us.

47

00:12:39.660 --> 00:12:41.429

Town of Freedom: And now what do we do?

48

00:12:44.000 --> 00:12:46.990

Town of Freedom: I never considered myself a politician.

49

00:12:47.430 --> 00:12:53.150

Town of Freedom: When the redistricting was done in 2020, And then 2022,

50

00:12:53.500 --> 00:12:57.109

Town of Freedom: I was asked to run for the seat to keep it a red seat.

51

00:12:57.600 --> 00:12:59.389

Town of Freedom: Which I agreed to do.

52

00:12:59.830 --> 00:13:05.099

Town of Freedom: I had every intention of being a one-and-done politician for God and country, I would do this.

53

00:13:06.010 --> 00:13:10.179

Town of Freedom: Because it's an obligation of an American citizen to be part of the process.

54

00:13:11.590 --> 00:13:16.059

Town of Freedom: But after being in there, I can tell you folks, it's a very hurting world politically.

55

00:13:16.710 --> 00:13:20.780

Town of Freedom: But I also see it's a world in which we can mend these fences.

56

00:13:21.570 --> 00:13:23.850

Town of Freedom: And the mending is going to come.

57

00:13:24.080 --> 00:13:25.670

Town of Freedom: From the bottom up.

58

00:13:26.420 --> 00:13:30.120

Town of Freedom: There's far too much in this political arena that's top-down.

59

00:13:31.020 --> 00:13:35.450

Town of Freedom: And the top-down loses those here in these seats.

60

00:13:35.800 --> 00:13:40.089

Town of Freedom: They're the ones that should be elevating the policies and procedures up.

61

00:13:41.160 --> 00:13:45.160

Town of Freedom: So to that end, I'm announcing I am going to run for another term.

62

00:13:46.180 --> 00:13:48.339

Town of Freedom: I'm very, very proud.

63

00:13:48.610 --> 00:13:50.729

Town of Freedom: To be representing freedom?

64

00:13:51.280 --> 00:13:54.040

Town of Freedom: As I said, it is my home.

65

00:13:55.030 --> 00:13:59.769

Town of Freedom: I'm finding the biggest thing that we need to do within the political arena is listening.

66

00:14:00.270 --> 00:14:01.859

Town of Freedom: We have discourse.

67

00:14:02.560 --> 00:14:04.770

Town of Freedom: And be decent to one another.

68

00:14:05.300 --> 00:14:07.759

Town of Freedom: It's a very simple human thing.

69

00:14:10.790 --> 00:14:13.369

Town of Freedom: When we lose our ability to listen.

70

00:14:14.110 --> 00:14:20.020

Town of Freedom: When we lose our ability to communicate and see the other person, In respectful ways.

71

00:14:20.320 --> 00:14:22.189

Town of Freedom: We lose our ability.

72

00:14:22.440 --> 00:14:23.749

Town of Freedom: to be effective.

73

00:14:25.240 --> 00:14:28.730

Town of Freedom: To that end, it was a busy session in Augusta.

74

00:14:28.870 --> 00:14:38.569

Town of Freedom: I welcome any comments. I encourage people to reach out. We had some very critical PFAS legislation we worked on this past session.

75

00:14:38.710 --> 00:14:41.920

Town of Freedom: The high voltage transmission line came up again.

76

00:14:42.220 --> 00:14:47.659

Town of Freedom: And it's something I'm very proud to say that we work hard for those in our rural communities.

77

00:14:49.420 --> 00:14:53.369

Town of Freedom: It hasn't been easy, but it's been... it's been a beautiful experience.

78

00:14:53.880 --> 00:14:57.700

Town of Freedom: And one that I would ask you to support to run again.

79

00:14:58.090 --> 00:15:01.209

Town of Freedom: And I'm going to take a moment to introduce my opponent.

80

00:15:01.710 --> 00:15:02.990

Town of Freedom: Paleo West.

81

00:15:03.460 --> 00:15:07.359

Town of Freedom: A person who has agreed to get into politics.

82

00:15:07.770 --> 00:15:11.770

Town of Freedom: Immediately upon learning that I had an opponent, I called her.

83

00:15:11.880 --> 00:15:14.110

Town of Freedom: And thanked her for running.

84

00:15:14.670 --> 00:15:24.059

Town of Freedom: For young people being involved in politics, to get involved at the local level, at the community level, and then the district level to represent all of us.

85

00:15:24.760 --> 00:15:27.480

Town of Freedom: And what a cool district to represent.

86

00:15:28.020 --> 00:15:32.309

Town of Freedom: Many of my colleagues in southern Maine, their districts are very similar.

87

00:15:33.190 --> 00:15:37.099

Town of Freedom: But for me, and for us here, it's truly beautiful.

88

00:15:37.530 --> 00:15:42.030

Town of Freedom: We have some of the Bernie Sanders to the far right. There's a bit of everything.

89

00:15:42.440 --> 00:15:49.550

Town of Freedom: And it is a challenge to represent all. So I'll introduce Taylor. She's going to be running for District 63.

90

00:15:51.020 --> 00:15:54.820

Town of Freedom: And one, as I said, I'm happy that it's enjoying the race.

91

00:15:55.240 --> 00:15:57.849

Town of Freedom: To that end, thank you all for listening.

92

00:15:58.200 --> 00:16:01.360

Town of Freedom: I'll let you know when there's another public breakfast.

93

00:16:01.870 --> 00:16:04.329

Town of Freedom: Great to see everybody. Thank you.

94

00:16:08.880 --> 00:16:10.690

Town of Freedom: Good evening, everyone.

95

00:16:10.840 --> 00:16:19.210

Town of Freedom: Thank you very much, Representativelynn. I really appreciate the kind introduction, because this is a new place for me and a lot of the Army faces.

96

00:16:19.210 --> 00:16:33.270

Town of Freedom: And I think that's something that I bring to the table in a different way. As Paul said, he's been embedded in the community for a long time. I have been in a different fashion. I'm gonna give a quick little bio of where I'm from.

97

00:16:33.270 --> 00:16:35.599

Town of Freedom: But unfortunately, it's not that simple.

98

00:16:35.690 --> 00:16:48.300

Town of Freedom: My father is a 20-year Air Force veteran, and growing up, I went wherever he was called. Anyone that's been in that world knows how that goes. I've been around the world and back again as a military child.

99

00:16:48.300 --> 00:16:58.549

Town of Freedom: And when my dad retired, it was time for me to make a choice, and I said the Air Force was so great, I got to live in Germany as a kid, in Japan as a kid.

100

00:16:58.550 --> 00:17:02.630

Town of Freedom: I want to do that as an adult, and so I joined the military myself.

101

00:17:02.890 --> 00:17:14.120

Town of Freedom: And I spent 10 years on active duty, and finally went around the world and back again. Spent some time in Korea, Africa, and the United Kingdom, a couple different spots in the United States.

102

00:17:14.230 --> 00:17:28.260

Town of Freedom: And while I was in the service, I was a journalist. Not a lot of people think of that as a military career, but I think I was very fortunate to hold that job because I was responsible for telling everybody's story.

103

00:17:28.290 --> 00:17:49.639

Town of Freedom: So my job was embedding in different career fields. I've carried rucksacks with Marines on deployments. I have put on fire gear and carried a hose of firefighters up during exercises. You guys work really hard, shout out to me. I have done a little bit of everything, and my job is to translate that.

104

00:17:49.640 --> 00:17:53.310

Town of Freedom: In a way that people could understand it, in a way that would support

105

00:17:54.210 --> 00:17:59.300

Town of Freedom: Everyone's involvement in our troops, and... How they succeed.

106

00:17:59.500 --> 00:18:09.680

Town of Freedom: When I went on to service, I moved home. My parents and my whole family are lifelong leaders from the Great Migration from Sanford, from Quebec to Sanford.

107

00:18:09.700 --> 00:18:25.289

Town of Freedom: My family's been here for a very long time. My memory and Pepe in Water Globe were, the funeral home managers, and my Pepe involved so many people. That sounds so horrible, but was a part of such a delicate process for so many families in my community, and...

108

00:18:25.330 --> 00:18:33.209

Town of Freedom: I was raised with that value, and with that understanding of how important keeping our small towns secure is.

109

00:18:33.330 --> 00:18:38.289

Town of Freedom: And when I got out of the military with my 2-year-old and my 4-year-old.

110

00:18:38.500 --> 00:18:46.190

Town of Freedom: I said I want to go to Maine, and I want to go to small-town Maine. I want to bring it home. So, while I mean, I have been born and raised here.

111

00:18:46.230 --> 00:18:50.010

Town of Freedom: I was raised on main values, and whenever I've had the choice.

112

00:18:50.040 --> 00:19:02.270

Town of Freedom: I've always chosen to lay name. And now that I'm here, I agree to Paul in a lot of ways. There's a lot of work that needs to be done, and I've seen a lot of different ways that we can solve those problems.

113

00:19:02.270 --> 00:19:27.139

Town of Freedom: And I'm hoping to bring them to the table. I'm currently working towards a graduates program in emergency management and homeland security, and I think that our state has a lot of work that we can do for infrastructure, and making sure that we're prepared for storms instead of being taken off the grid in the way that we are. There are so many farms in this community that need so much support. The PFAS work that's being done in the legislature is crucial.

114

00:19:27.350 --> 00:19:35.200

Town of Freedom: All of these things are fights that need to continue to be fought in a decent way, as Paul was saying,

115

00:19:35.380 --> 00:19:37.439

Town of Freedom: There is a lot of division.

116

00:19:37.690 --> 00:19:43.690

Town of Freedom: Top to bottom, east to west, and I'm hoping to view this campaign as less of

117

00:19:43.890 --> 00:20:01.319

Town of Freedom: Democrat versus Republican, and just more of a campaign on what you want for the future. What do you want your town to look like? What do you want your district to look like? Because Paul and I are both great candidates in very different ways, and I hope to keep

118

00:20:01.320 --> 00:20:09.240

Town of Freedom: this community close, as I can tell you all are, and not participate in more division throughout this campaign.

119

00:20:09.240 --> 00:20:29.010

Town of Freedom: I know that you'll probably see Paul and I together more at things like this in the future. I'm not gonna avoid anything just because Paul's there, and I'm sure he won't do the same. So, I

hope that you guys approach me if you see me out and about. You might see me at community events with two toddlers, and if you do, and I have them on, voice on.

120

00:20:29.340 --> 00:20:40.140

Town of Freedom: don't judge me. I don't talk to people like that all the time, but I have a foil everybody that needs a little... a little stern voice every now and then, so you get it.

121

00:20:40.340 --> 00:20:54.599

Town of Freedom: I will be here for a couple minutes. Unfortunately, I'm not going to stay for the whole duration of the meeting, but I'm going to listen for the legislative update, and I will be around if anyone wants to chat more, and I have some great friends in Frida that are your neighbors that

122

00:20:54.600 --> 00:21:03.739

Town of Freedom: I'm sure would love to sit down with us and chat about things that are important to you as time goes on. So, thank you very much for welcoming me, and I look forward to getting to meet you.

123

00:21:11.520 --> 00:21:16.309

Town of Freedom: Steve Waterman has a presentation to make, I believe.

124

00:21:46.100 --> 00:21:47.280

Town of Freedom: Good morning.

125

00:21:47.630 --> 00:21:49.450

Town of Freedom: Hope everybody can hear me.

126

00:21:49.830 --> 00:21:54.090

Town of Freedom: This is a little new for me, so, please bear with me while I get through this.

127

00:21:54.630 --> 00:21:58.989

Town of Freedom: I'm here to present this year's Spirit of America Award.

128

00:22:03.370 --> 00:22:12.829

Town of Freedom: Jim and Turn Grew up in freedom, son of the Morris Falcons, Mars Elvin, and Judy Turner.

129

00:22:13.630 --> 00:22:18.150

Town of Freedom: Timmy has been a member of the Freedom Volunteer Fire Department since 1995.

130

00:22:18.470 --> 00:22:21.480

Town of Freedom: It has the title of Second Assistant Chief.

131

00:22:21.960 --> 00:22:24.170

Town of Freedom: But that's just a title.

132

00:22:25.230 --> 00:22:28.779

Town of Freedom: Timmy is one of two-man attack team.

133

00:22:28.930 --> 00:22:33.060

Town of Freedom: that, along with Hank Alkins, are the first to enter a burning building.

134

00:22:33.370 --> 00:22:35.250

Town of Freedom: Perhaps your home.

135

00:22:36.370 --> 00:22:39.859

Town of Freedom: You'd be grateful to have him there. He's dedicated.

136

00:22:40.450 --> 00:22:44.729

Town of Freedom: Who's concerned about the safety of the entire fire department.

137

00:22:46.460 --> 00:22:50.689

Town of Freedom: There has been a Turner family member volunteering

138

00:22:51.390 --> 00:22:55.449

Town of Freedom: with the Freedom Fire Department since 1970.

139

00:22:56.710 --> 00:23:04.790

Town of Freedom: As members of the fire department, Tim and Tammy participated in Freedom Field Day parades for the truck and distribute candy.

140

00:23:04.920 --> 00:23:07.889

Town of Freedom: They cook at our chicken barbecues.

141

00:23:08.120 --> 00:23:09.830

Town of Freedom: And fill your plates.

142

00:23:10.980 --> 00:23:19.210

Town of Freedom: They stand for hours with a fireman's boot in hand, hoping you will be donating at the Common Ground Fair toll booth.

143

00:23:21.170 --> 00:23:23.359

Town of Freedom: And you do, donate.

144

00:23:23.960 --> 00:23:25.000

Town of Freedom: Thank you.

145

00:23:25.550 --> 00:23:28.560

Town of Freedom: That money gives welcome refreshments.

146

00:23:29.270 --> 00:23:30.190

Town of Freedom: Quote.

147

00:23:30.460 --> 00:23:35.490

Town of Freedom: Pantene 19, for finally fighting your fire.

148

00:23:36.320 --> 00:23:41.289

Town of Freedom: And then there's the Hunter's Breakfast and the dinner for the Waldo County Firefighters Association.

149

00:23:42.090 --> 00:23:50.060

Town of Freedom: They both contribute to the community by participating in the Halloween trumpet, and at Christmas.

150

00:23:50.650 --> 00:23:53.220

Town of Freedom: Tim and Tammy, don't just dress up.

151

00:23:53.750 --> 00:23:57.399

Town of Freedom: in the best Santa Claus outfits ever.

152

00:23:58.960 --> 00:24:01.510

Town of Freedom: Santa personally phones children.

153

00:24:05.250 --> 00:24:08.789

Town of Freedom: My name can reduce their good behavior.

154

00:24:09.530 --> 00:24:13.599

Town of Freedom: He fundraised his calls with plenty of ho ho ho.

155

00:24:14.200 --> 00:24:17.449

Town of Freedom: As he gives an okay to their wish list.

156

00:24:17.880 --> 00:24:26.450

Town of Freedom: Some children are known, To say, ho, ho, ho, really means, yes, yes, yes.

157

00:24:28.590 --> 00:24:36.310

Town of Freedom: Tim was a soccer, baseball, and basketball coach for many grateful children.

158

00:24:37.200 --> 00:24:43.939

Town of Freedom: Tim and Tammy have been a host family for four foreign exchange students who briefly attended Mountain View High School.

159

00:24:44.070 --> 00:24:50.119

Town of Freedom: and returned to their home countries of Italy and Germany with a much better view of America.

160

00:24:54.350 --> 00:24:57.470

Town of Freedom: These students enjoy their host family so much.

161

00:24:57.980 --> 00:25:02.430

Town of Freedom: They continue to maintain contact, and welcomes Tim and Tammy to Italy.

162

00:25:03.220 --> 00:25:12.170

Town of Freedom: Tim participated in a trek across America, Trek Across Maine, a 3-day biking event covering 180 miles.

163

00:25:12.790 --> 00:25:15.920

Town of Freedom: to raise money for the American Lung Association.

164

00:25:16.830 --> 00:25:19.540

Town of Freedom: We and for you, are so blessed.

165

00:25:19.970 --> 00:25:23.220

Town of Freedom: Timmy and Tammy Turner are neighbors.

166

00:25:23.820 --> 00:25:26.340

Town of Freedom: Always there when you need them.

167

00:25:27.290 --> 00:25:29.630

Town of Freedom: They are unsung heroes.

168

00:25:31.940 --> 00:25:34.499

Town of Freedom: Oh, lend a hand went up, fancy, huh?

169

00:25:34.760 --> 00:25:36.659

Town of Freedom: And do things unnoticed.

170

00:25:37.100 --> 00:25:38.950

Town of Freedom: we notice.

171

00:25:39.670 --> 00:25:41.670

Town of Freedom: We thank them.

172

00:26:45.610 --> 00:26:49.669

Town of Freedom: to, begin the official plan of the meeting.

173

00:26:49.800 --> 00:26:56.390

Town of Freedom: Artem number two was to vote for town officers. I will read the results of the balloting that occurred yesterday.

174

00:26:57.250 --> 00:27:02.169

Town of Freedom: will the 3-year term for a selectman.

175

00:27:02.740 --> 00:27:15.960

Town of Freedom: Corey Boyer received 92 votes, Heather Donahue received 79, Master Grocken received 14, and the total was 185.

176

00:27:16.360 --> 00:27:26.319

Town of Freedom: For the one-year term of clerks in your advocate receives 171. There were 14 blanks, 2 for... for,

177

00:27:27.620 --> 00:27:43.020

Town of Freedom: Kirk Thomas, one for Christy Palmer, which, again, added up to 185. For the one-year term of tax collector, the results were exactly the same, with 171 for Cynthia Abbott.

178

00:27:43.230 --> 00:28:00.390

Town of Freedom: 14 blanks, 2 for Kirk Thomas, and 1 for Christy Palmer for the 1-year term for excise tax collector, 171 for Cynthia Abbott, 14 blanks, 2 for Kirk Thomas, 1 for Christie, Palmer for, again, the total of 185.

179

00:28:02.390 --> 00:28:07.989

Town of Freedom: Capital number 3 was the... Article that you voted on,

180

00:28:08.230 --> 00:28:11.559

Town of Freedom: To see if the voters of the panel will vote to adopt.

181

00:28:11.780 --> 00:28:17.749

Town of Freedom: The Town of Freedom main mobile phone car ordinance for the Town of Freedom

182

00:28:18.140 --> 00:28:27.789

Town of Freedom: The results of that were 116 yes, 57 no, 12 were avoided ballots.

183

00:28:28.190 --> 00:28:31.080

Town of Freedom: Again, the total being 185.

184

00:28:31.200 --> 00:28:34.120

Town of Freedom: Which is obviously the number that participated yesterday.

185

00:28:35.120 --> 00:28:38.280

Town of Freedom: Article number... Boom.

186

00:28:39.410 --> 00:28:41.530

Town of Freedom: A non-binding vote.

187

00:28:41.810 --> 00:28:50.000

Town of Freedom: Do you prefer that the annual town meeting be held at the Freedom Pierreville Range instead of Mount View School Conquest?

188

00:28:50.380 --> 00:29:02.989

Town of Freedom: The results of that non-binding vote were a yes, 123, no, 58, 4 voided ballots, again, a total of 185. So, I guess...

189

00:29:03.330 --> 00:29:10.550

Town of Freedom: I would only offer a commentary, though. You ought to check your ballots fairly closely.

190

00:29:11.000 --> 00:29:17.060

Town of Freedom: To make sure, if you want your voice recorded, that you don't mess up your back.

191

00:29:17.470 --> 00:29:22.879

Town of Freedom: It may have been other reasons to have a voided ballot, which we won't get into.

192

00:29:23.840 --> 00:29:28.890

Town of Freedom: So those are the results of the articles, up to this point.

193

00:29:30.390 --> 00:29:48.239

Town of Freedom: Article number 5, see the panel vote to increase the property tax levy not to exceed the rate established for the Town of Freedom by state law, otherwise referred to as LD1, in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment

194

00:29:48.240 --> 00:29:51.329

Town of Freedom: Does that property tax rate limit?

195

00:29:51.330 --> 00:29:56.080

Town of Freedom: Is there a motion to get article number 5? I make a motion to accept it for age.

196

00:29:56.090 --> 00:29:57.540

Town of Freedom: It's a recessive.

197

00:29:57.560 --> 00:29:58.500

Town of Freedom: Second.

198

00:29:59.170 --> 00:30:01.230

Town of Freedom: Is there discussion?

199

00:30:01.460 --> 00:30:07.090

Town of Freedom: It's noted that the Budget Committee recommends approval. Is there any discussion of that routine article?

200

00:30:08.410 --> 00:30:17.380

Town of Freedom: Yes, please. Is there a limit, when it talks about a limit, is there a dollar figure that you could give us as to, you know, how much it could be increased?

201

00:30:18.130 --> 00:30:31.819

Town of Freedom: Would the board get a comment on that? There, there's a formula, a formula that, you go by. We do not, do that because we are nowhere near, risking that.

202

00:30:33.340 --> 00:30:38.439

Town of Freedom: Did everybody hear the question and the answer? And I'm gonna guess not.

203

00:30:41.750 --> 00:30:58.140

Town of Freedom: Okay. There is a formula, that the state uses, for this article number. We did not bother, calculating that, because we are obviously nowhere near that, maximum number allowed.

204

00:30:59.060 --> 00:31:00.980

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments?

205

00:31:02.010 --> 00:31:14.710

Town of Freedom: My understanding of the voting process is that anybody who's a resident of the town has a green piece of paper, and that when you vote, if you could withhold that until I ask that you not.

206

00:31:14.950 --> 00:31:20.759

Town of Freedom: And we will ask, and those that are yes and no votes, just through the process.

207

00:31:21.190 --> 00:31:34.399

Town of Freedom: If you, anybody has the ability to register, if you're a resident of the town, even now, and if you are not a resident of the town, perhaps you could raise your hand at this moment in time, just so

208

00:31:34.570 --> 00:31:43.529

Town of Freedom: Everybody's clear, just... just yourself? Everybody here is a resident of town. That simplifies that...

