

Meeting Minutes
Freedom Board of Selectmen
Date: 7/20/2026

Approved 7-27-2026

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

Select Board Meeting

In attendance: Laura Greeley, Lissa Widoff, Kory Boulrier, Beth Owen-Mishou, Cindy Abbott, Jim Waterman, Stan and Kerri Taylor, Joe Freeman, Bob Kanzler, Roy Mishou (via zoom), Bryan Murphy, Steve Bennett, Kyle Price, Dave and Maryann Bennett, Elaine Higgins, Richard Bickford, Meredith Coffin, Bridget Huber (BDN), Kevin Greeley

Select Board Meeting

1. Call Meeting to Order / Finalize Agenda: Laura Greeley called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.
2. Announcements:
 - **Kory Boulrier made a motion to go into executive session for 1MRSA 405 (6) E, legal consult, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
 - They came out of executive session at 6:43 pm and no decision was made.
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and put them on record, Kory Boulrier seconded and all approved.**
3. Fire Chief Reports: Jim Waterman
 - Jim Waterman asked about the information from Contessa. Laura Greeley has responded to Jim's email.
 - Security: The security system is not yet working and he asked if there is an estimate on when it will be repaired. Lissa Widoff reported that they are waiting for a response from Sea Coast.
 - Missing AED: Cindy Abbott is waiting for a copy of the police report to submit to the insurance
 - Audit: Jim Waterman asked about the audit, Laura Greeley reported that the accountant is on vacation and she has sent out another request to Lisa (the accountant) to specifically to respond to the reserve accounts.
 - Event Request for the Lost Kitchen, Jim Waterman asked if they had completed an event request. There were no parking signs posted with the

most recent event. Lissa Widoff stated that she has already spoken to Michael Dutton and that no one has parked on the right side of the hill since they spoke.

- Power Loss over the weekend: He is wondering when there will be anyone appointed as an Emergency Management Director. The response was when there were no qualified candidates. D4H: is a county management program that can be logged into that creates a direct line to CMP.
 - The Fire Department is not going to sign the agreement with The Lost Kitchen with regard to the fire hydrant. Lissa Widoff stated that the implication is that the hydrant may then need to be removed. Lissa Widoff stated that if they have a counter proposal they should make it before the road work begins.
4. Treasurer's Report: Contessa Mancini (not present)
- A/P Warrant: \$3089.53
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay the A/P warrant for the week 7-20-2026 of in the amount of \$3089.53, Kory Boulrier seconded and all agreed.**
 - Camden National Balance: \$276,925.80
5. Public Works: Ryan Willette (not present)
- The tree has been removed from the park
 - Grading will continue
 - Knot weed; Lissa Widoff responded to citizen's concerns that it would spread if it is mowed. She does not see how mowing it can make it spread. Laura Greeley reached out to Roy and no towns have ever asked him not to mow the Knot Weed.
6. Town Clerk & Tax Collector Report: Cindy Abbott
- Cindy Abbott provided the statement regarding the miscellaneous category on the budget report.
 - She has requested the copy of the police report regarding the AED. She has the case number but not a copy of the report.
 - Sea Coast is supposed to send an estimate. They have not followed up. Cindy Abbott will reach out to them tomorrow.
 - Cindy Abbott asked about taxes and a time frame.
 - Lissa Widoff asked if the property cards were going to be sent out with the taxes. Laura Greeley and Lissa Widoff offered to find volunteers to help.
 - Lissa Widoff asked Cindy Abbott to print off the calculation cards and property cards for each of the Select Board Members so they can review it.

