

Town Charter Commission Meeting Freedom, Maine

Minutes of September 6, 2022

Present: Phil Bloomstein, Mary Ann Bennett, Rene Ouellet, Meredith Coffin, Joseph Freeman, William Pickford, Tim Biggs, Tyler Hadyniak

Agenda 1. Meeting called to order by Tyler at 6:04 pm. Quorum achieved. Noted that we still need five for a quorum. Tyler reported that we do not need to replace Eli on this committee; we can continue with eight committee members.

Agenda 2. Review of meeting minutes of August 16 , 2022.

Rene moved and Mary Ann seconded to accept minutes as written. **MOTION CARRIED**

Agenda 3. Continued section review using projector. Sections 202.2 and 202.3

Article 202 Town Boards and Committees.

Section 202.1.1 Membership:

- Mary Ann stated that clarification is still needed as to when an appointment commences.

Section 202.2 Boards:

- Committee suggests putting at the beginning of the Charter Document a list of Committees, Boards, Departments, Ordinances, Policies and State Laws and where they can be found.

Section 202.3 Committees:

- Budget Committee paragraph reduced to two sentences indicating committee shall consist of at least five members with staggered terms. No alternates.
- Committee moved the appointments of a Solid Waste Representative and Broadband committee members back to Article 201 Select Board , Section 201.3.6 Appointments. To read as follows: "Required appointments for Interlocal Agreements: The Selectboard will appoint representatives to regional organizations of which the Town of Freedom is a member, for instance regional waste management, recycling, and broadband access organizations."

Article 204 Administrative Organization revisited again.

Section 204.2.2 Municipal Employees Handbook

- Discussed employee policies. Freedom does not have a specific handbook for employees. Policies concerning employees are part of the Select Board Policies.
- Does the MMA have a municipal employee handbook that could guide us?

Section 204.2.4 Merit Principle

- Suggested that this be moved to Article 201 Select Board, section not identified.

Agenda 4 Adjournment.

Our next work will be :

- Article 204: Meredith to compare St. Georges municipal handbook table of contents with Freedom's policies for employees. Then review findings with a Select Board member. Tyler will ask the MMA if they have a handbook for guidance.
- Article 205: General Provisions: Rene will review and suggest edits that the first reading alluded to.
- Article 301 Town Meetings, first reading, with Rene
- Article 305 Long range planning. Bill will contact St. George to ask why they removed this Article.
- moved and seconded to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED** at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Meredith Coffin

Next meetings : Tuesday September 20,2022

Tuesday October 4, 2022

Tuesday October 18, 2022