209

00:31:43.700 --> 00:31:47.560

Town of Freedom: What if we didn't get the green part, because we're late. Yeah, one.

210

00:31:47.790 --> 00:31:51.009

Town of Freedom: Who hasn't perhaps stand up?

211

00:31:59.790 --> 00:32:04.199

Town of Freedom: If you're here, we strongly encourage you to vote if you choose, so please steal a card.

212

00:32:11.450 --> 00:32:23.999

Town of Freedom: Okay, back to the process of all, commented on article number 5, that you, too, singled by the further comments, so call the vote. All those in favor?

213

00:32:24.190 --> 00:32:29.900

Town of Freedom: of approving medical notifications, raise your hand, Down heads...

214

00:32:30.310 --> 00:32:34.099

Town of Freedom: Those opposed, Senate Bill Number 5 passes on the calendar.

215

00:32:42.870 --> 00:32:48.259

Town of Freedom: passes of the chatter up here is trying to figure out these... how many people there are.

216

00:32:48.570 --> 00:32:49.939

Town of Freedom: You have a number?

217

00:32:51.620 --> 00:32:53.849

Town of Freedom: Yeah, it's alright, we didn't have to just...

218

00:32:54.620 --> 00:32:56.989

Town of Freedom: When we get to a vote, maybe...

219

00:32:57.080 --> 00:33:16.479

Town of Freedom: Item number 5 has been accepted by the townspeople. Item number 6, the CFA Town will authorize the Select Board to set wages for hourly employees of the town using state wages as their guide. The Budget Committee recommends approval. Is there a motion to guide item number 6?

220

00:33:16.790 --> 00:33:19.010

Town of Freedom: So moved. Second?

221

00:33:22.440 --> 00:33:28.380

Town of Freedom: Now, these are being recorded in terms of Motions and seconds, and...

222

00:33:28.740 --> 00:33:41.280

Town of Freedom: commentaries, you know, need to be, spoken loud enough so we can hear. We encourage those of you who need to speak, or feel the need to speak extensively, to come use this mic down the front, and face the

223

00:33:41.520 --> 00:33:57.800

Town of Freedom: Kind of face the audience, I know this is an acoustically approved auditorium, but some of us, older ones can't hear so well. So, I have the advantage of being up front, I can hear just about everybody, but not so if you're sitting in the back. Are there any questions or comments regarding article number 6?

224

00:33:59.150 --> 00:34:04.589

Town of Freedom: If there's no questions, we'll call the vote. All in favor of approval, please raise your hands.

225

00:34:05.960 --> 00:34:08.409

Town of Freedom: Down hands. Those opposed?

226

00:34:08.540 --> 00:34:13.929

Town of Freedom: Six months pass, and Actill Number 7, the panel will vote to accept all donations, state.

227

00:34:14.120 --> 00:34:18.560

Town of Freedom: Donations come. State and federal, state and federal funds.

228

00:34:19.250 --> 00:34:26.629

Town of Freedom: and apply these monies to the purposes for which they are intended. Is there a motion regarding 7?

229

00:34:26.840 --> 00:34:34.239

Town of Freedom: Second. Moved and seconded to approve the body approved item level 7 as printed in the warrant. Is there discussion?

230

00:34:34.350 --> 00:34:35.060

Town of Freedom: Beautiful.

231

00:34:37.760 --> 00:34:47.690

Town of Freedom: Anybody have comments? Seeing none, we'll call the vote. All in favor of approval, please raise your hands. Down hands. Any opposed? Assembly does pass. Article number 8.

232

00:34:50.659 --> 00:34:52.840

Town of Freedom: The Super Powell vote?

233

00:34:53.020 --> 00:35:06.919

Town of Freedom: When taxes are received, the federal vote when taxes are due and payable, and some date from which interest may be charged, and who set the interest rate. This is a reference to MRSA Title 36, Chapter.

234

00:35:07.330 --> 00:35:19.469

Town of Freedom: 105, section 3, section 505, subsection 2 and 4. The Town... the Budget Committee recommends taxes are due and payable when bills are mailed.

235

00:35:19.830 --> 00:35:24.870

Town of Freedom: Interest at 7%, commencing on October 1, 2026.

236

00:35:25.640 --> 00:35:30.769

Town of Freedom: I would encourage the maker of the motion to, specify

237

00:35:31.110 --> 00:35:39.210

Town of Freedom: the, the amounts in the body of your motion, if you... if someone chooses to make a motion to accept article number 8.

238

00:35:39.860 --> 00:35:41.380
Town of Freedom: Is there a motion?

239
00:35:41.520 --> 00:35:43.580
Town of Freedom: I make a motion that we,

240
00:35:44.490 --> 00:35:55.359
Town of Freedom: Senate budget... excuse me, I make a motion that we pass this for 7% interest to commence on October 1st, 2026, for any late taxes.

241
00:35:57.010 --> 00:35:58.430
Town of Freedom: Should I read it today?

242
00:35:58.580 --> 00:36:03.280
Town of Freedom: You make whatever motion you want, but I think you've covered the subject, yes.

243
00:36:03.540 --> 00:36:05.690
Town of Freedom: Is there a second to that motion?

244
00:36:06.620 --> 00:36:08.500
Town of Freedom: It's been moved and seconded.

245
00:36:09.230 --> 00:36:11.759
Town of Freedom: Just as a reference.

246
00:36:12.210 --> 00:36:19.430
Town of Freedom: A Budget Committee recommendation is not a, you know, a part of the warrant, it's official.

247
00:36:19.540 --> 00:36:33.200
Town of Freedom: So something like this, you need to put what you want in the record, and you just did, and then the council decide whether to accept, reject, or amend. The motion before the body under article number 8 is that the

248
00:36:33.670 --> 00:36:37.230
Town of Freedom: The taxes... I do a payable windmills.

249

00:36:37.890 --> 00:36:43.980

Town of Freedom: The interest will be 7% commencing on October 1st, 2026.

250

00:36:44.680 --> 00:36:47.120

Town of Freedom: Is there discussion of the motion?

251

00:36:47.510 --> 00:36:49.530

Town of Freedom: Yes, please.

252

00:36:52.670 --> 00:36:57.210

Town of Freedom: data in September, you know, find this October 1st of September.

253

00:36:58.780 --> 00:37:02.559

Town of Freedom: So the question, if you can here, is...

254

00:37:02.860 --> 00:37:21.669

Town of Freedom: The point, I guess, is that it's, if the tax goes until August, September, you have until October 1st, you still have until October 1st to pay them without getting injured. I think that's... that's more of a statement to the question, is on the response to any question.

255

00:37:23.370 --> 00:37:24.580

Town of Freedom: Is that on the repeat page?

256

00:37:25.250 --> 00:37:34.180

Town of Freedom: I'd rather have 30 days till the time goes out, or something like that. Is there any... are there any other comments or questions? Did anybody have a response?

257

00:37:36.160 --> 00:38:00.999

Town of Freedom: Did the board have a response in any way? Yes, this is on. So, what we would do, Tim, is just like this year, when we had the delay in our tax bills, we delayed, that date that your taxes had to be paid. And surely, as long as I'm up here, and something happens, and the bills are delayed, then I will most definitely

258

00:38:01.000 --> 00:38:04.049

Town of Freedom: delayed that date, like we did this year.

259

00:38:04.430 --> 00:38:11.869

Town of Freedom: Yes, we... I believe in Huntett's Tower, we had a special vote to do that this past year, and we would just do that again.

260

00:38:12.560 --> 00:38:15.189

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments? I'll show you that first.

261

00:38:15.320 --> 00:38:20.349

Town of Freedom: Couldn't we just amend this to say 30 days after... Not a movie.

262

00:38:20.700 --> 00:38:23.890

Town of Freedom: Fill over issues, rather than another special town meeting.

263

00:38:24.110 --> 00:38:37.949

Town of Freedom: Any motion can be amended. I'm not participating in the discussion, but you have the right to vote for amendment to be changed from October 1st to 30 days after the bills are issued. Okay, so...

264

00:38:38.390 --> 00:38:41.300

Town of Freedom: What I'm hearing is an amendment

265

00:38:41.580 --> 00:38:54.900

Town of Freedom: is being offered to change... to go from having the fixed date to a 30 days after the bills are mailed as an amendment. Is there a second to the amendment?

266

00:38:55.400 --> 00:38:57.399

Town of Freedom: We need to deal with the amendment.

267

00:38:58.070 --> 00:39:03.200

Town of Freedom: If it's seconded. Okay, I will point... Wait a second, wait a second.

268

00:39:03.410 --> 00:39:21.340

Town of Freedom: There was a second? Yes. Okay. So at this point, we are only talking about an amendment that changes the part of the original motion from October 1st to a 30-day period from when the bills are mailed. Is that correct... correctly stating the amendment?

269

00:39:21.450 --> 00:39:37.919

Town of Freedom: comments about the amendment? Well, I would just point out, Cindy, when do we, normally get them out? Because sometimes, maybe people have two months, so I would want to limit people if they normally plan on October.

270

00:39:37.920 --> 00:39:47.150

Town of Freedom: In paying it. The most I would want to do is to extend that time to pay, rather than making it be September.

271

00:39:47.440 --> 00:40:02.879

Town of Freedom: Motion to amend, they go out in June. Yeah. That's a good point. Okay, so we can have, as long as everybody can hear, we can debate this amendment, amendments can be amended, or the maker of the amendment could

272

00:40:02.880 --> 00:40:11.800

Town of Freedom: offer to withdraw or replace. I guess I will recognize the maker of the amendment first. I think there might be something happening here, but yes, go ahead.

273

00:40:12.490 --> 00:40:18.589

Town of Freedom: I think Laura brings up a good point, so I would amend it to be due on October 1st.

274

00:40:18.770 --> 00:40:22.799

Town of Freedom: Or 30 days after the,

275

00:40:23.330 --> 00:40:28.679

Town of Freedom: Which, 30 days after the posting of the, tax bill.

276

00:40:29.290 --> 00:40:35.150

Town of Freedom: Whichever comes first, or... We're later, whichever comes later.

277

00:40:35.860 --> 00:40:41.299

Town of Freedom: Thank you, Bob. Okay, just so it's clear to everybody...

278

00:40:41.560 --> 00:40:50.550

Town of Freedom: The amendment now, so essentially, you've withdrawn the original... I don't want to be voting multiple times on amendments, we can help.

279

00:40:50.660 --> 00:40:56.770

Town of Freedom: So I think the maker of the noun would now put before the body A motion that reads...

280

00:40:57.110 --> 00:41:05.160

Town of Freedom: 30 days, or... October 1st, is that what I understood you to say?

281

00:41:05.440 --> 00:41:14.049

Town of Freedom: Whichever comes later. Whichever comes later. And the person who seconded that agrees with that new version? Yes. Okay.

282

00:41:14.580 --> 00:41:17.220

Town of Freedom: The discussion now is on that.

283

00:41:17.570 --> 00:41:22.330

Town of Freedom: As an amendment to what is in the water. Discussion, please.

284

00:41:23.800 --> 00:41:26.240

Town of Freedom: Well, I want to be clear on his motion.

285

00:41:27.130 --> 00:41:46.549

Town of Freedom: the 30 days, whichever comes first, so if our bills come out in July... Whichever comes late. I'm not done. I'm not done. I just want to make sure we're talking about the same thing. Okay. It's later. Yeah, okay, so that means October 31st stands, and anything after that, it's anybody's grabs.

286

00:41:47.110 --> 00:42:06.000

Town of Freedom: So, I need to know for myself, I don't know about anybody else in this room, but I live on a fixed income. October 1st, okay, is a date that has to be fixed in time, which it always has been, so I know how to budget myself, because it takes a year for me to get the following year's taxes. I don't need it to be floating in time and space.

287

00:42:06.030 --> 00:42:31.010

Town of Freedom: So, Tom, this will only be something that will benefit you. So, you plan every year for your taxes, to pay your taxes on, October 1st. What this is saying is that in case, for some reason, we have a crazy year like we did this year, and taxes are delayed, and you don't get your tax bill until October 1st, now, if your budget committee has been really great

288

00:42:31.010 --> 00:42:40.449

Town of Freedom: your taxes aren't going to go up anyway, you'll be prepared to pay it. But if your taxes did go up, you would have an additional 30 days

289

00:42:40.450 --> 00:42:45.869

Town of Freedom: To make all that, yes. We didn't need an amendment, so that was just common sense.

290

00:42:46.900 --> 00:42:50.970

Town of Freedom: Any other... any other comments or questions regarding the amendment?

291

00:42:51.080 --> 00:43:02.700

Town of Freedom: Which, tries to provide some flexibility in the application of the, time that taxes are due. Other comments or questions?

292

00:43:04.720 --> 00:43:10.839

Town of Freedom: Steve now, we will now vote on the amendment. The amendment is to,

293

00:43:12.130 --> 00:43:16.790

Town of Freedom: have the taxes due on October 1st, or...

294

00:43:17.060 --> 00:43:27.910

Town of Freedom: a, if the bills come out later, they have a 30-day minimum with... a 30-day window for the, for them being due. Is that an accurate statement of what you are trying to do?

295

00:43:28.320 --> 00:43:40.570

Town of Freedom: Do you know further comments and questions. We'll ask you to vote on the amendment. The amendment only works? The amendment does not address other aspects of this item. All in favor of the amendment, please raise your hands.

296

00:43:41.290 --> 00:43:47.890

Town of Freedom: Downhands those opposed. In August, it passes. You know, we need to proceed, but I didn't know about to do this at all.

297

00:43:48.100 --> 00:43:56.859

Town of Freedom: We're now voting on an article as amended, which sets the rate at 7% and sets the date that the taxes are due.

298

00:43:57.940 --> 00:44:00.919

Town of Freedom: Any further discussion of the article as amended?

299

00:44:01.500 --> 00:44:06.770

Town of Freedom: Do you nonetheless vote. All in favor, Radical 8S amended, please raise your hand.

300

00:44:06.960 --> 00:44:17.530

Town of Freedom: Town hands, those opposed, 8 months passed, as amended. Go on to article number 9, see what total money the town will raise in appropriation, pay tax abatements.

301

00:44:18.060 --> 00:44:23.409

Town of Freedom: Graded during the fiscal year. Town recommends paying tax abatements from the hallway.

302

00:44:24.920 --> 00:44:38.940

Town of Freedom: Which describes the process. So, is there a motion to add to item number 9? Okay, and the acceptance is that the vacancy paid from Overland, correct? Yes. Is there a second?

303

00:44:39.050 --> 00:44:47.509

Town of Freedom: Moved and seconded to approve article number 9, which states that the maintenance comes from the overlay, which is the functional part of the article. There's a discussion.

304

00:44:47.660 --> 00:44:48.809

Town of Freedom: Yes, please.

305

00:44:50.040 --> 00:44:51.830

Town of Freedom: I know this is,

306

00:44:52.560 --> 00:45:02.830

Town of Freedom: Relevant at all, but the question... or the article text calls for a sum of money, and the recommendation calls for a source of money.

307

00:45:08.190 --> 00:45:09.639

Town of Freedom: Questions been raised?

308

00:45:10.690 --> 00:45:33.039

Town of Freedom: Well, rather, Tyler, rather than, raising a sum of money, specifically a town meeting, raising and appropriating it, we're agreeing that the amount of money that is left in the abatement, at the end of the year, I mean, from the overlay, is what we will use to pay those abatements.

309

00:45:33.040 --> 00:45:50.720

Town of Freedom: And at the end, before we commit taxes, we see that amount of money that we have in the overlay. And that comes from maybe extra fines that were paid, we had somebody new come in, taxes, taxes went up, just more money than we anticipated bringing in.

310

00:45:50.720 --> 00:45:56.350

Town of Freedom: And what we do then is the select board decides, say there's 50,000 left there.

311

00:45:56.490 --> 00:46:21.440

Town of Freedom: do we want... how much of that do we want to save? The year before last, we really only saved maybe, I think it was \$12,000 to pay abatements from. The rest we, put towards decreasing taxes. This past year, because of all the problems that we knew we had with our assessments, we kept what was in that overlay, which was around \$37,000.

312

00:46:23.780 --> 00:46:26.780

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments we got out of the number 9?

313

00:46:27.180 --> 00:46:35.480

Town of Freedom: It's an honor, that's a vote. All in favor of approving the article is in the law which states that the abatements come from overly. Please raise your hands.

314

00:46:36.760 --> 00:46:55.260

Town of Freedom: vote to authorize the tax collector or treasurer to accept prepayment of the taxes not yet committed pursuant to the State Rule 36 MRSA 506. There's a motion added to number 10. Just as read.

315

00:46:55.370 --> 00:47:00.489

Town of Freedom: Second, movements added to approve the Act printed in the award. Is there any discussion?

316

00:47:00.800 --> 00:47:04.430

Town of Freedom: If there's not, I'll ask them a vote. All in favor, please raise your hands.

317

00:47:04.900 --> 00:47:09.640

Town of Freedom: Down his nipples. Let us pass away.

318

00:47:10.000 --> 00:47:22.210

Town of Freedom: I make a proposal that we move an Article 32 the, okay, we'll see what you're...

319

00:47:22.520 --> 00:47:26.020

Town of Freedom: I'm not...

320

00:47:31.580 --> 00:47:49.840

Town of Freedom: And we understand your motion. You're asking that Article 32 be counted and voted on at this time, and it's only that article. You're not trying to change the order of anything else. That's what you're trying to do. Correct. Okay. Is there somebody who agrees to that? Is there a second to that motion? Second.

321

00:47:50.010 --> 00:48:04.019

Town of Freedom: It is moved and seconded that you, as a body, would next vote on Article 32 before you proceed with the vote on Article 11. Is there discussion of that motion.

322

00:48:05.670 --> 00:48:08.139

Town of Freedom: You want to explain what God you're up against?

323

00:48:14.080 --> 00:48:20.440

Town of Freedom: We need some stability in the town office. Instead of appointing somebody that we don't know.

324

00:48:20.580 --> 00:48:26.039

Town of Freedom: Cindy Abbott has been a member in that office for some time, doing all three jobs.

325

00:48:26.480 --> 00:48:34.230

Town of Freedom: And, it also provides a lot of stability for the town and familiar with what she does.

326

00:48:35.870 --> 00:48:36.730

Town of Freedom: Pardon.

327

00:48:39.780 --> 00:48:46.380

Town of Freedom: So the article is aggregated, Would, make the physicians

328

00:48:47.180 --> 00:48:55.689

Town of Freedom: Appointed, as of the, as of the, next, meeting.

329

00:48:55.970 --> 00:49:00.070

Town of Freedom: Am I correct in the way the intent of the ad? Okay.

330

00:49:00.310 --> 00:49:06.270

Town of Freedom: And so the motion before the body is to... this is only a motion to move it.

331

00:49:07.860 --> 00:49:13.019

Town of Freedom: I'll do it two stats, because I don't know if anybody objects to moving. I'm not, you know, I'm not...

332

00:49:13.240 --> 00:49:25.030

Town of Freedom: I don't see any... okay. Any further discussion? The motion before you is to move the article. All in favor of move the article, and then we'll debate it if you want to debate it. Are you willing to move the article? Please raise your hands.

333

00:49:25.590 --> 00:49:30.539

Town of Freedom: Down the answer was poke, okay. So, we are now a point of...

334

00:49:30.650 --> 00:49:41.979

Town of Freedom: a motion in regard to Article 32. Here's... and I think maybe that's what you were speaking to anyway. Is there a motion to accept Article 32?

335

00:49:43.960 --> 00:49:50.499

Town of Freedom: Yes. Make a motion to accept Article 32 of the... So is there a second.

336

00:49:51.120 --> 00:49:52.580

Town of Freedom: is a discussion.

337

00:49:54.780 --> 00:49:58.720

Town of Freedom: Is there any... yes, Susan? So, I just heard Jim Walkman

338

00:49:58.860 --> 00:50:02.419

Town of Freedom: Probably better let everybody else hear.

339

00:50:06.690 --> 00:50:13.570

Town of Freedom: I would just like to be really clear on when I'm voting. Am I voting to have it be appointed or elected?

340

00:50:14.140 --> 00:50:20.170

Town of Freedom: Elected. Not appointed. Not appointed. No, this isn't that motion, Jim.

341

00:50:20.240 --> 00:50:38.439

Town of Freedom: This is just to make the position. If the prior, article was approved, the one that you just spoke of was just going to make that position 3 years, correct? Oh, I'm sorry, that's 33, we're talking about 32.

342

00:50:39.830 --> 00:50:49.559

Town of Freedom: It's moving it from the electrons to a pointed. If you do this, it'll be in a pointed position. Okay, I guess I'm looking at one of the prior books. I would like to remember to...

343

00:50:49.710 --> 00:51:00.220

Town of Freedom: keep it, electrical. My, my... I would like to... I just did a...

344

00:51:01.240 --> 00:51:06.340

Town of Freedom: But we need to be clear what happens if we vote it down.

345

00:51:07.480 --> 00:51:11.640

Town of Freedom: Go down and see where it is down. Which is elected. Correct.

346

00:51:11.780 --> 00:51:12.970

Town of Freedom: Thank you.

347

00:51:13.100 --> 00:51:18.510

Town of Freedom: Yes, we voted down, she stays elected. Okay. What's not? Okay.

348

00:51:19.480 --> 00:51:24.550

Town of Freedom: So, you are, at this point, discussing the merits of Article 32.

349

00:51:24.680 --> 00:51:41.000

Town of Freedom: As to whether you would choose to, in both parties or change it to an appointed position versus, you know, leaving things as they are. And I think it's fairly clear. I know there was comment, and we were going back and forth about whether it needs to be amended.

350

00:51:41.730 --> 00:51:43.410

Town of Freedom: a million...

351

00:51:43.710 --> 00:51:51.779

Town of Freedom: as kind of a pile. I would suggest you meet with a yes or no, and that achieves one of two things. So,

352

00:51:52.250 --> 00:51:58.859

Town of Freedom: Unless you want to change it to another year. But, are you... are you coming to speak on the article? Please go ahead.

353

00:51:59.970 --> 00:52:02.860

Town of Freedom: I take microphones. I'm just gonna bellow.