- The town office will be closed on August 1st and Cindy Abbott has not been able to find anyone to cover.
 - Abatement Request:
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to supplemental tax on the Ron and Barbara Littlefield property in the amount of \$420.50 and to abate Reed Brugger for real estate in the amount of \$420.50, Kory Boulrier seconded and all approved.**
 - Certified Letter: Laura Greeley asked if we can send a message to the resident and see if they are going to come in so they can reach out to one of the select board members.
 - Lissa Widoff will provide Cindy Abbott with the updated fees.
 - Laura Greeley asked if anything has been done with the stop work order. Cindy Abbott reported that it has been lifted but the remaining issues need to be determined by the state.
7. Correspondence:
- John Spinney: wrote a letter to the town and made suggestions regarding the pond.
 - Paws Contract was received effective July 1, 2026. The new contract is \$50 more.
 - **Lissa Widoff made a motion to sign the contract with PAWs from 7-1-2026 to 6-30-2027 for animal support, Kory Boulrier seconded and all approved.**
 - Laura Greeley asked that Cindy Abbott make a copy of the PAWS contract for our book, send one to PAWS and give one to Contessa.
 - LWAP form was received. It is a Docusign document. Laura Greeley will look into this.
8. Citizens Issues:
- Steve Bennett: regarding the surveyor presentation. He mentioned the vote in 1919 combined with other information. He feels that it confirmed his thoughts. He thanked the Select Board for hiring the surveyor and cleaning up the mess on the Beaver Hill Road. He is in favor of the town donating the firewood to whoever needs it. Laura Greeley stated that we should thank the tax payers. Steve Bennett asked questions:
 - Request for the surveyor to do more research, he asked each of the Select Board Members about spending more tax payer money.
 - Kory Boulrier is not yet prepared to answer that question.
 - Lissa Widoff: stated they are currently in litigation and will wait to see what happens.

- Laura Greeley responded that they are currently reviewing their options. She feels that the money that has been spent and that they want to spend the least amount of money possible
- How much more money are they willing to spend?
 - Laura Greeley responded that it is not something that would be discussed tonight
- How much was spent for Jim Dorsky's surveying services? : \$8500
- Meredith Coffin: She was under the impression that as soon as they were not going to sign the consent decree, that they were going to do a survey and she asked if they felt the surveyor provided a good report. They clarified that it was not a complete survey as it was only a historical survey. What would the surveyor do further and how much would it cost to do more? She asked if they citizens would like to move forward and if there should be a vote by the citizens regarding moving further. She felt that the people are not being consulted. She asked what the people's options are now.
- Bob Kanzler: Main Street, He did not have enough clearance to get around the corner due to the cars parked on the road. Laura Greeley was aware and has reached out to Michael Dutton.
- Kyle Price: Questions:
 - Have they watched the presentation he had submitted to them? Laura Greeley watched some of it and Lissa Widoff has watched the entire video. Kory Boulrier has not seen it yet. Kyle Price felt that some people came to the meeting with additional information and he wondered why they came with this information. He does not know why there is an intent to move forward. Laura Greeley thanked him for all his information. She reported that they have received many requests for information. They have been inundated with information and requests regarding this information. All parties have made their points with many different views. The select board had no information from the surveyor prior to hearing the surveyor's presentation. They had no information from our Attorney until one hour before the meeting.
 - Lissa Widoff stated that she appreciates everyone's work and the Select Board is attempting to sift through all of this information. Please don't expect them, a week later, to state what the next steps are going to be.
 - He would like the opportunity to share his information with the attorney.

- Richard Bickford: expressed concern about trash on the Beaver Ridge Rd and other roads. He asked about how to get rid of the trash. Laura Greeley suggested they give the addresses to Cindy Abbott and she will contact the residents.
- Joe Freeman: He asked about truck #6 and its need for repairs. Kory Boulrier is talking with Ryan Willette about the truck. The sand is not in yet. Laura Greeley asked if he had spoken to Ryan Willette. He stated that they will need truck #6 and sand. Laura Greeley will speak with Ryan Willette tomorrow morning and get information about truck #6 and the sand.