354

00:52:03.240 --> 00:52:11.420

Town of Freedom: Mr. Moderator and assembled voters, I've only been in town for a few years, but I've had a lot of contact with town office and the board.

355

00:52:11.540 --> 00:52:22.109

Town of Freedom: I served on the Charter Commission, moderated many hearings and special comm meetings, served on the Ad Hoc Policy Committee, and spent the last 9 months on the Select Board.

356

00:52:22.400 --> 00:52:26.870

Town of Freedom: All those activities have brought me into frequent contact with our town tour.

357

00:52:27.070 --> 00:52:33.770

Town of Freedom: I've seen firsthand that the Select Board and our town clerk all worked hard to benefit this town.

358

00:52:34.310 --> 00:52:37.500

Town of Freedom: That being said, this article is a bad idea.

359

00:52:37.890 --> 00:52:48.360

Town of Freedom: Of all of our town officials, the town clerk plays the most important role in the smooth day-to-day running of the town, and is the face of the town to its residents.

360

00:52:48.660 --> 00:52:56.390

Town of Freedom: Having a knowledgeable and pleasant clerk enhances freedom to residents' lives every time we have to go into town office.

361

00:52:57.180 --> 00:53:13.530

Town of Freedom: The town clerk has many and varied responsibilities that come with the position, such as voter registration, maintaining all town records, conducting elections and reporting with state and federal laws, issuing licenses for births and marriages.

362

00:53:13.560 --> 00:53:29.359

Town of Freedom: Recording and maintaining all vital records, including death certificates, issuing dog licenses, hunting licenses, fishing licenses, registering motor vehicles, boats, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, and trailers, and other duties.

363

00:53:29.630 --> 00:53:31.569

Town of Freedom: There's a lot to keep track of.

364

00:53:31.770 --> 00:53:44.310

Town of Freedom: In all these tasks, the clerk answers to various bureaus and offices of the state of Maine, and then ultimately to the three of his voters, who vote on the, the clerk.

365

00:53:44.870 --> 00:53:51.509

Town of Freedom: The, the clerk does not, at this point, have to answer to the select board.

366

00:53:52.350 --> 00:53:55.770

Town of Freedom: Experience in the role is enormously important.

367

00:53:56.260 --> 00:54:05.100

Town of Freedom: There are many very detailed tasks to be mastered. It is in our interest to have a clerk who has a lot of experience and who is committed to their job.

368

00:54:05.580 --> 00:54:15.980

Town of Freedom: We are fortunate to have a clerk who has performed the duties of clerk well enough for town voters who have elected her more than 25 times from the year 2000 to today.

369

00:54:16.380 --> 00:54:19.749

Town of Freedom: Elected every year by wide margins of votes.

370

00:54:20.420 --> 00:54:27.670

Town of Freedom: The current system of electing a clerk appears to be working, to the townspeople's satisfaction by changing.

371

00:54:28.380 --> 00:54:43.229

Town of Freedom: None of the Clerk's responsibilities are under the administration of the Board of Selection. This article would put the Board in the position of supervising the Clerk performing duties that the Board has no responsibility over and has minimal experience with.

372

00:54:44.090 --> 00:54:48.069

Town of Freedom: We've all seen towns around us struggle to keep their town clerks.

373

00:54:48.390 --> 00:55:00.019

Town of Freedom: A couple of years ago, Unity went through multiple clerks in one year, who were all appointed by the select board there, and then quit over difficulty with working with their select board.

374

00:55:00.120 --> 00:55:10.769

Town of Freedom: Other local town clerks told me that they would prefer to be elected because being in an appointed position puts them into the, quote, drama on the selectory.

375

00:55:10.780 --> 00:55:20.240

Town of Freedom: Gives them no job security, and opens them up to being asked to perform tasks by select board members that are not part of their job as town clerk.

376

00:55:20.530 --> 00:55:29.179

Town of Freedom: One town clerk said to me that she's concerned that one or another select person would get into a sniff about her, and there goes her job.

377

00:55:30.020 --> 00:55:33.220

Town of Freedom: Continuity in the clerk's role is crucially important.

378

00:55:33.380 --> 00:55:47.399

Town of Freedom: Continuity provides for the best service to the town. Our current clerk has been re-elected more than 25 times. That appears to reflect the town's experience that she is doing her job well, and that the town has confidence.

379

00:55:48.380 --> 00:55:56.240

Town of Freedom: The best way for the town to support this sort of continuity would be not to change the situation that appears to be working just fine.

380

00:55:56.800 --> 00:56:04.920

Town of Freedom: So I'll just end by saying to the select board, if you are feeling overworked, and I know firsthand that you are overworked.

381

00:56:05.470 --> 00:56:13.489

Town of Freedom: If you feel you need more help, tell the townspeople that, ask for more help, and trust that we will respond reasonably and responsibly.

382

00:56:14.590 --> 00:56:25.339

Town of Freedom: Don't try to get a change position to appointed when doing that has only been a headache and problem for the communities around us. I urge this assembly to vote no.

383

00:56:25.720 --> 00:56:41.340

Town of Freedom: Have other people wish to speak on the article. We're talking about Article 32. Yes, please. I would say the matter of continuity is exactly why we should vote yes on this, because once it's appointed, it's a matter of competence and consistency that keeps the person in the job.

384

00:56:41.340 --> 00:56:53.130

Town of Freedom: When it's a vote, it's simply a popularity contest. And so, in accordance with the desire for continuity and confidence in the town office, I think this should definitely be appointed and have some oversight.

385

00:56:54.190 --> 00:56:57.150

Town of Freedom: The comments we got, I will turn it to the guest speakers.

386

00:56:57.590 --> 00:56:59.400

Town of Freedom: Can I ask City's opinion?

387

00:56:59.730 --> 00:57:05.270

Town of Freedom: You can ask, and she doesn't have to answer.

388

00:57:08.870 --> 00:57:12.689

Town of Freedom: I have mixed feelings about what it's time.

389

00:57:12.930 --> 00:57:14.260

Town of Freedom: To be honest.

390

00:57:14.760 --> 00:57:16.650

Town of Freedom: Any other comments or questions?

391

00:57:17.040 --> 00:57:19.069

Town of Freedom: It's really a decision of yours.

392

00:57:19.520 --> 00:57:21.190

Town of Freedom: Yes, please.

393

00:57:22.220 --> 00:57:33.970

Town of Freedom: Just a clarification question. Are the physicians of town clerk, tax collector, and excise tax collector currently separate positions, and they just happen to be occupied by the same group? That is correct. Because the...

394

00:57:34.220 --> 00:57:43.560

Town of Freedom: The wording of this article makes it seem like you're taking three positions and consolidating them into one appointed position, or 10 appointed position.

395

00:57:43.750 --> 00:57:54.210

Town of Freedom: So, I would be interested to hear if that's the intent of the article or not. That can't be done in an article this way. It cannot be done this way, so...

396

00:57:54.610 --> 00:57:55.970

Town of Freedom: You won't have to come.

397

00:57:56.370 --> 00:58:05.050

Town of Freedom: Yeah, no, I just want to, comment on, the article in general. You know, this is... this is something that gets a...

398

00:58:05.050 --> 00:58:29.899

Town of Freedom: brought up often, and some people that's very personal, over, and so what I'm just going to do is to explain why I think it would be best for freedom, because that's what I'm supposed to do, and then you all can vote and decide, but I have let you know. So, this is why I would think that it would be best for the town

399

00:58:29.900 --> 00:58:31.740

Town of Freedom: As well as

400

00:58:31.800 --> 00:58:48.690

Town of Freedom: Cindy. You know, first of all, when I speak with MMA, we are one of the very few towns left in the state, that have, elected clerks rather than appointed. And that usually comes, you know, in

401

00:58:48.770 --> 00:59:12.539

Town of Freedom: Like, right now, we haven't had a deputy clerk for a year. Cindy's tried the select board. It's not our role to do that. We cannot, which is probably why the town office has been closed more than, more than normal. How we have it now is that if a resident next year, who happened to be really popular in town.

402

00:59:12.700 --> 00:59:20.780

Town of Freedom: decided to take out papers for this. They could win it based on popularity, and

403

00:59:21.290 --> 00:59:36.349

Town of Freedom: They could have no experience, and they could come in, but the vote is the vote. As well as the salary, that we pay. For... for Cindy's sake, I...

404

00:59:36.550 --> 00:59:54.859

Town of Freedom: I think it would be best to have this appointed, because as it is with her salary right now, there's nothing in writing on this. The Town of Freedom has never even presented this article correctly. We should present it with the salary that goes with it.

405

00:59:54.860 --> 01:00:06.280

Town of Freedom: One of you could sit in this audience today, and you could decrease, the amount of the town budget, saying that you... you want the clerk's salary to go down.

406

01:00:06.280 --> 01:00:16.870

Town of Freedom: I'm going to share with you some questions that in the last month, our residents have brought to me, which, again, is why I believe this would benefit Cindy.

407

01:00:16.870 --> 01:00:28.210

Town of Freedom: I've had it questioned that why are we paying Cindy in, the Town of Freedom separate wages to, work?

408

01:00:28.210 --> 01:00:39.379

Town of Freedom: elections outside of town offices, which we do. They said that, you know, town elections are in a job description.

409

01:00:39.400 --> 01:00:45.539

Town of Freedom: From the state, and that we shouldn't be paying anything outside of her salary for that.

410

01:00:45.810 --> 01:00:54.310

Town of Freedom: I had no answer for that. I've been asked about, the pay. You know.

411

01:00:55.300 --> 01:01:07.330

Town of Freedom: it would concern me that somebody could, or a different select board or budget committee, affect her income. And I just want to show you how up and down this can be.

412

01:01:07.750 --> 01:01:22.799

Town of Freedom: you know, back in, let's see, in 21, the position for town clerk, deputy clerk, and town treasurer, we all... we paid \$50,000 for. The town clerk was \$26,000.

413

01:01:22.800 --> 01:01:30.289

Town of Freedom: In 23, that increased to approximately 93,000.

414

01:01:30.290 --> 01:01:43.679

Town of Freedom: Because we had, Cindy took on the role as our treasurer as well, and we increased the clerk and the deputy clerk and treasurer, so it was 93.

415

01:01:43.830 --> 01:01:49.729

Town of Freedom: We then, in 24, went with Bangor Savings. At that time.

416

01:01:50.070 --> 01:01:59.760

Town of Freedom: We kept the town wage at \$20,000 more a year than it was the year before, just for the clerk's position.

417

01:01:59.940 --> 01:02:14.440

Town of Freedom: And I understand, I was here for the arguments that Cindy had not gotten a raise in years, and that is why, and that's one of the problems when you have this elected. The town clerk isn't open to raises.

418

01:02:14.440 --> 01:02:28.289

Town of Freedom: It's whatever the people vote for in the article, which next year we will have to have that article. We have to, post that when we post the position for the, what, for these

419

01:02:28.290 --> 01:02:44.170

Town of Freedom: 7 was it this year? \$44,000 a year. So that is a reason. Her pay is not stable. Pto days, I'm questioned about that. How the state statutes written with elected clerks is

420

01:02:44.170 --> 01:02:53.720

Town of Freedom: It's just the salary. They don't have, outside of their required PTO days, they don't have additional, like we give.

421

01:02:53.720 --> 01:03:09.380

Town of Freedom: Vacation time. Again, when you're on salary and the clerk, you just take your vacation. This... we have everything all mixed up. A big thing I just talked to Cindy about, I think a couple weeks ago, is the health insurance.

422

01:03:09.420 --> 01:03:27.330

Town of Freedom: You know, I think we started giving Cindy her health insurance when she was full-time doing the clerk and the treasurer. And I was asked by a resident a couple weeks ago, why are we still paying 90% of health insurance for a part-time position? It goes against our own town policy.

423

01:03:27.340 --> 01:03:45.619

Town of Freedom: So these are things that, even though I answered to the people in this room in your vote, I also then have to answer to the other residents who might not show up today, but who bring these questions in, and they point to our policies and say, why are we doing this?

424

01:03:45.760 --> 01:03:47.690

Town of Freedom: And so,

425

01:03:48.430 --> 01:04:06.560

Town of Freedom: I just think that it's in the best interest for us and for Cindy, to be appointed. But having said all that, the vote's up to you guys. Any other questions or comments in regard to approving Article 32? Yes, please.

426

01:04:11.980 --> 01:04:13.389

Town of Freedom: So I listened...

427

01:04:13.400 --> 01:04:37.070

Town of Freedom: Okay. Okay, I would like to know, you were talking, you do a lot of eyei people coming to you, but you are one of three, and so I'd like to hear, the whole Select Board. I mean, Alyssa, I don't know if you have thoughts on this, but people have been coming to you, and Corey, you've only been here for an hour. Who knows?

428

01:04:37.710 --> 01:04:47.650

Town of Freedom: All right, well, at the Black Board meeting, I voted to approve this coming before the people so that we have a chance to have a conversation about it.

429

01:04:47.650 --> 01:05:01.830

Town of Freedom: One of the things that we have been looking at, and it is something I've taken on pretty seriously, is looking at job descriptions. We don't really have a clear employee manual, and there's different requirements for appointed versus elected.

430

01:05:01.840 --> 01:05:16.520

Town of Freedom: I think we can agree that, security for seasoned staff, elected or otherwise, is crucial. Consistency in how we... how we handle things like benefits and so on.

431

01:05:16.520 --> 01:05:26.659

Town of Freedom: is definitely important. I'll echo what others have said, is absolutely, we have our hands full on so many levels, and on an administrative level.

432

01:05:26.660 --> 01:05:40.589

Town of Freedom: You know, I think the clerk's responsibilities are absolutely guided by what the state requirements are, first and foremost. We don't even have at the moment, and it's certainly high on our list, to develop a clear job description.

433

01:05:40.590 --> 01:05:47.250

Town of Freedom: One difference is that I feel, even though we don't have, in a sense, legal authority.

434

01:05:47.250 --> 01:06:02.710

Town of Freedom: over the clerk position, because it's an elected position, therefore governed by state rules and requirements. She certainly, or the position is certainly obligated to report to us and keep us informed and have that working relationship, which we do.

435

01:06:02.880 --> 01:06:20.730

Town of Freedom: I could go either way with this, because ultimately, we just have to have clarity, in terms of, issues of, of, of, wages, hours, responsibilities, and accountability to us.

436

01:06:20.730 --> 01:06:28.990

Town of Freedom: I think one observation I've had is that Cindy is expected to do everything.

437

01:06:29.690 --> 01:06:40.199

Town of Freedom: more than is possible with the hours that she has in the town office. We definitely need a deputy clerk position. That's on her plate.

438

01:06:40.990 --> 01:06:55.540

Town of Freedom: to find, not ours. We don't have the authority to hire that deputy that's hers, and she doesn't even have time to sort of do the outreach to do that, so I see it as a way that we could be of assistance.

439

01:06:55.970 --> 01:07:11.769

Town of Freedom: something for probably next year, and I'll just plant the seed, that I do think we would benefit from just separating some of the administrative responsibilities from the court position, and having some form of town administrator that can really be a bridge.

440

01:07:11.790 --> 01:07:26.109

Town of Freedom: And so, again, I think one of the reasons we put in the next article, just to sort of wrap up, you asked my thoughts, and you know I'm long-winded, it is that the next article says, alright, if it's to remain elected.

441

01:07:26.310 --> 01:07:44.639

Town of Freedom: let's make it a three-year position so that we're not doing this every year. So that is an alternative, and I think if it did remain elected, we would still want to develop a job description, we would still want to start to look at these different requirements of both the clerk

442

01:07:44.680 --> 01:08:03.080

Town of Freedom: And what's... what's expected, and what the time is. If it's limited to clerk, we can look at what the hours are, and the benefit package. Again, you know, if it's elected, these are, we have to approve that collectively, not as a board looking at it from a personnel management perspective, which is...

443

01:08:03.650 --> 01:08:06.200

Town of Freedom: The trend we'd like to move toward.

444

01:08:06.250 --> 01:08:17.630

Town of Freedom: I was just going to point out also, Melissa, unfortunately, if it's elected, we cannot come up with that job description.

445

01:08:17.630 --> 01:08:29.879

Town of Freedom: We... no, no, we don't. If you go and you leave and you read the statutes, we cannot. Sometimes some select board members have asked, Indy, I know that you and I are probably two of the selectmen that have

446

01:08:29.960 --> 01:08:46.689

Town of Freedom: ask that woman the least, and that we help a lot. But there are other selectmen that do ask her to do things, and we cannot have a job description when she's elected. It goes by the, the state's, requirement.

447

01:08:48.140 --> 01:08:50.760

Town of Freedom: Other comments on this question from the board?

448

01:08:52.450 --> 01:08:56.609

Town of Freedom: It's not a requirement, but the question came from the body, the board's opinion.

449

01:08:56.830 --> 01:09:01.080

Town of Freedom: Got it. Okay, other questions in regard to the approving the item?

450

01:09:01.250 --> 01:09:03.209

Town of Freedom: 5 to 32, yes, please.

451

01:09:03.560 --> 01:09:20.059

Town of Freedom: I'm not an expert in Robert's order, but I don't know if I can move that we keep 32, Article 32, and Article 33 in sequential order, since they seem quite related to each other, and it seems a little weird to me that we would do 32 and then bounce back to...

452

01:09:20.330 --> 01:09:23.699

Town of Freedom: 10, and then come back to the question of 33.

453

01:09:23.990 --> 01:09:28.310

Town of Freedom: I would encourage Did a decision to be made on this.

454

01:09:28.569 --> 01:09:32.180

Town of Freedom: And then the next activity would be up to the body.

455

01:09:32.250 --> 01:09:43.930

Town of Freedom: I'd rather that discussion, if you had a chance to make a point, not be intertwined with this debate on this issue. I particularly want to get an opinion on this, and then decide another question, so...

456

01:09:44.000 --> 01:09:52.999

Town of Freedom: Are there other comments in regard to Article 32? Yes, please. I see... yes, you're ahead. Speak loudly, please.

457

01:09:53.540 --> 01:09:55.560

Town of Freedom: Or from good to Mike, whichever.

458

01:10:12.270 --> 01:10:15.640

Town of Freedom: It could be really close to the mic if it doesn't do any good, yes.

459

01:10:17.910 --> 01:10:19.769

Town of Freedom: But yeah, okay.

460

01:10:20.040 --> 01:10:35.970

Town of Freedom: You all know me, I've been in town for a long time, and I personally feel that the clerk should be appointed, simply because the Select Board, as the governing body, if you will, not governing, but the executive session.

461

01:10:35.990 --> 01:10:47.770

Town of Freedom: should be able to tell the clerk, you know, oh, you can't find a deputy, so, oh, we won't have one. And then all of that work falls on Cindy. I think we need to have someone

462

01:10:48.070 --> 01:11:06.780

Town of Freedom: do the work, look things over, make sure that the clerk doesn't take days off at the end of the year when we all need her there, because there's nobody else to take her place. It's time to bring this town into the 21st century and figure out how we're gonna run this town.

463

01:11:06.780 --> 01:11:13.400

Town of Freedom: The AMBOC committee worked many, many, weeks trying to put a,

464

01:11:14.000 --> 01:11:26.130

Town of Freedom: a, employee handbook together for the town, which covered all employees, from the select board down to whoever mows the lawn in the summer. And the select board

465

01:11:26.130 --> 01:11:34.150

Town of Freedom: Barely glanced at, and so we backed off on that until after this, you know, after town meeting, because of all of the other issues we were having.

466

01:11:34.150 --> 01:11:49.049

Town of Freedom: But I think it's time that we look at what we have and make an intelligent decision as to how we want our town office drawn. It's not Cindy's office, it's not Laura's office, it's our office.

467

01:11:49.050 --> 01:11:55.979

Town of Freedom: And when we set hours, we need to have hours set that accommodate everyone in town.

468

01:11:55.980 --> 01:12:00.939

Town of Freedom: And with open till 6 on Monday works for people, you know, just...

469

01:12:00.980 --> 01:12:09.820

Town of Freedom: 3 hours a week is fine, but then at the end of the year, oh, I need to take time off to use up my PTO. She's salary.

470

01:12:09.980 --> 01:12:19.190

Town of Freedom: Salary means that you get a set wage for 12 months, and the vacations and everything else is included in that.

471

01:12:19.460 --> 01:12:23.959

Town of Freedom: If she is appointed, she's not going to lose anything.

472

01:12:23.960 --> 01:12:39.850

Town of Freedom: She will stay there because she does do a good job, but it's time we put things over, gave it some serious consideration, and said, hey guys, it's time to bring this town up, and it's having it run like a business, and not a popularity contest. Thank you.

473

01:12:39.850 --> 01:12:43.800

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments with regard to approving the article? Yes, please.

474

01:12:44.160 --> 01:12:49.469

Town of Freedom: Well, we've been doing elections for a long time. Well, ever since I've ever been here, and I've been here 45 years.

475

01:12:49.620 --> 01:12:52.819

Town of Freedom: And everybody on that board is elected.

476

01:12:52.970 --> 01:12:56.520

Town of Freedom: Select Board, the Treasurer, all of them.

477

01:12:56.630 --> 01:13:00.349

Town of Freedom: And the whole point of this is...

478

01:13:01.350 --> 01:13:05.420

Town of Freedom: No, the, excuse me, the registry, deeds, whatever.

479

01:13:05.720 --> 01:13:25.329

Town of Freedom: Go ahead. Thank you. Okay, so everybody's elected, so it's about performance. If any one of them sitting up there today doesn't perform, and the townspeople don't like it, we have to wait 3 years, which is staggered for any select board member if we say, well, that one's just not doing it.

480

01:13:25.570 --> 01:13:41.279

Town of Freedom: So someone else will run, and they'll get elected. Cindy's whole motive, okay, for this is she does a good job, then she gets re-elected. And the proof in the pudding there is for 20 years, 25 years, we've been electing her into the same position.

481

01:13:41.500 --> 01:13:47.039

Town of Freedom: So, I don't understand why this select board wants control when you are elected yourselves.

482

01:13:47.540 --> 01:13:52.739

Town of Freedom: And things have been moving along just fine. I think someone's looking for a problem where there isn't one.

483

01:13:52.740 --> 01:14:09.590

Town of Freedom: And as far as having a deputy and clerk and everything else, well, I guess that falls on Cindy, and that might be someone's complaint. As far as the personal time off and everything else, that would not change if she was appointed or not. She would still get to use up any of her personal time that accrued.

484

01:14:09.670 --> 01:14:10.660

Town of Freedom: That's it.

485

01:14:10.870 --> 01:14:20.720

Town of Freedom: Any other comments or questions regarding guests? Yeah, you know, electing our town clerk, Latin City, this is foundational to what we are as towns.

486

01:14:20.920 --> 01:14:32.820

Town of Freedom: Ben, this is what we do, to take that from the people's power. I don't agree with that. We... we know how to elect people. We... that's what we do. And...

487

01:14:33.840 --> 01:14:43.640

Town of Freedom: I want that clerk to represent the people, not represent the select board, not represent MMN. This is...

488

01:14:43.640 --> 01:14:56.470

Town of Freedom: We've been voting on this forever. This is emotional to the town, this is how we found it as towns. We elect the clerk. Losing that power, losing that as a town is like losing Beaver Ridge Road.

489

01:14:56.920 --> 01:15:02.020

Town of Freedom: Any other comments or questions? Yes, please?

490

01:15:10.790 --> 01:15:14.419

Town of Freedom: Just so I understand it. If you're appointed.

491

01:15:15.140 --> 01:15:17.939

Town of Freedom: We can recall you as the talent.

492

01:15:18.490 --> 01:15:20.329

Town of Freedom: I'm sorry, I did that backwards.

493

01:15:20.430 --> 01:15:28.559

Town of Freedom: If you're elected, we can recall, if need be. If appointed, it's up to the board, selectmen for it, to fire the person.

494

01:15:28.950 --> 01:15:30.140

Town of Freedom: for people.

495

01:15:30.870 --> 01:15:31.900

Town of Freedom: Is that right?

496

01:15:33.370 --> 01:15:35.160

Town of Freedom: There would be Goldman.

497

01:15:36.340 --> 01:15:43.950

Town of Freedom: what this proposal is, then we have no say who is taking care of things. It's up to the board.

498

01:15:44.150 --> 01:15:51.930

Town of Freedom: That's... that's the intent of the... Any other questions or comments regarding the article? I think people...

499

01:15:52.060 --> 01:15:55.709

Town of Freedom: Probably already have a pain, but maybe you can explain one more. Go ahead.

500

01:15:56.220 --> 01:16:00.470

Town of Freedom: this way. Sorry, I'm not gonna stand up, but I've got a big voice, so it'll go.

501

01:16:01.030 --> 01:16:12.540

Town of Freedom: My two comments. Cindy's put these years in, and what she's improved for pay has come from starting at the bottom, like all of us do with every job, and work up. That's called grandfathering.

502

01:16:12.790 --> 01:16:24.049

Town of Freedom: The fact that it looks like she makes so much money and she's filling these other positions, is there not a write-in spot when she gets... when we have to come out, somebody can put their names in? Does anyone else want it?

503

01:16:24.050 --> 01:16:34.729

Town of Freedom: We're becoming top-heavy, no offense, on the government, as is the whole world. I would like to see us go back to being the friendly town. We may not agree, but hey, how you doing, neighbor? We get that all the time.

504

01:16:34.770 --> 01:16:50.890

Town of Freedom: Somehow, we become more of a, we gotta catch up with the big cities. Alright, Patrick, I like it, and if you know me, I hide out a lot at my home, wait my neighbors, do what I gotta do, and hope the house doesn't pay down. But I really don't want to do micro-management as much, and Cindy...

505

01:16:50.890 --> 01:17:00.679

Town of Freedom: I know you guys were new, and when the first 3 new ones came in, I thought, here we go, they're kids, and we want this, we got that energy. I was in my 30s when I moved out here.

506

01:17:00.740 --> 01:17:11.090

Town of Freedom: I didn't move out here and say, let's change it. I came to my city. I came out here and thought, well, I'm off that track. I still work in Bangor, worked in water, worked in Augusta. I traveled a lot.

507

01:17:11.180 --> 01:17:29.110

Town of Freedom: But golly, I'm retired now, and I just see you guys, like, we gotta get it, and I'm sitting here going, hey, I'm in the breakdown lane now, how about keeping us old people in mind? So all I'm asking is, Cindy, I respect you, you know that if I cleaned that darn office for, what, 18 years? God bless, I won't take it, and it's been offered, but I won't.

508

01:17:29.270 --> 01:17:44.479

Town of Freedom: But I saw what she put up with. She is the face of the town, because that's who we come in and see. She has a lot more knowledge than a lot of new people coming in, and the state is changing so many things daily, weekly, with all of these new things that they've got to put on us.

509

01:17:44.480 --> 01:17:56.709

Town of Freedom: She has to stay on it. You three do, also. And I will say, you caught up the new group that came in, I really had my doubts, but boy, they dove in and said, we're gonna do this, but they didn't go in saying we're changing it.

510

01:17:57.620 --> 01:18:07.429

Town of Freedom: You know who I'm proud of? The Lost Kitchen, and I know everybody has their opinions, but I don't live across the street from them. I don't have all that traffic. And I gotta say, that road not being fixed slows people down.

511

01:18:07.430 --> 01:18:21.210

Town of Freedom: It's okay. But I just... this is... kick back. Let's... don't make this so personal. And again, I am biased. I do like Cindy, but she's helped me out of the whole of the situation. She's talked me through stuff I don't know. She's approachable.

512

01:18:21.210 --> 01:18:22.400

Town of Freedom: Don't change it.

513

01:18:22.400 --> 01:18:42.189

Town of Freedom: That's it. Any other... any other further comments to Active 32? Second. We can do that, but I think we're in. I think... Is there any... seeing no further discussion.

514

01:18:43.630 --> 01:18:48.719

Town of Freedom: Seeing no further discussion, I will call the vote on the ad vote as printed in a warrant.

515

01:18:50.100 --> 01:18:51.879

Town of Freedom: In...

516

01:18:52.000 --> 01:19:02.710

Town of Freedom: So, the motion is to approve the article, Article 32, as printed in the warrant. All those in favor, please raise your hands. Leave them in place until penalty.

517

01:19:05.460 --> 01:19:07.399

Town of Freedom: Down hands, so's opposed.

518

01:19:08.060 --> 01:19:18.289

Town of Freedom: I think it's fairly obvious. Article 32 fails. We are now returning to Article 11.

519

01:19:21.780 --> 01:19:31.610

Town of Freedom: I'm told 11 minutes to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate 314,000... \$653, sir.

520

01:19:32.340 --> 01:19:33.220

Town of Freedom: Yeah.

521

01:19:36.950 --> 01:19:37.900

Town of Freedom: That's 11.

522

01:19:47.280 --> 01:19:53.080

Town of Freedom: Okay, we are on Article 11, I don't know what I said, but I don't say that over again. Anyway, Article 11.

523

01:19:53.810 --> 01:20:01.819

Town of Freedom: We'll see if the panel will vote to raise and appropriate \$314,653 for general government

524

01:20:01.940 --> 01:20:06.060

Town of Freedom: the Budget Committee recommends approval, and I gather

525

01:20:06.540 --> 01:20:09.340

Town of Freedom: The sum total that is printed

526

01:20:09.900 --> 01:20:12.510

Town of Freedom: Underneath the article is a warnings.

527

01:20:12.950 --> 01:20:20.079

Town of Freedom: Which would imply that The only discussion of that is also included in

528

01:20:20.210 --> 01:20:26.920

Town of Freedom: discussion of the articles, if there is any. Is there a motion in regard to Article 11? That is correct.

529

01:20:27.740 --> 01:20:28.670

Town of Freedom: Have a good book.

530

01:20:28.840 --> 01:20:32.259

Town of Freedom: This movement is seconded to approve Article 11.

531

01:20:32.510 --> 01:20:43.909

Town of Freedom: which, you know, includes a \$314,653, appropriation raised and appropriated, and I think by,

532

01:20:44.980 --> 01:20:50.849

Town of Freedom: By that book, you are approving the various lines in the budget.

533

01:20:51.130 --> 01:21:00.829

Town of Freedom: Would follow under that. Is the discussion of the motion to approve auditorium order? Yes, please.

534

01:21:01.520 --> 01:21:18.640

Town of Freedom: when they take the article in... with a specific amount, does that mean that an amendment cannot be made to increase that amount, only to lower it? Instead of asking what the town folks who approved?

535

01:21:18.880 --> 01:21:26.060

Town of Freedom: As without a specific number. Just a section.

536

01:22:04.430 --> 01:22:06.889

Town of Freedom: Sorry for the interruption, I'm trying to understand...

537

01:22:07.060 --> 01:22:09.670

Town of Freedom: The article, as it's printed in the war.

538

01:22:10.420 --> 01:22:15.020

Town of Freedom: we... we... I don't... we haven't got a motion to approve yet. I think the question came before we...

539

01:22:15.380 --> 01:22:30.610

Town of Freedom: We had a motion. We got a motion to approve. Okay. Okay. Well, well, before I have a discussion coming... Well, there's a point of order that was raised. The point was...

540

01:22:30.960 --> 01:22:41.900

Town of Freedom: Are the, are the items listed, in such a way that they cannot be raised in terms of increasing the number? And the ruling would be that it's correct.

541

01:22:42.000 --> 01:22:53.279

Town of Freedom: It is printed as part of the warrant, it is a posted, warrant, and that is, as I understand it, the statute is that because it is posted as part of the warrant.

542

01:22:53.570 --> 01:22:59.030

Town of Freedom: You know, that... the discussion can only be to decrease it, or, you know, vacate it.

543

01:22:59.440 --> 01:23:00.600

Town of Freedom: a win.

544

01:23:01.170 --> 01:23:14.490

Town of Freedom: in an amendment form, and then eventually you have to decide whether to do... what to do with the whole article. That's... that's the question, that's the answer. Are there other comments about the article, or did you have some other comment? Yes, please?

545

01:23:14.520 --> 01:23:25.530

Town of Freedom: I'd like to make a motion to correct the amount. It should be \$313,653, which is the total in the chart.

546

01:23:25.650 --> 01:23:42.280

Town of Freedom: It was a typo that we missed, due to changes that we were making on the budget, so I move that, we amend the amount to reflect what's in the chart, which is \$313,653.

547

01:23:42.400 --> 01:23:44.660

Town of Freedom: Okay. That's been seconded.

548

01:23:45.930 --> 01:23:56.849

Town of Freedom: It's been moved and seconded that, in the form of an amendment, that this first line be changed to reflect what is already printed in the warrant, essentially a typo.

549

01:23:57.070 --> 01:24:16.019

Town of Freedom: Of \$1,000, and I think you do ask it to be done in the form of an amendment. I heard a second for that. Any debate on that amendment, which just changes the line so you do any debate? Do I see any debate? Okay, seeing none, I'll ask the raise of hands. For the amendment, which contains that number, all in favor of that.

550

01:24:16.130 --> 01:24:28.209

Town of Freedom: Okay, so you're talking about the same number, then. Is there discussion of the article that was amended, Article 11? Yes, please. I'd like to make a motion to amend...

551

01:24:28.980 --> 01:24:33.539

Town of Freedom: article of the legal expenses of \$42,600.

552

01:24:35.210 --> 01:24:42.820

Town of Freedom: Okay, and that's... that's probably how that's my web portrait decline? Number 0715.

553

01:24:43.220 --> 01:24:47.230

Town of Freedom: From \$42,000 to \$10,000 makes a motion.

554

01:24:50.110 --> 01:24:57.289

Town of Freedom: Okay, your, your amendment, changes 42,000, Mr. Moderator, to one of order.

555

01:24:57.960 --> 01:25:13.210

Town of Freedom: Point of order? I both agree with that. We cannot... this article is for \$313,653. We... only thing that we can do as a voting body is to reduce that number.

556

01:25:13.210 --> 01:25:28.049

Town of Freedom: We cannot go down here. This is not a line item budget. We can't go down here and select whatever it is in this article that is shown here for our own knowledge, for us to look at, see where the money's spent. We can't go down through there and reduce it line by line.

557

01:25:28.050 --> 01:25:41.860

Town of Freedom: The only thing we can vote on is the amount that's in the article, \$313,653. If we want to reduce that by a certain amount, we can do that, but it's up to the select board to figure out where they're going to get that money from.

558

01:25:44.050 --> 01:25:59.640

Town of Freedom: Is that the board's understanding? Yeah. I come from different towns, and every town approaches it differently, and I'm going to tell Freedom what to do. But if that's the board president forward understanding of how it works.

559

01:25:59.750 --> 01:26:04.370

Town of Freedom: I think the maker of the motion And,

560

01:26:05.230 --> 01:26:15.630

Town of Freedom: I'm not getting a workaround, but you could offer an amendment to reduce the bottom line, and you've obviously made your point. Whether the board can do that or not, that's what the board would have to wrestle with, but...

561

01:26:16.020 --> 01:26:21.849

Town of Freedom: Your motion was to reduce The amount in the bottom line.

562

01:26:22.170 --> 01:26:33.610

Town of Freedom: by, you know, \$41,990. Oh, \$10,000.

563

01:26:35.510 --> 01:26:41.460

Town of Freedom: Okay, say it loudly so I understand what you're trying to do. What's your motion again? Do you amend?

564

01:26:42.920 --> 01:26:48.829

Town of Freedom: Decrease the budget of \$314,000 minus \$30,000.

565

01:26:49.240 --> 01:26:50.969

Town of Freedom: Whatever that figure is.

566

01:26:51.110 --> 01:26:52.630

Town of Freedom: No, I don't think so.

567

01:26:53.660 --> 01:26:55.610

Town of Freedom: So, in 2001 bill.

568

01:27:01.860 --> 01:27:03.100

Town of Freedom: I'll sit with that more time.

569

01:27:04.070 --> 01:27:06.180

Town of Freedom: Okay.

570

01:27:27.110 --> 01:27:30.280

Town of Freedom: \$30,000,313.

571

01:27:38.160 --> 01:27:49.679

Town of Freedom: So, the... I heard an amendment offered and seconded that reduces the bottom line by \$30,000, and there was comment about where it should come from as a comment. We were...

572

01:27:49.680 --> 01:28:02.380

Town of Freedom: We have corrected that line by line, it cannot be apparently specified. Is the discussion of the amendment which reduces the bottom line by \$30,000?

573

01:28:04.170 --> 01:28:07.950

Town of Freedom: Yes, it is. Well, we all know where the person that...

574

01:28:08.810 --> 01:28:13.670

Town of Freedom: Trying to make this adjustment, wants that to come from, which would be our legal fees.

575

01:28:13.800 --> 01:28:29.100

Town of Freedom: And so, the \$30,000... there's no way they're gonna sit down and everything else and try to figure out this thing piece by piece, but this is just another... another attack to try to stop the town from defending itself, when it has legal issues, which would leave the town \$12,000

576

01:28:29.100 --> 01:28:39.650

Town of Freedom: Because the select board would have to find out where to make up that \$30,000. I guarantee you, they're not going to make it up in the legal fees that what's trying to be done here through a side door.

577

01:28:39.850 --> 01:28:51.099

Town of Freedom: So, I would hope that the whole town sitting here and everything else would defeat this. So, any other discussion in regard to reducing the budget by \$30,000?

578

01:28:52.680 --> 01:28:59.179

Town of Freedom: Is there any further discussion? If I... if I... Yeah, I mean, I'm just gonna say, first of all.

579

01:28:59.650 --> 01:29:01.379

Town of Freedom: Just like last year.

580

01:29:01.520 --> 01:29:20.549

Town of Freedom: Sometimes, some people are very predictable, and so ahead of time, again, like last year, I wrote my note. We'll vote to decrease by 30K, because that's what I anticipated. So I'm going to point out again, we are not a line item budget.

581

01:29:22.340 --> 01:29:47.239

Town of Freedom: I see this, you're right, as a way, to bypass perhaps the decision that the, board made after hearing from the people at our special selectmen meeting. What I'm going to encourage is that rather than do some backdoor method like this, if there are really people interested in doing this and seeing what

582

01:29:47.240 --> 01:29:48.439

Town of Freedom: The town thinks.

583

01:29:48.440 --> 01:29:55.279

Town of Freedom: Do a people's veto. Don't... a people's petition. Don't, do something like this.

584

01:29:55.350 --> 01:30:06.869

Town of Freedom: Having said that, as a fiscally conservative woman I am, I'm gonna say, bring that on, and I accept that challenge. We will continue to defend the TAM, but...

585

01:30:07.070 --> 01:30:18.379

Town of Freedom: I will take this budget. If that is what the people in this room want, I will decrease it, and I will find the areas outside of our legal to do that.

586

01:30:18.610 --> 01:30:23.970

Town of Freedom: Okay, and I would expect that we would talk about it.

587

01:30:24.150 --> 01:30:28.539

Town of Freedom: I think,

588

01:30:28.880 --> 01:30:37.229

Town of Freedom: To go. Any questions or comments? Yeah, did Biff Bird's motion get seconded? Remove and seconded to amend the budget. Correct.

589

01:30:38.240 --> 01:30:45.429

Town of Freedom: And so I think it might be appropriate to move to the vote. All in favor of the amendment, please raise your hands.

590

01:30:46.040 --> 01:30:51.120

Town of Freedom: Down? Okay, all hands up in favor of that. Down hands low to the polls.

591

01:30:51.340 --> 01:30:55.980

Town of Freedom: The amended offenders, you had a point of discussing the budget as amended.

592

01:30:56.570 --> 01:31:05.430

Town of Freedom: which is a... It should read \$315,656.

593

01:31:05.620 --> 01:31:07.569

Town of Freedom: Any other discussion?

594

01:31:07.950 --> 01:31:16.079

Town of Freedom: And you're welcome to discuss lines, and any amendments to lines have to be done on the total number, as we just...

595

01:31:16.340 --> 01:31:28.119

Town of Freedom: discussed carefully. Yes, please. For fire prevention, could someone explain if that \$60,800 spent in the 2025 is a typo?

596

01:31:28.830 --> 01:31:38.900

Town of Freedom: No, it was, that is where our ambulance service was placed the first year, and now it's under public safety.

597

01:31:40.710 --> 01:31:43.229

Town of Freedom: Everybody understand the question and the answer?

598

01:31:43.810 --> 01:31:46.530

Town of Freedom: Maybe we do. Any other questions? I saw Alan?

599

01:31:46.730 --> 01:31:48.270

Town of Freedom: My hand somewhere else.

600

01:31:48.400 --> 01:32:06.829

Town of Freedom: Yes, please. I had a similar question. But I also was just going to comment, and it looked like in a lot of these areas, we actually spend less this year. I just want to point that out. Good job, everyone. I used to understand the stuff and the auditing.

601

01:32:07.020 --> 01:32:11.869

Town of Freedom: Well, legalism there once.

602

01:32:13.080 --> 01:32:16.289

Town of Freedom: But, yeah, it looks like both of the people carry...

603

01:32:19.080 --> 01:32:23.750

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments in regard to Article 11 as amended?

604

01:32:24.100 --> 01:32:25.309

Town of Freedom: Yes, please.

605

01:32:25.960 --> 01:32:30.910

Town of Freedom: I have no judgment. I just would like opinion or information about the assessor.

606

01:32:31.060 --> 01:32:32.150

Town of Freedom: Line item?

607

01:32:32.430 --> 01:32:44.530

Town of Freedom: Yeah, it, it increased so much because this year we discovered when we went to, when we committed taxes, that they were incorrect. That led to,

608

01:32:44.620 --> 01:32:56.659

Town of Freedom: me researching our assessments, we found out that our assessments are incorrect. We use a system called TRIO, and in order to be able to,

609

01:32:56.860 --> 01:32:57.770

Town of Freedom: least...

610

01:32:58.120 --> 01:33:10.490

Town of Freedom: this year, submit correct assessments based on our last current number. We needed to upgrade that system manually, and so we have Jim Murphy.

611

01:33:10.490 --> 01:33:30.210

Town of Freedom: Jim Murphy, an assessor who's agreed to come in, and he is going to do what he calls clean up our TRIO system. It's really complicated, which has probably led to a lot of mistakes over the past many years, and so that is what that cost is for. He's charging us \$10,000 to do that.

612

01:33:30.310 --> 01:33:46.560

Town of Freedom: Yeah, that line includes our current assessor's agent, so the... just for folks to know, the whole board serves as the board of assessors. We have an assessor's agent, Jackie Robbins, and she sort of handles the assessments, and over time, we have found some need for,

613

01:33:46.560 --> 01:33:58.020

Town of Freedom: a more equitable set of corrections to be made, and so we have an outside consultant, Jim Murphy, who is willing to come in and do this for us. We'd also talked about

614

01:33:58.020 --> 01:34:22.969

Town of Freedom: beginning to fund a re-evaluation. There's, like, a 3- or 4-year... there's, like, a 3-year waiting list, for folks, and even that is hugely expensive. I will make a pitch that if anybody is looking for a career option, the state is in desperate need of qualified and trained assessors. It's probably a great career path. You could work with towns, be out in the field, so I just... in the absence

615

01:34:22.970 --> 01:34:29.230

Town of Freedom: of that, we're training ourselves in the process as best we can, getting some outside help in order to

616

01:34:29.230 --> 01:34:34.810

Town of Freedom: Try and make some corrections going forward without the whole expense of a reval right away.

617

01:34:35.210 --> 01:34:50.859

Town of Freedom: Questions and comments in the event that the article as amended? If there are no further questions, I'll ask for the vote. All in favor of approving Article 11 as amended, which means \$313,653. Please raise your hand. What's the amendment?

618

01:34:51.250 --> 01:35:01.300

Town of Freedom: The amendment was changing that one number that was a miscarriage. 314, 314 to 313. Yes, 313. Yes.