9. Town Officials Reports

- Code Enforcement: Cindy Abbott
 - Cindy Abbott will create an appointment for the select board to sign.
- Assessors Agent: Jackie Robbins (not present)
- Health Official: Patricia Ashland (not present)
- School Board Director: Eleanor Hess (not present)
- General Assistance Officer: Kory Boulrier
 - No new requests this week.
- Plumbing Inspector: Cindy Abbott
- Solid Waste Director: Phil Bloomstein (not present)
- Animal Control Officer: Johnna Hatt (not present)
- Town Boards & Committee Reports:
 - Planning Board: Tyler Hadyniak (not present)
 - Recreational Committee: Chair yet to be determined
 - Corn Hole Scramble: Dave Bennett will be running this.
 - Cindy Abbott reviewed the proposed events and the status of what has been done to date.
 - Lissa Widoff stated that she would make a donation to support one additional backpack.
 - They are looking for volunteers. Lissa Widoff suggested that Cindy Abbott create a volunteer spreadsheet stating the times needed and doing what jobs.
 - Vendor Tents can be set up at 7am or the day before.
 - Appeals Board: (chair to be determined).
 - Cemetery Committee: Steve Holmes
 - Budget Committee: Laura Greeley
 - CDAC Committee: Sean Murphy (not present)
 - Broadband Committee: Phil Bloomstein (not present)
 - Ad Hoc Policy Committee: Elaine Higgins
 - Comp Plan Committee:

- Historical Society: (Wilson Hess)

11. Old Business:

- Boat Landing: Lissa Widoff's proposed changes to the boat landing rules and regulations. Parking can be limited. Overnight use can be controlled. Laura Greeley reviewed Atty. Kelly's input. Kory Boulier will research what a neighborhood watch can do. Laura Greeley will share the email from Atty Kelly.
- Veterans Benefit/Exemption: is based on the Municipalities Certified Ratio and changes based on that.
- Fees:
 - After the fact fees were discussed:
 - Residential Addition (adding square footage) \$250
 - Residential Mobile Home, Manufactured or Tiny House: \$500
 - Accessory Structures: (larger than 1000 square feet) \$50
 - Garage, Barn or Shed: (more than 100 square feet) \$100
 - **Lissa Widoff moved that they institute after the fact permit fees for Residential Addition \$250, Residential Mobile Home, Manufactured or Tiny home, \$500, Residential Accessory structures, deck \$50 and Residential Garage, barn or shed. \$100 effective August 1, 2026, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**

12. New Business:

- Laura Greeley met with Jackie regarding the undesignated fund balance. They were able to apply some numbers so they can get to a place where they could commit taxes. They are confident regarding the \$50,000 but hope to have solid information for committing the taxes next week.
- Planning Grant: \$10,000 to support the modification to ordinances due to the changing in the housing laws. Laura Greeley expressed concern about KVCOG and making sure what they support is consistent with Freedom's town plan. Lissa Widoff reported that any decisions would be the towns and KVCOG would only make suggestions.
 - **Lissa Widoff moved that they approve signing the Planning Grant, Kory Boulier seconded and all approved.**
- Recall Ordinances: Lissa Widoff researched other towns' recall ordinances. She shared edits with the other select board members. MMA recommends not getting too specific because it could create more legal ramifications. Potential changes were reviewed. Lissa Widoff will collate the information and bring a proposed revision to the next meeting. The

number of signatures was reviewed and 25% of the last gubernatorial election was brought up as a number.

- Laura Greely will send ideas to the other select board about tree growth.
- **Lissa Widoff moved to formally appoint Cindy Abbott to Code Enforcement office and Plumbing Inspector for a term ending at the 2027 town meeting.**
- **Kory Boulrier made a motion to go into executive session for 1 MRSA 405 (6) F to discuss confidential information, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
 - They came out of executive session at 9:25pm and they will be sending a letter to a resident who submitted a property payment request.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday July 27, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

14. Adjourn: **Kory Boulrier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm, Lissa Widoff seconded the motion and all approved.**

Recording Information:

Shareable link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/rdhFVz4b87KsqA4GGQhlp9YN3W8cXeOzoMZyleq6KQIWP6MiZpLvVts__5Q784_.RQ1lrj7yK3tvF1sA

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