619

01:35:02.420 --> 01:35:07.059

Town of Freedom: And again, all in favor of the article as amended.

620

01:35:07.880 --> 01:35:10.140

Town of Freedom: Down hands, those both.

621

01:35:14.120 --> 01:35:28.760

Town of Freedom: Sometimes those are approached as just a correction, and the town's accepted. It was done in a formal amendment form. That's the way it was offered, that's accepted, and I think we're ready to move on to Act 2.

622

01:35:29.660 --> 01:35:43.809

Town of Freedom: \$71,721 for public safety, using \$4,237.64 from the ACO Capital Reserve Account for total appropriation of

623

01:35:44.320 --> 01:35:55.340

Town of Freedom: \$65,483.76. Budget Committee says you want to do it. Is there a motion regarding 12?

624

01:35:56.150 --> 01:36:01.479

Town of Freedom: Seconded. Moved and seconded to approve item 12. Is there discussion? Yes, ma'am.

625

01:36:02.540 --> 01:36:03.930

Town of Freedom: dollar error.

626

01:36:06.960 --> 01:36:09.099

Town of Freedom: Yeah, so,

627

01:36:09.420 --> 01:36:25.640

Town of Freedom: You're right, and again, there... the... I'd like to propose a... an amendment to this motion. Again, we were sort of... we're really working hard on... on, getting the budget numbers into the book, and so there were some... there were a couple of errors.

628

01:36:25.640 --> 01:36:32.970

Town of Freedom: I'd like to amend the motion for, the town to raise and appropriate \$69,901.

629

01:36:33.200 --> 01:36:39.510

Town of Freedom: So it's the top line you see Berm in, in the one printing one.

630

01:36:40.410 --> 01:36:45.030

Town of Freedom: You're changing 71 to 69, is that what you're trying to do?

631

01:36:49.040 --> 01:36:49.890

Town of Freedom: So excited.

632

01:36:51.040 --> 01:36:53.529

Town of Freedom: I want to make sure I get a clear number.

633

01:36:54.710 --> 01:37:03.090

Town of Freedom: Could you repeat the number? Let's... I hope we're gonna do that, yes. \$69,901.

634

01:37:04.880 --> 01:37:11.919

Town of Freedom: The amended being offered changes the second. We can talk about it infinitely.

635

01:37:12.040 --> 01:37:13.889

Town of Freedom: As long as we're talking about one thing.

636

01:37:14.390 --> 01:37:20.539

Town of Freedom: I want to make sure we have it. So the number you're proposing is changing in Article 12,

637

01:37:20.870 --> 01:37:28.610

Town of Freedom: \$71,000 limit to a \$69,901.50. Is that what you intend to do?

638

01:37:29.060 --> 01:37:46.099

Town of Freedom: It also, just to be... to be clear, the total appropriation, therefore, would not be \$65,483.36, but instead, \$65,663.

639

01:37:46.100 --> 01:37:50.030

Town of Freedom: So, by changing that, total appropriation number.

640

01:37:50.030 --> 01:38:02.379

Town of Freedom: still subtracting the ACO reserve account, funds that we're using, gives a total appropriation of 65, 663, and 36 cents. Those numbers don't add up.

641

01:38:02.690 --> 01:38:04.310

Town of Freedom: Right, that was the same.

642

01:38:07.910 --> 01:38:11.589

Town of Freedom: So we will allow the maker of the amendment to make sure that

643

01:38:12.540 --> 01:38:31.340

Town of Freedom: \$69,901 minus the 42, 37, and 64 cents is \$65,663.36.

644

01:38:32.430 --> 01:38:35.090

Town of Freedom: That's your amendment offered.

645

01:38:35.500 --> 01:38:38.299

Town of Freedom: Is there a second to the amendment?

646

01:38:41.350 --> 01:38:46.229

Town of Freedom: Okay, it has been moved and seconded to amend item 12

647

01:38:46.560 --> 01:38:56.620

Town of Freedom: On the numbers side, this is not a debate about the article, this is just making sure that you're not talking about numbers that the board now wants you to be talking about.

648

01:38:56.950 --> 01:39:05.859

Town of Freedom: Is there discussion of the amendment? Not the article, but the amendment. Yes, please. Mr. Moderator, could the board, tell us which line item

649

01:39:06.100 --> 01:39:07.499

Town of Freedom: was an error.

650

01:39:08.170 --> 01:39:09.129

Town of Freedom: Hang on a sec.

651

01:39:12.510 --> 01:39:20.629

Town of Freedom: I don't... I don't know, Randy, if it was necessarily a line item that was in error, but rather just a key that was pressed differently.

652

01:39:21.290 --> 01:39:37.739

Town of Freedom: Obviously, we left out the ambulance... oh, I guess the ambulance was in there. I think it was just, you know, there were several different... you were there, several different, screens that Cindy had up, and I think that a change was made in one, could have been a slip of a finger.

653

01:39:37.920 --> 01:39:42.359

Town of Freedom: So the total at the bottom of the,

654

01:39:42.760 --> 01:39:46.809

Town of Freedom: of the budget lines. That total was also incorrect?

655

01:39:49.050 --> 01:39:53.270

Town of Freedom: If it would be, it would have to be changed, right, to match.

656

01:39:54.010 --> 01:39:58.779

Town of Freedom: Okay, so we're discussing the amendment, which changes the numbers.

657

01:39:59.170 --> 01:40:04.860

Town of Freedom: Does anybody want to debate changing the numbers anymore? No, I didn't want the 65,000 one.

658

01:40:05.260 --> 01:40:10.440

Town of Freedom: \$65,663.36.

659

01:40:10.920 --> 01:40:21.529

Town of Freedom: is the second line in the order under item 12, first line 69901. Any further discussion about those two numbers?

660

01:40:23.330 --> 01:40:30.520

Town of Freedom: change. Seeing no, not... seeing no further discussion, I see the vote on changing those two numbers. All in favor of that is raise your hand.

661

01:40:30.980 --> 01:40:40.179

Town of Freedom: I'm now debating out of 12 as amended. Do you want to do it or not? Any discussion of the Act?

662

01:40:43.210 --> 01:40:51.839

Town of Freedom: I see no discussion of the applicant as amended. I will ask you to vote. All in favor of approving out of the problem as amended, you would do another, please raise your hands.

663

01:40:52.100 --> 01:40:56.859

Town of Freedom: Opposed pass as amended.

664

01:40:57.440 --> 01:41:01.350

Town of Freedom: We're now at the point of discussing cool.

665

01:41:01.870 --> 01:41:03.620

Town of Freedom: 13.

666

01:41:05.840 --> 01:41:16.870

Town of Freedom: See if now vote to deposit understanding public works appropriations and miscellaneous revenue paid by the Public Works capacity to the Public Works Capital Reserve Accountant.

667

01:41:17.350 --> 01:41:23.600

Town of Freedom: Budget Committee recommends that you do that. Article 13. Is there a motion to add to Article 13?

668

01:41:23.820 --> 01:41:28.180

Town of Freedom: Seconded. The move is seconded to approve item 13. Is there discussion?

669

01:41:30.030 --> 01:41:38.500

Town of Freedom: This is not the last of the vote. All in favor of approving 13, please raise your hands. Down hands. Opposed? 13, down hands, 14.

670

01:41:38.670 --> 01:41:44.450

Town of Freedom: If they'll vote to authorize all excise tax revenue to be used for some roads.

671

01:41:44.670 --> 01:41:54.140

Town of Freedom: And any unexpected deposited into the pending account. Budget Committee recommends approval. Is there a motion regarding the 14?

672

01:41:54.300 --> 01:41:58.000

Town of Freedom: Seconded. Moved and seconded to approve Article 14, discussion.

673

01:42:00.480 --> 01:42:04.990

Town of Freedom: Is there any chance we're gonna get the Pleasant Hill Road, Pleasant Street fixed?

674

01:42:05.190 --> 01:42:10.460

Town of Freedom: It has to be a Rhone secession. It just has to be.

675

01:42:12.400 --> 01:42:14.369

Town of Freedom: I've got a question of both.

676

01:42:15.200 --> 01:42:17.150

Town of Freedom: Any answer?

677

01:42:17.590 --> 01:42:24.629

Town of Freedom: Maybe? Oh, wow. Pleasant Street. I live on that street street.

678

01:42:25.160 --> 01:42:30.570

Town of Freedom: It is not in the top priority list for this year in Public Works.

679

01:42:30.590 --> 01:42:45.639

Town of Freedom: There are a number... but there is some, patching that will probably be done. There's still going to be discussion about more of a major rebuild of that street. There's so many sort of deeper fundamental issues that

680

01:42:45.640 --> 01:42:54.289

Town of Freedom: We want another year to look at it, might also have the opportunity to get some, grant funding for that as a mazeer rebuilt, so...

681

01:42:54.290 --> 01:43:10.239

Town of Freedom: We did, look at the possibility of a repaving project, which would just skim off a top surface and relay that down. It's not a permanent fix. The cost of that is about \$12,000.

682

01:43:10.240 --> 01:43:16.480

Town of Freedom: Just to do a very small section where it's the worst, it may be that we do that, and have kind of built that.

683

01:43:16.610 --> 01:43:36.420

Town of Freedom: conditionally into the budget, but we may decide to just... to just wait. Just a reminder, last year, some of the road work was delayed, because of the recall and the delay, and sort of implementing some of the projects, so that has backed us up. There's no question that it's recognized as a priority.

684

01:43:36.420 --> 01:43:40.420

Town of Freedom: But we just don't want to commit to it getting done fully this year.

685

01:43:40.430 --> 01:43:44.379

Town of Freedom: Any other questions? I see a hand right back there, yes, please.

686

01:43:49.570 --> 01:43:56.079

Town of Freedom: It may have been a rhetorical question. What was made,

687

01:43:56.750 --> 01:43:59.190

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments? Yes, please?

688

01:43:59.460 --> 01:44:00.340

Town of Freedom: Boom.

689

01:44:00.680 --> 01:44:03.900

Town of Freedom: Who's gonna do it? We have the way for public works.

690

01:44:04.560 --> 01:44:08.050

Town of Freedom: And I hope there's a person that's plowing right now.

691

01:44:08.380 --> 01:44:11.760

Town of Freedom: Because... That's not a very good job.

692

01:44:13.640 --> 01:44:27.169

Town of Freedom: So, you're right, we do not have public works, but, we do have a meeting, an executive session on Monday, because I recognize that spring is coming, and due to,

693

01:44:27.400 --> 01:44:40.789

Town of Freedom: our winter... our dirt roads being treated with hot sand, for most of the winter, starting at the beginning. They've turned into a...

694

01:44:40.790 --> 01:45:01.670

Town of Freedom: a muddy mess in a lot of places, and so we are meeting with somebody on Monday evening, coming up with a temporary road commissioner, or some sort of title like that, to get somebody who can give us, direction and what we should do. Because you're right, what an unfortunate position to be in.

695

01:45:01.680 --> 01:45:03.190

Town of Freedom: No public works.

696

01:45:04.520 --> 01:45:14.500

Town of Freedom: Other questions or comments? I will just add that the Public Works Director and the Public Works Director positions are open and, posted.

697

01:45:16.420 --> 01:45:19.120

Town of Freedom: Questions or comments otherwise? Yeah.

698

01:45:19.330 --> 01:45:22.280

Town of Freedom: Falcon Road.

699

01:45:22.740 --> 01:45:24.700

Town of Freedom: It was the wrong company at the Portland Road.

700

01:45:24.830 --> 01:45:26.400

Town of Freedom: has nasty?

701

01:45:27.010 --> 01:45:29.029

Town of Freedom: Townhouse broke, that was one.

702

01:45:29.390 --> 01:45:30.610

Town of Freedom: It's terrible.

703

01:45:31.200 --> 01:45:36.040

Town of Freedom: It only used to be downward penny, but turnover was still there, because...

704

01:45:36.250 --> 01:45:46.270

Town of Freedom: No one would have to stand. We gotta dig it out and put a face in it. Now, they're just coming through this crap and put it on top of it, and next year, it'd be all modular.

705

01:45:46.510 --> 01:45:48.609

Town of Freedom: I graded it so it's on my tractor.

706

01:45:49.060 --> 01:46:04.150

Town of Freedom: Back when Carol Pritchard, and people complained. She says, you know, downtown's road is the smoothest road in town, because of what I did. And I work for the town. But our public workshop

707

01:46:05.680 --> 01:46:13.090

Town of Freedom: that, that way... If we have that call again.

708

01:46:13.830 --> 01:46:19.199

Town of Freedom: It was junk. And it's still jumped. And this didn't plow up the road right now, into the ditch.

709

01:46:19.330 --> 01:46:22.520

Town of Freedom: So, we're gonna ditch the roads, and someone's gonna get it for free.

710

01:46:22.770 --> 01:46:30.170

Town of Freedom: I'm not gonna get into, you know, personally, debating, because

711

01:46:30.170 --> 01:46:48.720

Town of Freedom: You know, personally, I think our Biopublic Works Director, did a great job. And actually, John, I'm sorry, I don't know you thought that about Townhouse. I thought the last time you told me, you let me know that it held out great. And so that's what I've been telling people. It was good before...

712

01:46:48.950 --> 01:46:53.430

Town of Freedom: Mr. Roger. Point of order. Point of order?

713

01:46:53.660 --> 01:47:02.020

Town of Freedom: We're supposed to be discussing this article. Yes, thank you. Not Rhodes. I think probably everybody, almost everybody agrees with you.

714

01:47:02.330 --> 01:47:06.120

Town of Freedom: Any other comments in regard to Article 14?

715

01:47:06.420 --> 01:47:08.390

Town of Freedom: I see none.

716

01:47:09.040 --> 01:47:18.839

Town of Freedom: And I'm going to ask you to vote on you to approve or not approve article 14. All in favor of the motion to approve, please raise your hands.

717

01:47:19.030 --> 01:47:32.140

Town of Freedom: Down hands those approved. It does pass on the 15th, if the Council authorized all interest paid from Canada National Sweet Pelican to be deposited into the pay-in account.

718

01:47:32.620 --> 01:47:39.429

Town of Freedom: Is there a motion regarded to 15? Seconded. Movement, seconded to approve 15. Discussion.

719

01:47:40.660 --> 01:47:45.280

Town of Freedom: Being none, pass the vote. All in favor of report 15, please raise your hands.

720

01:47:45.620 --> 01:47:48.749

Town of Freedom: Down hands. Pose.

721

01:47:50.400 --> 01:47:54.039

Town of Freedom: Article 16, the Secret Island vote to raise an earthquake

722

01:47:54.510 --> 01:48:04.669

Town of Freedom: \$356,442 for Public Works, using \$50,000 from Public Works Reserve Account for a total appropriation

723

01:48:04.900 --> 01:48:12.559

Town of Freedom: total appropriation of \$306,442. Is the motion to add to article 16. Accepted, read.

724

01:48:12.690 --> 01:48:15.680

Town of Freedom: Moved and... Seconded. Seconded.

725

01:48:15.850 --> 01:48:17.300

Town of Freedom: is the discussion.

726

01:48:18.340 --> 01:48:19.480

Town of Freedom: Yes, sir.

727

01:48:20.140 --> 01:48:28.479

Town of Freedom: Well, I know we're hoping to have a public works again, but are these numbers for what's already been done, or is this futuristic?

728

01:48:30.060 --> 01:48:35.210

Town of Freedom: We don't... we don't know anything yet. Right, it's... it's for this upcoming year.

729

01:48:35.210 --> 01:49:00.199

Town of Freedom: anticipating and hopeful that we are going to be able to build those positions. If not, obviously, if we end up hiring, some sort of temporary position to guide us, that would obviously come out of the, you know, summer roads, salaries. So, you know, we're gonna see. I'd still like to get that road, you know, some of the road work done.

730

01:49:00.200 --> 01:49:08.059

Town of Freedom: Even if it's without us subcontracting it out. The people on Rollins Road, that they need their road fixed.

731

01:49:08.060 --> 01:49:22.910

Town of Freedom: And we cannot wait another year before we complete that. So, that's why I'm looking to go forward and at least try to find somebody who can give us guidance in this time when we are without the public works.

732

01:49:23.320 --> 01:49:39.050

Town of Freedom: Other questions or comments related to approval of Article 16? Yes, sir, please. I'm curious as to why, when we're setting this budget, it says to vote and raise that amount using \$50,000 from Public Works Capital Reserve Account.

733

01:49:39.130 --> 01:49:50.689

Town of Freedom: Now, taking that out of capital reserve account, is that going to lower the amount of money by \$50,000 towards new vehicles when the vehicles that we have, simply wear out?

734

01:49:52.700 --> 01:50:17.619

Town of Freedom: Is there a response? Maybe if the respondent can kind of speak up so that anybody can get a question, or make a point. Well, you know, first of all, we... we are having a larger amount transfer over this year into our... into the capital reserve account, because the town was shut down, during, you know, the peak of summer roads work, and we didn't get that

735

01:50:17.620 --> 01:50:41.570

Town of Freedom: completed. And so we're giving it back to the people, because when I came on board, one of the large complaints is that we would, fund or overfund certain departments, and not complete the work, and the money would go into special, you know, capital reserve accounts. And so, we didn't do the work.

736

01:50:41.570 --> 01:50:50.970

Town of Freedom: that we ask the people to pay for. So we are giving that money back, and when we're ready to do that work again, we will ask for it.

737

01:50:50.970 --> 01:51:02.129

Town of Freedom: But, you know, later on in the warrant, we are putting in place something to be saving, up for heavy equipment in the future.

738

01:51:02.530 --> 01:51:05.279

Town of Freedom: Other questions in regard to Article 16?

739

01:51:06.290 --> 01:51:22.659

Town of Freedom: Yes, okay. So, say we get to June, and you still don't have a public works employees, what happens with this money, and what should we plan going forward? Like, how long will we continue to maintain vehicles, et cetera, without anyone operating them?

740

01:51:22.920 --> 01:51:38.550

Town of Freedom: All I can say that is in April, the Budget Committee, are... they're getting together once again, with the sole purpose to look, at the full and total cost to the taxpayers of public works.

741

01:51:38.550 --> 01:51:52.700

Town of Freedom: We're going to look and really study the cost-effectiveness, and we're going to go from there, and ultimately probably have to bring something back to the people if we can't fill these positions.

742

01:51:53.740 --> 01:51:55.950

Town of Freedom: Other questions regarding the 16th?

743

01:51:58.240 --> 01:52:00.880

Town of Freedom: Am I missing any hands?

744

01:52:01.020 --> 01:52:04.759

Town of Freedom: Yeah, I was just gonna say that, our, our...

745

01:52:04.790 --> 01:52:29.780

Town of Freedom: We anticipate that we will be able to fill these positions, and that we will be able to get the work done. That's our intention. That said, you know, as you know, we had to subcontract out for a snowplug for part of the time. It doesn't mean that subcontracting is off the table, but we really want to look at things, holistically and collectively. And again, as noted, the

746

01:52:29.780 --> 01:52:32.649

Town of Freedom: two subsequent article... the two next articles.

747

01:52:32.650 --> 01:52:48.069

Town of Freedom: We'll address the fact that we can specifically move some money from the existing capital reserve account, into a heavy equipment loan account to begin that process of making sure we have money reserved for, for new equipment going forward, for improve,

748

01:52:48.210 --> 01:52:50.110

Town of Freedom: Functioning and equipping going forward.

749

01:52:50.320 --> 01:52:56.660

Town of Freedom: Other questions regarding 16? Yes, please? Yeah, question, question and statement, first question.

750

01:52:57.260 --> 01:53:00.179

Town of Freedom: That you don't have a public works director.

751

01:53:00.940 --> 01:53:03.069

Town of Freedom: Is that really a big issue with...

752

01:53:03.540 --> 01:53:06.730

Town of Freedom: Can the select members, select board?

753

01:53:07.970 --> 01:53:13.660

Town of Freedom: Be your own directors, be your own road commissioners, save a ton of money. So the statement is.

754

01:53:13.840 --> 01:53:33.109

Town of Freedom: Freedom Roads as a whole. Everybody's jealous in the county. You guys got the best roads. You only got 24 miles of roads to maintain. It's easy. Take Montville. 78, 80 miles of roads. Easy peasy. These roads have been worked up to good enough shape. You got another 100 years of just...

755

01:53:33.440 --> 01:53:44.479

Town of Freedom: sailing off in the sunset. With that, is there any other comments or questions? It might be a few more, but there's other articles as well. Article 16 is...

756

01:53:44.550 --> 01:53:50.420

Town of Freedom: It's been a little consecutive. Just to, just to reply to that, the, the select board...

757

01:53:50.420 --> 01:54:01.280

Town of Freedom: is the road commissioner already, and has that... has some of that oversight, in terms of working with... with a public works director and setting priorities and budget and so on.

758

01:54:01.280 --> 01:54:16.619

Town of Freedom: As you know, these are... we are not full-time employees of the town, and there's really only so much we can do, so we're actually going to rely on having a functioning public works department, and looking at budget, and making the best decisions we can going forward.

759

01:54:17.720 --> 01:54:20.449

Town of Freedom: And you read about Athen 16, what'll be?

760

01:54:20.840 --> 01:54:31.329

Town of Freedom: All in favor of approving 16 is printed in the laundries raised their hand. Down hand, those codes. 16 passes.

761

01:54:31.910 --> 01:54:35.270

Town of Freedom: We're at the point of 17.

762

01:54:35.600 --> 01:54:38.919

Town of Freedom: Article 17, Secret Town,

763

01:54:39.020 --> 01:54:54.990

Town of Freedom: will approve the creation of a Public Works Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Council.
17. Seconded. Moved and seconded to approve 17. Discussion. Board discussion. You've discussed it a little bit already.

764

01:54:56.300 --> 01:54:58.030

Town of Freedom: Any other discussions?

765

01:54:58.510 --> 01:55:06.160

Town of Freedom: Seeing none... There's one comment down here. Oh, I'm sorry, Ms. With this, article?

766

01:55:06.700 --> 01:55:15.499

Town of Freedom: putting money into a capital reserve account. Is there some way we can modify that so that the money cannot be taken out of that account and put somewhere else?

767

01:55:16.660 --> 01:55:24.020

Town of Freedom: If it's in a special fund account, it can only be used, for that, just like the paving.

768

01:55:24.020 --> 01:55:41.950

Town of Freedom: the paving fund. We can't take any money out of the paving account to use for something else. So as long as this, special, or what is it, public works heavy equipment capital reserve account, it can only be used for that, specifically. Except by loading the body, right?

769

01:55:43.340 --> 01:55:44.859

Town of Freedom: Any other questions?

770

01:55:45.770 --> 01:55:51.029

Town of Freedom: Yes, please. For the body, that legislative body? Yes.

771

01:55:52.340 --> 01:55:53.739

Town of Freedom: Any other questions?

772

01:55:53.970 --> 01:56:00.739

Town of Freedom: Saying none, I'll ask you to vote on Adam 17. All in favor of approving that adequately ends.

773

01:56:00.990 --> 01:56:02.270

Town of Freedom: down the answer.

774

01:56:03.090 --> 01:56:06.379

Town of Freedom: Opposed? Let's passed on the 18th.

775

01:56:06.590 --> 01:56:09.250

Town of Freedom: If thou want to approve the transfer.

776

01:56:09.690 --> 01:56:18.539

Town of Freedom: \$20,000 from the Public Works Capital Reserve Account to the Public Works Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Account.

777

01:56:21.070 --> 01:56:22.379

Town of Freedom: There's a motion.

778

01:56:22.990 --> 01:56:25.650

Town of Freedom: Second. Move and seconded to approve.

779

01:56:26.480 --> 01:56:35.049

Town of Freedom: already using the Public Works Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve account. Is there further discussion? Although, I want to say something first. I...

780

01:56:35.050 --> 01:56:53.290

Town of Freedom: I would be interesting... interested in amending that, and lowering this first year, that amount, to \$10,000, and only because... because that is an amount we agreed on with the Budget Committee. However, I have, great concerns

781

01:56:53.290 --> 01:57:17.779

Town of Freedom: With some of our dirt roads this spring, as I said, we have a lot of hot, sand used, which Freedom normally, doesn't do. Travis figured that out years ago, and so in the spring, our dirt roads have been better. But I've received calls from folks on Rollins Road, and some of them, have reported to me the road is

782

01:57:17.780 --> 01:57:42.759

Town of Freedom: barely passable. There are children up in there, the end of Rollins Road, those people don't have another way out. As annoying it is to me having to drive on Mitchell Road as it is probably a lot of folks, because Mitchell Road is indeed the most used town road in Freedom, we do have options to not use that road, but the people on Rollins Road

783

01:57:42.760 --> 01:58:07.589

Town of Freedom: do not. And so, I've been talking with the person that we're meeting with on Monday night, asking what we should do in that situation, if it gets so that that road is not impassable. We're going to have to bring in, some sort of, rock, something like that that we'll discuss later, but I just have concerns that we may be, needing to use some of the

784

01:58:07.590 --> 01:58:13.320

Town of Freedom: money if some of our roads need, emergency care this winter, and so...

785

01:58:13.410 --> 01:58:20.790

Town of Freedom: I would like to lower that, amount to \$10,000 based on that concern.

786

01:58:22.170 --> 01:58:30.359

Town of Freedom: So I hear that as an amendment, an official amendment. Is that what you are doing? Yes. Is there a second to the amendment? Second.

787

01:58:30.670 --> 01:58:35.330

Town of Freedom: It has now been moved and amended to change a dollar amount

788

01:58:35.440 --> 01:58:39.259

Town of Freedom: in Article 18, from 20,000 to 10,000.

789

01:58:39.420 --> 01:58:42.399

Town of Freedom: Is there further discussion of the amendment?

790

01:58:42.670 --> 01:58:48.069

Town of Freedom: Yes, please. I just wanted to ask if this also funds the trash truck replacement?

791

01:58:48.280 --> 01:58:52.989

Town of Freedom: Because my only concern with lowering the amount would be... is if we have the urgent trash traffic.

792

01:58:53.210 --> 01:58:57.529

Town of Freedom: No, that has its own... that has its own department.

793

01:58:58.020 --> 01:59:06.390

Town of Freedom: It ends discussion of changing the dollar amount, limiting the discussion to changing the dollar amount, not approving and disapproving the item.

794

01:59:07.070 --> 01:59:15.499

Town of Freedom: We're just talking about the dollars here. Thanks. It might be a clarification that'll come up later. So, taking this 20 grand and going into town, it sounds great.

795

01:59:15.600 --> 01:59:25.209

Town of Freedom: We have 10 grand, potentially, to buy rock. We don't have a truck to transport that rock right now, from what I understand. We do. I bought both of them are gonna be trucks.

796

01:59:25.540 --> 01:59:29.549

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments in regards to changing the dollar amount? Yes.

797

01:59:29.790 --> 01:59:31.409

Town of Freedom: I'm scared of comedy.

798

01:59:31.880 --> 01:59:33.060

Town of Freedom: Just wanted to say.

799

01:59:36.960 --> 01:59:44.690

Town of Freedom: trying not to get too involved in politics, but, you know, in travel, it was really pretty much where, like, I felt like things were done correctly.

800

01:59:46.550 --> 01:59:53.950

Town of Freedom: And that's the product again, like, why wouldn't anyone moving this money around trying to fix trucks? You know, we used to fix the trucks.

801

01:59:54.290 --> 01:59:58.120

Town of Freedom: And I used to feel a little bit about in good shape, and

802

01:59:59.020 --> 02:00:02.659

Town of Freedom: So the discussion really needs to be about the dollar amount.

803

02:00:02.910 --> 02:00:09.310

Town of Freedom: And to share, like, you know, that might be something for the town to consider as maybe consulting with somebody who's done it in the past.

804

02:00:09.430 --> 02:00:16.919

Town of Freedom: And try not to, you know, have people get caught up in so much politics, and we're doing a good job.

805

02:00:17.440 --> 02:00:21.740

Town of Freedom: Another way to say it. Is there a dollar amount discussion?

806

02:00:22.660 --> 02:00:35.540

Town of Freedom: Seeing none, I will ask you to vote on the amendment, amendment only, changing 20,000 to 10,000. Is there... all those in favor, please raise your hands on the amendment. Down hands. Opposed to amending?

807

02:00:35.780 --> 02:00:39.409

Town of Freedom: It does pass, objection is noted.

808

02:00:39.720 --> 02:00:43.889

Town of Freedom: We are now at the point of discussing Article 18 as amended.

809

02:00:45.130 --> 02:00:53.780

Town of Freedom: When we first decided what the dollar amount is, now you decide whether you're gonna do it or not. Any further discussion? Yes?

810

02:00:55.590 --> 02:01:10.429

Town of Freedom: I'm trying to learn a lot in this Public Works role, okay? So, it's when salt is added to it, and from what I've been told is, when they load up with the sand, they add salt.

811

02:01:10.430 --> 02:01:22.590

Town of Freedom: And, and so we don't normally, correct me if I'm wrong, Ron, but we don't, buy our sand all treated with the salt. We add it in.

812

02:01:22.590 --> 02:01:40.669

Town of Freedom: And so, what we've been doing in past years is just maybe doing a minimal amount on our dirt roads, because as I said, Travis discovered in the spring what happens when you load our dirt roads with a lot of sand, and they're incredibly muddy.

813

02:01:40.670 --> 02:01:53.570

Town of Freedom: I had suspected this was happening a couple months ago when we get a really warm day, and that's... and right now, take a ride out on Mitchell Road or Robins Road, and you'll see what happens when you use too much salt on our dirt roads.

814

02:01:53.570 --> 02:02:00.749

Town of Freedom: You bought sand with salt, and you mixed... No, we buy the sand, and then we mix the salt in it.

815

02:02:01.840 --> 02:02:10.720

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments? Way back there, yes, please? The task people on the work aren't necessarily.

816

02:02:11.140 --> 02:02:18.820

Town of Freedom: Yeah, that's not what the, Public Works Director told me, Joe.

817

02:02:20.550 --> 02:02:30.569

Town of Freedom: No, no, I mean our prior recent public works director,

818

02:02:30.950 --> 02:02:36.530

Town of Freedom: Yeah. He said, it's spring, number one, is flood season.

819

02:02:36.630 --> 02:02:46.189

Town of Freedom: And the salt was added just like you said it was before. It makes it a little low. The other salt is on the side, which is being added to the scene.

820

02:02:46.370 --> 02:02:54.120

Town of Freedom: Yeah, I, I, do not find that to be true, but we can discuss that after. So...

821

02:02:54.270 --> 02:02:59.139

Town of Freedom: Do you want to transfer \$10,000 to Public Works Capital Reserve account?

822

02:02:59.570 --> 02:03:05.490

Town of Freedom: from the Public Works Capital Reserve Council, and apparently knew any equipment Capital Reserve Account.

823

02:03:05.660 --> 02:03:07.990

Town of Freedom: Any further discussion on that item?

824

02:03:08.430 --> 02:03:16.950

Town of Freedom: If they're done, we'll ask you to vote. Do you want to do that? All in favor of approving item 18 as amended. Down hand. Those opposed?

825

02:03:17.280 --> 02:03:19.210

Town of Freedom: It does pass.

826

02:03:20.790 --> 02:03:23.750

Town of Freedom: But it's inevitable there'll be a world discussion, too.

827

02:03:24.050 --> 02:03:35.110

Town of Freedom: Article 19, receive accountable to deposit unexpended appropriations and Recreation Committee revenues into the Recreation Committee Capital Reserve Account, and use

828

02:03:35.870 --> 02:03:38.760

Town of Freedom: That money for miscellaneous expenses.

829

02:03:39.280 --> 02:03:43.079

Town of Freedom: Is there a motion to react to Article 19? Step is right.

830

02:03:43.290 --> 02:03:47.640

Town of Freedom: Seconded. The move is signed to approve Act Rule 19. Is there a discussion?

831

02:03:49.490 --> 02:03:52.949

Town of Freedom: If there's not unless you vote. All in favor of approval, please raise your hands.

832

02:03:53.830 --> 02:03:57.290

Town of Freedom: Down hands, those folks, that one passes.

833

02:03:57.690 --> 02:04:09.560

Town of Freedom: At the point, Supercal vote to raise and appropriate \$7,575 for recreation, using \$7,575 from the Capital Reserve Fund

834

02:04:10.170 --> 02:04:12.839

Town of Freedom: So, appropriation of zero.

835

02:04:13.340 --> 02:04:16.509

Town of Freedom: The budget committee recommends that you do that, and...

836

02:04:16.810 --> 02:04:20.560

Town of Freedom: Included in the article is, to...

837

02:04:21.220 --> 02:04:28.190

Town of Freedom: budget lines from that account. Is there a motion to move out in Article 20? That is correct.

838

02:04:29.710 --> 02:04:30.930

Town of Freedom: There's no sign.

839

02:04:31.150 --> 02:04:31.850

Town of Freedom: Second.

840

02:04:32.320 --> 02:04:33.690

Town of Freedom: Here's the discussion.

841

02:04:35.400 --> 02:04:40.529

Town of Freedom: Any discussion about Article 20? If not, I'll ask people, all in favor, please raise your hands.

842

02:04:40.960 --> 02:04:45.319

Town of Freedom: Down hands. Any opposed? Any passes?

843

02:04:47.990 --> 02:04:49.180

Town of Freedom: 21.

844

02:04:50.510 --> 02:04:58.770

Town of Freedom: Receive the town vote to raise and appropriate \$4,950 for town cemetery maintenance for town cemetery maintenance period.

845

02:04:59.300 --> 02:05:10.980

Town of Freedom: And there is a recommendation of approval. All paid, let's get it in front of you. Is there a motion to accept item 21? Accept as read. Second. Moved and seconded to approve item 21.

846

02:05:11.130 --> 02:05:15.070

Town of Freedom: And there are various budget lines in the \$30? Is there a discussion?

847

02:05:17.160 --> 02:05:21.070

Town of Freedom: If there is none, unless you vote on paper recording, please raise your hands.

848

02:05:21.600 --> 02:05:22.880

Town of Freedom: Downloads?

849

02:05:23.060 --> 02:05:27.199

Town of Freedom: And you close. The one that's fast, one feet, too.

850

02:05:27.350 --> 02:05:35.899

Town of Freedom: He put down a vote to raise and appropriate \$6,000 \$905 for charitable organizations.

851

02:05:36.320 --> 02:05:40.759

Town of Freedom: And the intended recipients are listed

852

02:05:40.960 --> 02:05:50.809

Town of Freedom: in the warrant as well. Is there a motion in regard to Article 22? Acceptance read.
Move and seconded to approve 20...

853

02:05:51.100 --> 02:05:59.260

Town of Freedom: Article 22 with a specified dollar amount of \$92% of the... \$6,905.

854

02:05:59.540 --> 02:06:00.520

Town of Freedom: Discussion.

855

02:06:00.920 --> 02:06:05.589

Town of Freedom: Yes, miss. Yes. In the past,

856

02:06:05.850 --> 02:06:12.099

Town of Freedom: The charitable organizations were reported with what was requested.

857

02:06:12.460 --> 02:06:17.500

Town of Freedom: And then, what the budget committee recommend...

858

02:06:17.870 --> 02:06:25.099

Town of Freedom: This was not done this year, so it's very difficult to tell whether there was a request.

859

02:06:25.340 --> 02:06:32.200

Town of Freedom: That were made that did not get on, onto the, warrant.

860

02:06:32.330 --> 02:06:40.410

Town of Freedom: And... I would like to point out that \$7,000 link.

861

02:06:40.570 --> 02:06:49.579

Town of Freedom: is, like, about a... less than a half a percent of our total budget, including county and education.

862

02:06:50.230 --> 02:06:53.590

Town of Freedom: And I think that's a pittance amount

863

02:06:53.780 --> 02:06:58.020

Town of Freedom: To dedicate toward charitable organizations that we

864

02:06:58.620 --> 02:07:06.980

Town of Freedom: individually may need to rely on, in the, in the future, whether they service,

865

02:07:07.140 --> 02:07:10.169

Town of Freedom: In the capacity that we...

866

02:07:10.450 --> 02:07:21.170

Town of Freedom: have had actual people from Freedom served by these committees. Many of them rely on, some

867

02:07:21.790 --> 02:07:27.210

Town of Freedom: Donation from a town in order to secure larger, grants.

868

02:07:27.620 --> 02:07:30.610

Town of Freedom: In order to survive.

869

02:07:30.830 --> 02:07:36.700

Town of Freedom: And, some of the organizations have done very well, like Global Gap.

870

02:07:36.910 --> 02:07:47.330

Town of Freedom: In terms of having a fiscal reserve that I think the board checked into in the past.

871

02:07:47.540 --> 02:07:50.579

Town of Freedom: And, this is why I...

872

02:07:50.680 --> 02:08:06.419

Town of Freedom: don't like the idea that a dollar amount has been, proposed, because there's no way to increase that amount to give it to any organization that has requested that was denied by the budget committee.

873

02:08:07.290 --> 02:08:11.990

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments? I saw you ahead, and do any others as well. Go ahead.

874

02:08:13.820 --> 02:08:23.879

Town of Freedom: Yeah, if you... anybody thinks that we should be increasing this amount, then you're free to donate to any charitable organization you want to.

875

02:08:24.880 --> 02:08:26.670

Town of Freedom: But put it to zero.

876

02:08:28.530 --> 02:08:31.210

Town of Freedom: Any other comments or questions? Yes, please?

877

02:08:31.910 --> 02:08:38.639

Town of Freedom: Could someone explain, why the Freedom Community Historical Society is giving zero balance in children?

878

02:08:39.090 --> 02:08:41.950

Town of Freedom: They didn't request any from us this year.

879

02:08:43.010 --> 02:08:44.850

Town of Freedom: Any other questions or comments?

880

02:08:45.970 --> 02:08:52.929

Town of Freedom: If there are none, I will, ask for the vote. This is Article 22.

881

02:08:53.200 --> 02:09:04.030

Town of Freedom: We'll vote to raise appropriated \$6,905, which will be somewhat of a charitable organizational request. Now, in favor of that motion, please duration, and...

882

02:09:04.780 --> 02:09:06.949

Town of Freedom: Down heads, those moves.

883

02:09:07.290 --> 02:09:09.159

Town of Freedom: It goes faster.

884

02:09:10.660 --> 02:09:11.760

Town of Freedom: 14.

885

02:09:12.530 --> 02:09:22.219

Town of Freedom: 3. If the panel will vote to authorize the selector to expend up to \$100,000 from the undesignated fund balance to offset taxes.

886

02:09:22.950 --> 02:09:27.130

Town of Freedom: Is there a motion in regard to item 23?

887

02:09:28.300 --> 02:09:30.599

Town of Freedom: Approve the segment to approve the article.

888

02:09:30.780 --> 02:09:33.079

Town of Freedom: If printed more, is there discussion?

889

02:09:34.220 --> 02:09:36.610

Town of Freedom: It's this weird spot.

890

02:09:39.320 --> 02:09:46.690

Town of Freedom: Property taxes, the one they deal with, yes.

891

02:09:47.210 --> 02:09:48.569

Town of Freedom: Any other discussion?

892

02:09:49.220 --> 02:09:53.880

Town of Freedom: Seeing none, I'll ask the vote. All in favor of approving 23, please raise your hands.

893

02:09:54.870 --> 02:10:01.819

Town of Freedom: Downhills. 23, passengers, 24. She's down hope to the positive.

894

02:10:02.060 --> 02:10:06.069

Town of Freedom: Solid waste revenue and unexpended appropriations

895

02:10:06.780 --> 02:10:10.810

Town of Freedom: into the Solid Waste Capital Reserve account.

896

02:10:11.590 --> 02:10:14.980

Town of Freedom: Is there a motion regarded out of the 24th?

897

02:10:15.160 --> 02:10:17.960

Town of Freedom: Seconded. Moved and signed to approve the item.

898

02:10:18.180 --> 02:10:19.560

Town of Freedom: Is there discussion?

899

02:10:21.590 --> 02:10:22.429

Town of Freedom: This is Malika.

900

02:10:23.010 --> 02:10:24.650

Town of Freedom: Yesterday.

901

02:10:24.970 --> 02:10:29.480

Town of Freedom: Let's talk about unexpended appropriations. What unexpected... un...

902

02:10:29.590 --> 02:10:36.739

Town of Freedom: Where is that money coming from? The question for everybody to hear is, what is an unexpended appropriation?

903

02:10:37.560 --> 02:10:51.849

Town of Freedom: So, Elaine, if we don't use as much in the spring cleanup, if we, if our tipping fees aren't as much, if repairs and maintenance aren't as much, whatever's left over.

904

02:10:51.850 --> 02:10:58.879

Town of Freedom: We just move that. It's not a great amount, obviously, but that's where it comes from. Just any monies that haven't been expended.

905

02:10:59.280 --> 02:11:00.760

Town of Freedom: Any other questions?

906

02:11:01.990 --> 02:11:03.680

Town of Freedom: A sweeping motion.

907

02:11:04.440 --> 02:11:10.229

Town of Freedom: And he... I'll take a proving out of the 24th is right in here.

908

02:11:10.680 --> 02:11:11.990

Town of Freedom: Nanometers?

909

02:11:12.460 --> 02:11:20.090

Town of Freedom: Those opposed, it does. 25, sits down a vote to raise an appropriate \$56,200.

910

02:11:20.580 --> 02:11:22.929

Town of Freedom: Oh, solid waste management.

911

02:11:24.770 --> 02:11:31.029

Town of Freedom: how long it really should be, period. We get solid, right? Okay.

912

02:11:31.770 --> 02:11:36.259

Town of Freedom: Is there a motion regarding Active 25?

913

02:11:37.200 --> 02:11:40.339

Town of Freedom: It's moved into Saturday to approve Article 25.

914

02:11:42.540 --> 02:11:44.440

Town of Freedom: With an appropriated amount.

915

02:11:44.660 --> 02:11:57.340

Town of Freedom: Well, we have another correction here, another typo to correct by amendments. Do you want to just offer it as a correction and see if there's an objection? We have to go through two motions. If there's an objection, we'll go through a motion.

916

02:11:57.360 --> 02:12:10.619

Town of Freedom: The, the total, the, appropriation, request is \$55,700. The error was under,

917

02:12:10.820 --> 02:12:14.050

Town of Freedom: The total for supplies and dinner.

918

02:12:14.300 --> 02:12:17.789

Town of Freedom: General expenses, it reads as...

919

02:12:17.990 --> 02:12:25.469

Town of Freedom: \$5,500 in the chart, but it should be \$5,000, so it should be \$500 less.

920

02:12:26.970 --> 02:12:34.199

Town of Freedom: Does anybody object to having it absolutely corrected as a misprint in the warrant?

921

02:12:34.960 --> 02:12:43.860

Town of Freedom: If there's a single objection, we'll go through the motions. I see no objections, so as long as we all understand what we will be voting on in a minute.

922

02:12:44.520 --> 02:13:00.170

Town of Freedom: So, again, the stated amount, the mark is corrected to \$5... \$55. \$55,700. Correct. And you offer an explanation as to why, but the point of the motion in the article is... is that dollar amount.

923

02:13:00.430 --> 02:13:03.780

Town of Freedom: Is there any discussion of the applicant?

924

02:13:04.700 --> 02:13:07.670

Town of Freedom: We have... Any discussion of the item?

925

02:13:08.810 --> 02:13:14.129

Town of Freedom: As correct. I see now in the last two vote. All in favor of approving the item, please raise your hands.

926

02:13:14.940 --> 02:13:20.710

Town of Freedom: article is approved as threatened.

927

02:13:22.830 --> 02:13:25.090

Town of Freedom: I put my 6 to keep a calendar.

928

02:13:25.380 --> 02:13:41.940

Town of Freedom: will accept James Wadman as Fire Chief of the Freedom and Volunteer Fire Department, and set compensation for \$6,000. Is there a motion to adapt Article 26? Moved and seconded to approve article 26. Is there discussion?

929

02:13:43.500 --> 02:13:46.429

Town of Freedom: Yes, keeping? Does she get anybody back?

930

02:13:46.840 --> 02:13:51.200

Town of Freedom: Yeah, Tim has done an amazing job.

931

02:13:51.310 --> 02:14:03.680

Town of Freedom: And, I commend him for it. I wonder whether you get anybody stepping up for a retirement purpose. Well, I wish I could hear what he's saying about that.

932

02:14:03.870 --> 02:14:07.800

Town of Freedom: Are you gonna retire?

933

02:14:08.550 --> 02:14:09.950

Town of Freedom: Not immediately.

934

02:14:10.140 --> 02:14:18.950

Town of Freedom: Question asked, question answered. Yes, the question was, is he leaving anytime soon? And he says not momentarily.

935

02:14:20.060 --> 02:14:21.080

Town of Freedom: Okay.

936

02:14:27.100 --> 02:14:31.300

Town of Freedom: Good luck on that. We never... yeah, any other questions or comments?

937

02:14:31.750 --> 02:14:51.820

Town of Freedom: I will add that he has stepped down from his role as Emergency Management Director for the town, and we are still looking for someone to fill that role. He's filled so many roles in town over time, but he has stepped away from this, so I really hope that someone with that interest can step forward. Thank you.

938

02:14:52.510 --> 02:14:54.470

Town of Freedom: Questions you'd add to the article?

939

02:14:54.790 --> 02:14:59.159

Town of Freedom: If there's no further comment or question, we will ask you to vote on Article 26.

940

02:14:59.420 --> 02:15:10.270

Town of Freedom: To see if I want to accept the antibody powder and accept compensation that sits out. Down hands.

941

02:15:10.430 --> 02:15:11.770

Town of Freedom: Those opposed?

942

02:15:13.340 --> 02:15:23.459

Town of Freedom: It passes. Wasn't surprising to see if the panel on Article 27, to see if the panel will vote to accept... to vote to deposit the unexplain balance

943

02:15:23.800 --> 02:15:38.220

Town of Freedom: from FBFD appropriations into the FBFB Capital Improvement Account. Is there a motion in regard to that article? That is right. Seconded. It's moved and seconded to approve the article. Is there discussion?

944

02:15:38.810 --> 02:15:39.990

Town of Freedom: Yes, please.

945

02:15:44.350 --> 02:15:49.289

Town of Freedom: You know, Yes, we're gonna bother with someone in later.

946

02:15:50.420 --> 02:15:55.840

Town of Freedom: The question is, why is it a capital improvement account, and...

947

02:15:56.000 --> 02:16:07.919

Town of Freedom: The flagship says, hold your breath. If that's a sense for your answer, we're gonna keep going here. Article 27, any other questions?

948

02:16:08.330 --> 02:16:11.810

Town of Freedom: We might even get something other than a facetious answer. Go ahead, yes.

949

02:16:11.970 --> 02:16:19.369

Town of Freedom: capital improvement account, or is it a capital reserve account? There's a difference, because if it's a capital improvement account.

950

02:16:19.460 --> 02:16:39.159

Town of Freedom: according to what the auditor used to tell us when I was on the board, was that it had to be approved by the body, by the town, if you took something out of the capital improvement account. If you have a capital reserve account, the slight board has the control over where the money needs to be taken out of that. So I'd like to know, is this a capital reserve account or a capital improvement account?

951

02:16:39.450 --> 02:16:41.569

Town of Freedom: And the answer is... Yes.

952

02:16:42.930 --> 02:16:55.819

Town of Freedom: It's a reserve account presently, but we don't have a capital improvement account or a replacement account, which you're going to be voting on it here in the next couple of articles. But for information purposes, for this year.

953

02:16:56.250 --> 02:17:02.619

Town of Freedom: I finished in the red. \$3,129 overexpended for the fire department.

954

02:17:04.150 --> 02:17:06.179

Town of Freedom: Didn't get anything for the appropriations.

955

02:17:09.990 --> 02:17:14.100

Town of Freedom: Well, I guess the answer to my question, it is a capital reserve account.

956

02:17:14.510 --> 02:17:18.619

Town of Freedom: Capital reserve account is what is controlled.

957

02:17:18.690 --> 02:17:36.990

Town of Freedom: by the Board of Selectmen, with a... with a proposal from the Fire Chief, so it doesn't go before the town. But a capital replacement account, the townspeople will have to vote on it. There hasn't been one established in quite a few years. We're going to be voting on that in the next couple of articles.

958

02:17:37.809 --> 02:17:44.250

Town of Freedom: But this is also a... it says right here, capital improvement account, so now it's a matter of wording.

959

02:17:44.840 --> 02:17:47.540

Town of Freedom: So, is it... So...

960

02:17:47.780 --> 02:17:53.439

Town of Freedom: So the capitalist proven account does exist? That's what it says right here, it says number 27.

961

02:17:53.680 --> 02:17:56.249

Town of Freedom: And that's what friend wanted.

962

02:17:57.770 --> 02:18:02.940

Town of Freedom: Got another typo? So... He submitted them.

963

02:18:04.080 --> 02:18:18.420

Town of Freedom: Did you need to submit it like that, Jim, or is it just a written wrong? It's... it does say Capital Improvement Account. We're gonna have a truck account coming up. So, is the improvement account an existing... Yes, it is.

964

02:18:19.340 --> 02:18:21.090

Town of Freedom: Because whatever...

965

02:18:21.230 --> 02:18:34.949

Town of Freedom: It's the existing one that I'm trying to get the auditor to give me a report on. It's a reserve account. I have a reserve account, so it's mispronounced. Yeah. That was my point. Yeah, the reserve account...

966

02:18:35.820 --> 02:18:41.669

Town of Freedom: Okay, I think, I think it actually is a technical question that's appropriately raised.

967

02:18:41.670 --> 02:18:56.140

Town of Freedom: So should we change that to... You can do it as a body, whatever you vote to do. I think what... the questions are being raised that are appropriate and should be answered by everybody. Yeah, I think that Jim just... he just...

968

02:18:56.770 --> 02:19:20.619

Town of Freedom: created those yet, he used the wrong... the wrong term, and that's it. We have a fire department capital reserve account. My question then is, should we change Article 27 to read Capital Reserve Account and Non-Capital Improvement Account? I think I heard you just make a motion to amend to do that. Yeah, I can't do that.

969

02:19:20.889 --> 02:19:23.390

Town of Freedom: Not everybody is active here, so it's...

970

02:19:25.139 --> 02:19:34.689

Town of Freedom: The motion that has been made and seconded is to change the wording more accurately reflect what actually exists.

971

02:19:34.940 --> 02:19:39.499

Town of Freedom: And the motion is to simply change the word improvement to reserve.

972

02:19:39.680 --> 02:19:41.350

Town of Freedom: Correct. Correct, correct.

973

02:19:41.850 --> 02:19:44.059

Town of Freedom: Any discussion of that amendment?

974

02:19:44.870 --> 02:19:47.899

Town of Freedom: I think I'm actually all in favor of changing

975

02:19:48.580 --> 02:19:54.000

Town of Freedom: That article. That means any of those. Okay, so now they're discussing an account that actually does exist.

976

02:19:54.360 --> 02:19:57.469

Town of Freedom: And now they've decided they want to do it.

977

02:19:57.880 --> 02:20:01.290

Town of Freedom: Is there any further discussion of the article as amended?

978

02:20:03.180 --> 02:20:04.429

Town of Freedom: I see none.

979

02:20:05.100 --> 02:20:10.820

Town of Freedom: Now, after 27 is amended, which deposits unexpected balances from...

980

02:20:11.110 --> 02:20:18.009

Town of Freedom: divided by the appropriations into a... into the capital reserve account. All in favor of doing that, please.

981

02:20:18.370 --> 02:20:21.160

Town of Freedom: Now manage any polls.

982

02:20:21.340 --> 02:20:27.239

Town of Freedom: And out of 28, both the transfer of all the monies received from the town of Knowles.

983

02:20:27.500 --> 02:20:38.599

Town of Freedom: to the... It's the same issue on this article and the next one. Why doesn't the make of the motion say sectionally make of the motion?

984

02:20:38.800 --> 02:20:47.139

Town of Freedom: Item 28 would be to seek to transfer all the monies from down an auction into the F, the FB Capital Improvement Account

985

02:20:47.320 --> 02:20:50.090

Town of Freedom: That's what's praying the warrant. Is there a motion?

986

02:20:50.770 --> 02:21:08.599

Town of Freedom: Yes, please. I move that we see, if the town will vote to transfer all monies received from the Town of Knox to the FBFD Capital Reserve account. Is there a second to that motion? Everybody understand that in the motion is the changing of one word.

987

02:21:09.160 --> 02:21:13.219

Town of Freedom: We're all agreeing, I don't think it's going to cause any big fuss.

988

02:21:13.550 --> 02:21:15.040
Town of Freedom: Any discussion?

989
02:21:16.450 --> 02:21:22.760
Town of Freedom: I see none, I'll ask you to vote on the article as stated. All in favor, please raise your hand.

990
02:21:23.390 --> 02:21:27.239
Town of Freedom: Down there's those boats, that does pass.

991
02:21:27.440 --> 02:21:28.870
Town of Freedom: Local 29.

992
02:21:29.500 --> 02:21:37.140
Town of Freedom: We might have a similar problem. I don't know. See if the panel will vote to transfer all monies received from the Central Maine Cost Recovery

993
02:21:37.410 --> 02:21:45.870
Town of Freedom: CMR... CMCR into the FVFW Capital Improvement account. Is there a most of the guys out of 20 other?

994
02:21:47.140 --> 02:22:03.209
Town of Freedom: make a motion to be changed for capital improvements and capital reserves. And you're actually, in the motion, offering to, approve the article as you stated it, as you did? Yeah. Okay. I mean, what we're trying to do is not just get tangled up in motions.

995
02:22:03.760 --> 02:22:17.070
Town of Freedom: You get the true intent. So your motion is to approve 29 as you state, which is, using the words, capital reserve account. That's what you want to do, right? Correct. Okay. Is there a second to that? Second.

996
02:22:17.250 --> 02:22:21.190
Town of Freedom: There's a discussion of that, stated motion.

997
02:22:22.810 --> 02:22:29.320
Town of Freedom: Any discussion? See none, I'll ask you to vote. Please vote on Article 29 as ceded by the member of the motion.

998

02:22:29.860 --> 02:22:34.470
Town of Freedom: I'll give my words.

999
02:22:34.630 --> 02:22:40.120
Town of Freedom: Down hands. Those opposed? Okay, I think... I think the board knows what you want to do.

1000
02:22:40.610 --> 02:22:42.700
Town of Freedom: Article 3rd.

1001
02:22:43.450 --> 02:22:46.629
Town of Freedom: To see if it's available to raise and appropriate

1002
02:22:47.140 --> 02:22:52.979
Town of Freedom: \$62,780 for the Freedom Bullet Fire Department.

1003
02:22:53.840 --> 02:22:57.739
Town of Freedom: Is there a motion to approve Article 30?

1004
02:22:58.210 --> 02:23:02.250
Town of Freedom: Second. Move decided to approve the asphalt as a privilege in the war.

1005
02:23:04.140 --> 02:23:05.550
Town of Freedom: Is this a discussion?

1006
02:23:06.870 --> 02:23:11.839
Town of Freedom: If this... Don't touch her on there, Jim.

1007
02:23:12.760 --> 02:23:15.010
Town of Freedom: I'm not supposed to editorially get involved.

1008
02:23:15.470 --> 02:23:25.430
Town of Freedom: Just so as you know what the increase for this next year is for is the replacement and repair of the hybrid at the Lost Kitchen.

1009
02:23:27.850 --> 02:23:30.600
Town of Freedom: There's some added expense put in there, too.

1010

02:23:30.960 --> 02:23:38.260

Town of Freedom: Put in a valve, Hopefully, the lost kitchen will investigate the strainer that is behind the dam.

1011

02:23:39.000 --> 02:23:49.020

Town of Freedom: and replace the pipe, attach it to the hybrid. This is all a gravity-fed system, so that's... that's where the extra money came from for this year.

1012

02:23:50.550 --> 02:23:51.680

Town of Freedom: format.

1013

02:23:52.400 --> 02:23:58.610

Town of Freedom: Any... any other discussion in regard to the motion to approve of the third?

1014

02:23:59.320 --> 02:24:01.010

Town of Freedom: Question?

1015

02:24:01.140 --> 02:24:01.970

Town of Freedom: Huh.

1016

02:24:02.190 --> 02:24:05.830

Town of Freedom: Is any of this money appropriate to describe?

1017

02:24:06.590 --> 02:24:25.800

Town of Freedom: So, \$5,000 is in the budget for the dry hybrid. Mr. Bohannes question about a dry hybrid, dry hybrid that is on his property.

1018

02:24:25.980 --> 02:24:32.479

Town of Freedom: That's something we will have to look into to find out what it is, and Funded appropriately.

1019

02:24:34.110 --> 02:24:36.319

Town of Freedom: I won't answer one question.

1020

02:24:36.480 --> 02:24:39.399

Town of Freedom: Other questions in regard to Article 30?

1021

02:24:39.620 --> 02:24:44.090

Town of Freedom: If there's none, unless we're approving item 30.

1022

02:24:44.400 --> 02:24:48.000

Town of Freedom: Down hands, do any of... do any of the focus.

1023

02:24:48.400 --> 02:24:50.349

Town of Freedom: Maybe that's fast.

1024

02:24:51.590 --> 02:24:53.750

Town of Freedom: Road to...

1025

02:24:57.430 --> 02:24:59.500

Town of Freedom: Article 31.

1026

02:25:00.050 --> 02:25:05.360

Town of Freedom: He put down a raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the fire truck replacement.

1027

02:25:06.050 --> 02:25:12.919

Town of Freedom: and deposit money in the firetruck capital reserve account. Is the motion we got, item 31.

1028

02:25:13.480 --> 02:25:18.230

Town of Freedom: Is there any removals, or is there any discussion of the movements?

1029

02:25:18.330 --> 02:25:20.020

Town of Freedom: Yes?

1030

02:25:20.700 --> 02:25:21.450

Town of Freedom: Fire.

1031

02:25:23.250 --> 02:25:29.150

Town of Freedom: I think the general question is the separation of the accounts. Is there any response to that question?

1032

02:25:30.430 --> 02:25:41.109

Town of Freedom: I'll point out that the Budget Committee recommended \$5,000. The reason that we did that this year is we are in a contract with the town of Knox.

1033

02:25:41.110 --> 02:26:06.110

Town of Freedom: We provide fire protection to them, and the contract with them runs out next year, and we will be renegotiating that, and the Budget Committee recognizes that we are going to renegotiate for a higher amount. The amount that we receive from them automatically goes into the fire department

1034

02:26:06.110 --> 02:26:27.419

Town of Freedom: capital reserve account, and so our desire for this year is that we will start that fund with \$5,000, waiting to renegotiate, more money that will automatically be entered into this account starting next year. The question was, why are there separate accounts? Oh, I'm sorry.

1035

02:26:29.340 --> 02:26:37.439

Town of Freedom: You got a chance to say what you wanted to say, but the question is... Now, say it the next time. The question is, why are there separate accounts?

1036

02:26:37.620 --> 02:26:40.519

Town of Freedom: For the fire truck versus the capital reserve.

1037

02:26:44.720 --> 02:26:47.020

Town of Freedom: The reason for separate accounts.

1038

02:26:48.000 --> 02:26:53.220

Town of Freedom: account or reserve account that they were talking to you about previously. It's controlled by the board.

1039

02:26:54.250 --> 02:26:57.280

Town of Freedom: Proact replacement, controlled by you guys.

1040

02:26:58.190 --> 02:27:00.440

Town of Freedom: Has to go before the time would be voted on.

1041

02:27:01.390 --> 02:27:03.500

Town of Freedom: We used to have one years ago.

1042

02:27:04.720 --> 02:27:20.679

Town of Freedom: And it was discontinued. That's why we use the central bank cost recovery, responding to accidents. That money gets put into a reserve account to help replace the vehicle. The vehicles in the fire department are between 20 and 22 years old.

1043

02:27:24.030 --> 02:27:26.560

Town of Freedom: This town can't afford to replace

1044

02:27:26.940 --> 02:27:30.069

Town of Freedom: A fire truck, and a half a million dollars.

1045

02:27:30.560 --> 02:27:31.560

Town of Freedom: No.

1046

02:27:31.920 --> 02:27:38.839

Town of Freedom: If you're looking at used that are 10 years old, you're still looking at \$150,000.

1047

02:27:43.210 --> 02:27:51.659

Town of Freedom: So, we needed to establish, just like Public Works needs to establish a replacement for their equipment, we need to do the same thing.

1048

02:27:52.410 --> 02:28:02.589

Town of Freedom: Any other questions regarding article 31, which the motion calls for appropriating \$10,000 for the fire truck replacement?

1049

02:28:03.570 --> 02:28:08.689

Town of Freedom: And to have it put in a fire truck capital reserve account. Any other questions, comments?

1050

02:28:09.000 --> 02:28:09.980

Town of Freedom: Yes.

1051

02:28:10.390 --> 02:28:11.240

Town of Freedom: So...

1052

02:28:13.200 --> 02:28:21.169

Town of Freedom: This is establishing an account that we haven't had. Okay, so you're saying we're gonna deposit it within this account, or we haven't been?

1053

02:28:21.880 --> 02:28:22.620

Town of Freedom: Got it.

1054

02:28:23.210 --> 02:28:27.350

Town of Freedom: That you're establishing and putting money into it right now.

1055

02:28:27.890 --> 02:28:33.380

Town of Freedom: So I think, just so that it's clear for everybody, and clear agreement that that's what's happening.

1056

02:28:33.640 --> 02:28:40.110

Town of Freedom: Is that my... if you choose to accept this article, You are establishing

1057

02:28:40.280 --> 02:28:43.330

Town of Freedom: a Fire Truck Capital Reserve account.

1058

02:28:43.720 --> 02:28:48.920

Town of Freedom: and putting \$10,000. Is that a correct statement of what would happen should this be approved?

1059

02:28:49.090 --> 02:28:58.310

Town of Freedom: That is correct, and if you vote to not approve it, then we would do another vote, I'm assuming for the \$5,000.

1060

02:28:59.860 --> 02:29:15.749

Town of Freedom: what's in front of you. Go ahead, please. If this article is voted down, there's no subsequent article to be able to put \$5,000 into the account.

1061

02:29:16.230 --> 02:29:18.660

Town of Freedom: That would be...

1062

02:29:19.150 --> 02:29:31.580

Town of Freedom: you know, you could move to reconsider, you could do kinds of things to get there, but you are... you are correct. There's no other article... I'm assuming, I haven't read it, but there's no other article that addresses that particular point.

1063

02:29:32.480 --> 02:29:37.350

Town of Freedom: So, just so it's clear.

1064

02:29:37.710 --> 02:29:46.440

Town of Freedom: You are now voting on \$10,000 to go into a fire truck capital reserve account, which you are also establishing by that vote.

1065

02:29:46.910 --> 02:30:01.249

Town of Freedom: That is, what I understand, the intent of what you're doing. Yes, you have another point to make. You could have an amendment and amend it to the 5,000 level. Right now, you can amend this thing 6 ways to Sunday, if you choose to do that, yes.

1066

02:30:02.070 --> 02:30:05.650

Town of Freedom: You need to do it before you know it.

1067

02:30:06.450 --> 02:30:12.439

Town of Freedom: So you have before you now a motion to approve. Pretty much it's printed in the law. Exactly.

1068

02:30:12.680 --> 02:30:14.070

Town of Freedom: Any other discussion?

1069

02:30:15.140 --> 02:30:16.790

Town of Freedom: I see none.

1070

02:30:16.980 --> 02:30:24.199

Town of Freedom: I see lots of folks wanting what's gonna happen, but right now you're voting on the article as printed in the water. All in favor, please raise your hand.

1071

02:30:24.880 --> 02:30:26.860

Town of Freedom: Now, hence those opposed.

1072

02:30:28.080 --> 02:30:30.190

Town of Freedom: We can't remember what we've done for it.

1073

02:30:30.810 --> 02:30:34.069

Town of Freedom: Article 33.

1074

02:30:36.910 --> 02:30:46.489

Town of Freedom: See if the town will have its elected, or serve a 3-year term rather than a 1-year term effective

1075

02:30:46.620 --> 02:30:55.240

Town of Freedom: at the 2027, i.e. the next annual county meeting. Is there a motion in regard to that item?

1076

02:30:55.350 --> 02:30:58.639

Town of Freedom: We're gonna vote it out today.

1077

02:30:58.740 --> 02:31:05.629

Town of Freedom: I hear a motion to approve the Activos period in the warrant, and I heard a second. Is there discussion of Act Bill 33?

1078

02:31:07.660 --> 02:31:09.860

Town of Freedom: This changes the length of the term.

1079

02:31:10.700 --> 02:31:11.939

Town of Freedom: Any discussion?

1080

02:31:14.080 --> 02:31:20.969

Town of Freedom: Yes, yes. So, what happens if something happens to Sydney? You would just have a special election like we would for any other position?

1081

02:31:21.730 --> 02:31:27.569

Town of Freedom: I was just waiting for going to fill positions as a rule, but I'm not hopping in the pit.

1082

02:31:29.850 --> 02:31:30.710

Town of Freedom: Yes.

1083

02:31:31.010 --> 02:31:35.879

Town of Freedom: What, what are you, what are you answering the question with? That's our understanding. Is that what?

1084

02:31:36.830 --> 02:31:45.680

Town of Freedom: Yes, if, something happened in the middle of that term, we would fill a position, and since it's bill by the position, we would hold a new election for that.

1085

02:31:46.870 --> 02:31:49.140

Town of Freedom: Other questions or comments? Yes, please.

1086

02:31:50.560 --> 02:31:53.090

Town of Freedom: Yes, you.

1087

02:31:53.420 --> 02:31:54.820

Town of Freedom: collector, that exercise?

1088

02:31:55.680 --> 02:31:56.700

Town of Freedom: What's proper.

1089

02:32:00.320 --> 02:32:04.449

Town of Freedom: It says a blur. That's not what it reads. It says a blur.

1090

02:32:05.340 --> 02:32:06.280

Town of Freedom: Yep.

1091

02:32:06.430 --> 02:32:08.170

Town of Freedom: We would welcome an amendment.

1092

02:32:09.150 --> 02:32:10.210

Town of Freedom: What's that?

1093

02:32:10.450 --> 02:32:12.359

Town of Freedom: We would welcome an amendment.

1094

02:32:12.840 --> 02:32:15.689

Town of Freedom: Who wrote this? Yeah, yeah, I remember.

1095

02:32:16.130 --> 02:32:26.670

Town of Freedom: I would make the amendment that that article include tax collector, excise tax collector, and town clerk.

1096

02:32:30.100 --> 02:32:31.220

Town of Freedom: Okay.

1097

02:32:32.240 --> 02:32:38.150

Town of Freedom: Did everybody hear that? Is there a second? Okay, just so you know what you...

1098

02:32:38.480 --> 02:32:44.529

Town of Freedom: It is now in front of you to amend the attitude. Not hoard it up or down, but to amend the attitude.

1099

02:32:44.930 --> 02:32:55.510

Town of Freedom: To include the excise tax collector position and the tax collector position, along with the clerk position that is already stated in the article.

1100

02:32:55.860 --> 02:32:59.430

Town of Freedom: The discussion now is on whether to amend the honor.

1101

02:32:59.640 --> 02:33:03.000

Town of Freedom: There's a discussion on whether you want to add those other two.

1102

02:33:03.130 --> 02:33:06.299

Town of Freedom: to the eventual vote. There's a discussion of that.

1103

02:33:06.650 --> 02:33:11.650

Town of Freedom: I've seen none, so I'll ask you to vote. All in favor of approval of amending Act.

1104

02:33:11.970 --> 02:33:15.089

Town of Freedom: Down here, so the boat. Okay, so now...

1105

02:33:15.520 --> 02:33:19.219

Town of Freedom: Could we talk about Article 33 as amended.

1106

02:33:19.440 --> 02:33:28.149

Town of Freedom: Which involves changing the terms, of the clerk, tax collector, and excise tax collector to a 3-year

1107

02:33:28.430 --> 02:33:31.169

Town of Freedom: Elective term versus recurrent.

1108

02:33:31.550 --> 02:33:44.390

Town of Freedom: Any good further discussion. That talked about it a little bit earlier. Go ahead. So, if... if the town office were, like, just closed every Saturday, or I know it has come up before, like, if you want to close on Saturdays.

1109

02:33:45.880 --> 02:33:52.570

Town of Freedom: like, the city just decided to do that. Like, that would... nothing could be done about that for 3 years, basically. Is that how that would work?

1110

02:33:52.870 --> 02:33:54.710

Town of Freedom: Right,

1111

02:33:55.260 --> 02:34:12.890

Town of Freedom: the select board, we've set the hours for the town office, but no, we do not have any, say over the amount of hours, that she works. The office will be open that she doesn't have to be there.

1112

02:34:14.650 --> 02:34:26.449

Town of Freedom: Really, this article talks about all those positions existing for 3 years versus 1. So, you are making a decision whether you want it to be a 3-year term, collected, or a 1-year term.

1113

02:34:27.290 --> 02:34:30.150

Town of Freedom: Any... any further discussion of that board?

1114

02:34:30.400 --> 02:34:37.639

Town of Freedom: No understanding voting for all three positions, I think it was assumed, but it was corrected and stated clearly now in the article. Any other discussion?

1115

02:34:38.350 --> 02:34:48.050

Town of Freedom: Mines are made up. We'll see what they have. All in favor of approving this motion is to approve Article 33 as amended. Please raise your hands.

1116

02:34:49.310 --> 02:34:51.150

Town of Freedom: Down here, so is the boat.

1117

02:34:51.840 --> 02:34:54.750

Town of Freedom: It does affect us.

1118

02:34:56.910 --> 02:35:11.400

Town of Freedom: October 34th, Super Bowen will vote to spend up to \$2,000 from the 2024 Sandy Fawn Dam CRA in order to make necessary repairs to the dam.

1119

02:35:11.870 --> 02:35:14.309

Town of Freedom: Is there a motion to Article 34?

1120

02:35:14.590 --> 02:35:22.380

Town of Freedom: So... Second. Move and say to approve Act 34 of the \$2,000 dependency. Is there discussion?

1121

02:35:23.470 --> 02:35:29.100

Town of Freedom: Yes. Is there a deadline when the repairs are supposed to be made?

1122

02:35:30.290 --> 02:35:35.699

Town of Freedom: No, there isn't. Again, we had a plan for what...

1123

02:35:35.700 --> 02:35:57.189

Town of Freedom: We had a plan for what, I think the main repair remaining is... and this is not to the dam. Actually, there's two different things. One is to the dam itself. There's no immediate repairs to the dam needed, except to fill one of the potholes, essentially, that have formed. The other repairs are, to the footbridge that needs, additional support.

1124

02:35:57.190 --> 02:36:10.399

Town of Freedom: So, for the lower left, we had discussed what that would look like and what that would require. That'll be on hold. It's not, a timeline to meet all the requirements, but we've so far made most of them.

1125

02:36:11.740 --> 02:36:15.130

Town of Freedom: Any other questions you've got to Article 34?

1126

02:36:16.630 --> 02:36:20.520

Town of Freedom: Seeing none, I ask the vote. All in favor of approving would be expenditure motion.

1127

02:36:20.760 --> 02:36:29.629

Town of Freedom: Board to spend an amount, not more than...

1128

02:36:30.460 --> 02:36:39.750

Town of Freedom: 32 of the budget amounts approved in each category within the 2026 budget during the period from January 1, 20...

1129

02:36:39.860 --> 02:36:47.180

Town of Freedom: 27 to the 2027 town meeting. Motion to add to Article 35. So moved.

1130

02:36:48.480 --> 02:36:49.740

Town of Freedom: Second?

1131

02:36:50.660 --> 02:36:58.149

Town of Freedom: moved inside to keep the town operating between January 1 and January, and the town meeting next year. Any discussion?

1132

02:36:58.900 --> 02:37:01.439

Town of Freedom: Seeing that, I'll ask you about all in favor?

1133

02:37:01.840 --> 02:37:10.240

Town of Freedom: authorized the second board to spend up to \$10,000 from

1134

02:37:10.500 --> 02:37:16.520

Town of Freedom: The undesignated fund balance to cover the cost of foreclosures, and alone maintenance of

1135

02:37:16.640 --> 02:37:20.379

Town of Freedom: foreclosed property. Motion regard to 36.

1136

02:37:20.740 --> 02:37:22.200

Town of Freedom: Moved. So moved.

1137

02:37:23.320 --> 02:37:24.450

Town of Freedom: Second?

1138

02:37:25.370 --> 02:37:29.370

Town of Freedom: Second. Moved and seconded to approve Article 36. Discussion.

1139

02:37:30.800 --> 02:37:32.160

Town of Freedom: Question? Yes.

1140

02:37:32.300 --> 02:37:35.569

Town of Freedom: Are there any properties in town right now that are...

1141

02:37:35.700 --> 02:37:39.270

Town of Freedom: And in imminent danger of being foreclosed.

1142

02:37:40.570 --> 02:37:44.440

Town of Freedom: Are we at Liberty as a...

1143

02:37:44.650 --> 02:37:47.080

Town of Freedom: Public to know which property that is.

1144

02:37:49.430 --> 02:37:54.689

Town of Freedom: Isn't it in the town book? Yes, it is. It's in the town book.

1145

02:37:54.960 --> 02:37:57.919

Town of Freedom: It's bullshit.

1146

02:37:58.640 --> 02:38:00.430

Town of Freedom: Counter 4.

1147

02:38:01.090 --> 02:38:08.340

Town of Freedom: having... Among the specifics, but that's usually been a discussion for a long time. It's a wonderful closure.

1148

02:38:08.650 --> 02:38:14.170

Town of Freedom: Article 30... 6. Any other discussion?

1149

02:38:15.230 --> 02:38:17.230

Town of Freedom: So, please go ahead.

1150

02:38:18.580 --> 02:38:20.010

Town of Freedom: Any other discussion?

1151

02:38:20.770 --> 02:38:26.589

Town of Freedom: If my answer is none, I should vote. All in favor of accruing out of 36, please.

1152

02:38:27.350 --> 02:38:30.049

Town of Freedom: Down hands, and he hopes.

1153

02:38:30.380 --> 02:38:34.550

Town of Freedom: 6 months passed, and he settled on the seat for town, well, authorized inspection board.

1154

02:38:34.780 --> 02:38:40.080

Town of Freedom: To expand up to \$40,000 from the undesignated fund balance in case of emergency.

1155

02:38:40.800 --> 02:38:43.999

Town of Freedom: There's a motion regarded to 37.

1156

02:38:45.110 --> 02:38:46.040

Town of Freedom: Second.

1157

02:38:46.440 --> 02:38:50.319

Town of Freedom: Seconded. Move and seconded to approve 37 minutes of discussion.

1158

02:38:52.470 --> 02:38:53.770

Town of Freedom: It does not.

1159

02:38:54.070 --> 02:38:57.349

Town of Freedom: As you vote. All in favor of approving, please raise your hands.

1160

02:38:57.870 --> 02:39:09.179

Town of Freedom: Down hands. Opposed? One does pass to the aid to see if the town will authorize, select one on behalf of the town to dispose of any surplus equipment and real estate

1161

02:39:09.440 --> 02:39:26.600

Town of Freedom: acquired from non-payment of taxes by public bid, and to execute quit claim deeds for said real estate. There's a motion to guide the 38. It has been moved and seconded that you approve 38. Is there discussion?

1162

02:39:28.460 --> 02:39:32.990

Town of Freedom: If it's none, lastly vote. All of any approved, please raise your comments.

1163

02:39:33.540 --> 02:39:39.669

Town of Freedom: Down of hands. Any opposed? It does pass the United vote that allows the second one to apply.

1164

02:39:39.890 --> 02:39:47.030

Town of Freedom: All or a portion of other revenue selected by the town, for example, tree growth reimbursement, bank interest income.

1165

02:39:47.140 --> 02:39:55.990

Town of Freedom: appropriated surface revenue to offset property tax assessment for the 2026 years. The motion began to that adequate.

1166

02:39:56.420 --> 02:40:00.900

Town of Freedom: Article 39 has been moved and seconded. Is there discussion?

1167

02:40:02.330 --> 02:40:16.089

Town of Freedom: If there's none, we'll ask you a vote. All in favor of approving that, please reach your hands. Down hands. Any opposed? We have two that is passed. Morning to see if the town authorizes the board to enter into third-party contracts.

1168

02:40:16.410 --> 02:40:25.270

Town of Freedom: and agreements they deem advisable. Is there a motion? Moved and seconded to approve the boarding. Discussion.

1169

02:40:26.880 --> 02:40:30.550

Town of Freedom: I'll see you again in the back. Yes, please. Mr. Monetary pop on this?

1170

02:40:34.420 --> 02:40:44.240

Town of Freedom: No, not on that. That's usually the, let's see, agreements, you know, like our,

1171

02:40:44.310 --> 02:41:02.739

Town of Freedom: Copier. Copier, for example. Where, we have the oversight is in the next article that prevents us from entering into leases, which are normally those big, dollar amount items without discussion with the budget committee first.

1172

02:41:05.080 --> 02:41:07.390

Town of Freedom: Any other discussion back and forth?

1173

02:41:07.770 --> 02:41:11.070

Town of Freedom: Which leads in Article 541, yes, please.

1174

02:41:14.490 --> 02:41:19.170

Town of Freedom: That, that would be, under 41.

1175

02:41:20.420 --> 02:41:22.210

Town of Freedom: Any other discussion?

1176

02:41:23.170 --> 02:41:25.050

Town of Freedom: We're on 40 at the moment.

1177

02:41:25.360 --> 02:41:28.440

Town of Freedom: All in favor of approving for it, please raise your handles.

1178

02:41:28.610 --> 02:41:30.260

Town of Freedom: That audience...

1179

02:41:30.450 --> 02:41:43.839

Town of Freedom: 41 to the panel will authorize the selector to enter into a lease agreement with prior approval of the Budget Committee.

1180

02:41:44.130 --> 02:41:49.890

Town of Freedom: the bigger ones, they said before, but I said before. Is there a motion to guide the 41?

1181

02:41:50.390 --> 02:41:52.669

Town of Freedom: Is there a second?

1182

02:41:53.760 --> 02:41:57.259

Town of Freedom: And we're in second, I'm sure. It's a discussion.

1183

02:41:59.600 --> 02:42:02.190

Town of Freedom: A little bit of that before, you'll understand the difference.

1184

02:42:02.490 --> 02:42:07.169

Town of Freedom: We must vote, apparently so. All in favor of the only 41, the duration ends.

1185

02:42:07.350 --> 02:42:09.910

Town of Freedom: Down hands, it was both.

1186

02:42:10.210 --> 02:42:11.809

Town of Freedom: The one passage.

1187

02:42:13.160 --> 02:42:24.090

Town of Freedom: 42. See if the town want to authorize Select Board to procure a temporary loan in anticipation of taxes for the purpose of paying obligation... paying obligation over the town. Period.

1188

02:42:24.110 --> 02:42:34.720

Town of Freedom: Interest and fees for such loans are to be repaid within one year of the date of the loan from the general fund balance. There's a motion regarding 42.

1189

02:42:34.810 --> 02:42:37.460

Town of Freedom: Seconded. Discussion.

1190

02:42:38.010 --> 02:42:40.839

Town of Freedom: Yes, sir. How often does this happen?

1191

02:42:41.040 --> 02:42:42.700

Town of Freedom: That we needed the loan.

1192

02:42:43.400 --> 02:42:54.880

Town of Freedom: How long has it not happened? How often does it happen? Oh, how often? You know, I think you can help me remember, Ron, but I think it was just, maybe 4 or 5 years ago.

1193

02:42:54.880 --> 02:43:07.840

Town of Freedom: or maybe a little longer that, we took it out for the first time in a very long time, and I think we had it for 2 or 3 years. We haven't had it for probably the last 4 years.

1194

02:43:08.610 --> 02:43:14.790

Town of Freedom: Thank you. Any other session in the back, please? Why do we need these, and what would the total financing be?

1195

02:43:17.220 --> 02:43:34.359

Town of Freedom: Well, I don't plan on using it. I'm sure that it's always in place as, as, you know, protection in case something, you know, horrible happened in town. Yes, it's like a line of credit in case we need to get it. Yeah.

1196

02:43:35.490 --> 02:43:39.630

Town of Freedom: Well, we shouldn't, which is why we haven't, right, for many years now.

1197

02:43:41.590 --> 02:43:44.489

Town of Freedom: Usually the school wants their degree passes.

1198

02:43:45.380 --> 02:43:49.290

Town of Freedom: No, I'm not being critical, but... And the employees.

1199

02:43:49.940 --> 02:44:09.409

Town of Freedom: You're able to pay as money comes in, and not need a line of credit. One of the things with the county is that we've paid over \$3,500 financing fees on 10 that was over the years, so I'd need to see the town come into a similar situation. Any other questions or comments we had before we do?

1200

02:44:12.980 --> 02:44:16.020

Town of Freedom: If not, they'll ask you about voluntary approving.

1201

02:44:16.950 --> 02:44:18.700

Town of Freedom: That means those opposed?

1202

02:44:19.640 --> 02:44:25.479

Town of Freedom: And it passes, and it's in... if that article is in every one, I shouldn't forget what that means.

1203

02:44:25.700 --> 02:44:32.859

Town of Freedom: Well, before the... Before the next motion, I just have a comment and announcement.

1204

02:44:34.880 --> 02:44:37.709

Town of Freedom: Okay? Yay.

1205

02:44:37.710 --> 02:45:02.679

Town of Freedom: Defer to the, county chair. Go ahead, please. Okay, just, just briefly, I just wanted to, let people know, you probably have heard us talk about it in select board meetings and other events, but, the town established a comprehensive plan committee this past year. We have a report and summary in the town book. In the coming year, we're expecting to have a number of community input sessions, so again, I think we all recognize

1206

02:45:02.680 --> 02:45:12.289

Town of Freedom: That there's been a lot of, challenging issues that the town has been facing, looking backwards, and so as much as possible, this committee is trying to look forward.

1207

02:45:12.290 --> 02:45:27.629

Town of Freedom: We've got, a bunch of folks in town. Those committee members who are here today, can you just sort of raise your hand? So Heather's on the committee, Kyla, a few others were here earlier and had to leave, and so just wanted you to know you can reach out to any of us at any time without any issues.

1208

02:45:27.630 --> 02:45:34.860

Town of Freedom: And we want you to attend our, community events, which we hope to host in the Grange and other facilities around town.

1209

02:45:34.860 --> 02:45:35.730

Town of Freedom: Thank you.

1210

02:45:35.780 --> 02:45:38.439

Town of Freedom: Make a motion to adjourn. Seconded.

1211

02:45:38.740 --> 02:45:41.650

Town of Freedom: All in favor of the motion to adjourn.

1212

02:45:41.960 --> 02:45:55.760

Town of Freedom: Thank you for your participation. If I may, real quick, I'm sorry, I apologize if I'm wrong. My name is Mark Chavis, I'm the Planning Board Chairman in Knox.

1213

02:45:56.020 --> 02:46:07.380

Town of Freedom: And, just wanted to say, wow, this has been pretty awesome. So, it's everybody involved, and that's wonderful. Listen, I just want to say that,

1214

02:46:08.290 --> 02:46:16.489

Town of Freedom: We had our ordinance for the solar issue, and, we sent it to the lawyer. We had the same lawyer.

1215

02:46:16.580 --> 02:46:36.360

Town of Freedom: And, he goes, so we... oh, boy, what do we do now? So he said, what if we go back to your town, where we received... one of the girls received an ivy back when they came? And, I found out that we had no... we had no planning board. I used to be the planning board chair for 3 years prior.

1216

02:46:36.440 --> 02:46:46.469

Town of Freedom: Some years back. Anyway, I went gathered and asked about this solar issue, and I got involved, and said, I raised my hand, nobody knows what to do it. So I started the planning board again.

1217

02:46:46.620 --> 02:46:49.570

Town of Freedom: I got some folks to get it, and

1218

02:46:50.250 --> 02:46:57.399

Town of Freedom: our secretary and I did both of the work, you know, put it piano. We didn't want to copycat what you did, but...

1219

02:46:57.620 --> 02:47:09.039

Town of Freedom: it was nice. So we looked at 4 or 5 of the towns, but we didn't want to put our name on it just to say, hey, you know, we like this. And we did. Good. And so, what happened was.

1220

02:47:09.220 --> 02:47:13.230

Town of Freedom: We need some change we thought would be, yeah, interesting. Anyway...

1221

02:47:13.430 --> 02:47:21.320

Town of Freedom: He said, so now, we talked to the lawyer and, asked if we could just go ahead and use your

1222

02:47:21.600 --> 02:47:33.019

Town of Freedom: unit, okay? So, now we've done that again, so we're going to be starting over. Well, not really, because you already need to work, but we're going to take you to use yours.

1223

02:47:33.210 --> 02:47:35.890

Town of Freedom: Hornets. And, for it.

1224

02:47:36.520 --> 02:47:40.209

Town of Freedom: I want to thank you guys for that. Good job, and

1225

02:47:40.350 --> 02:47:47.129

Town of Freedom: Wow, I mean, we don't... we only had 20 people left, Sam. And I stood up, and

1226

02:47:47.340 --> 02:47:50.899

Town of Freedom: We don't have any, like, a pills bullet. That's gross.

1227

02:47:51.210 --> 02:47:56.350

Town of Freedom: And, I... I just looked, and just like this, said, folks, we need your help.

1228

02:47:58.080 --> 02:48:03.259

Town of Freedom: Legally, we're supposed to have an appeals board, and a planning board, and a council.

1229

02:48:03.500 --> 02:48:11.309

Town of Freedom: And we were lacking. And I said, we need your help. Please. All the folks like ourselves in lanes.

1230

02:48:12.100 --> 02:48:18.819

Town of Freedom: Talk to your name to your friends, your children who are in, 20s and 30s. We need help.

1231

02:48:19.320 --> 02:48:21.629

Town of Freedom: We need help, and we know how to pounce.

1232

02:48:22.380 --> 02:48:30.170

Town of Freedom: And I said, but... so that's where we are right now. We're... we're struggling in that area. Our padding board is functioning, and but...

1233

02:48:31.510 --> 02:48:37.980

Town of Freedom: green cards and everything, maybe we ought to do something, you know, make it work.

1234

02:48:37.990 --> 02:49:00.670

Town of Freedom: And thank you for your, for your insight. I think, both Planning Board and Comprehensive Plan Committee, it's really, really an important time for towns to be in communication

with each other about coming regulations, about whether it's challenges to home rule, or just sort of the sort of new challenges that rural towns are facing. All of our towns are so tiny.

1235

02:49:00.670 --> 02:49:20.980

Town of Freedom: We're all part-time, practically volunteer, and so you're... I'd say the point that resonates most is getting... getting younger, the next generation involved, and I think all of us sort of sitting here are really happy to help that out, so we're happy to talk to you about it after. I can't judge anybody that's premier, but I can judge.

1236

02:49:20.980 --> 02:49:25.710

Town of Freedom: Thank you so much. Thanks so much, gentlemen, for coming.

1237

02:49:30.110 --> 02:49:55.000

Town of Freedom: Thanks, good, thanks again.

1238

02:49:55.000 --> 02:50:04.449

Town of Freedom: Now I'm gonna shut everything down, we're still...

1239

02:50:04.580 --> 02:50:09.359

Town of Freedom: Oh, I think my legs are asleep, but I'm gonna shut it all down.

1240

02:50:09.560 --> 02:50:19.280

Town of Freedom: It's fine.