

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Freedom Board of Selectmen**  
**Date: 4-14-2025**  
*Approved 4-20-2025*

**In attendance:** Laura Greeley, Heather Donahue, Beth Owen-Mishou, Jim Waterman, Cindy Abbott, Brian Murphy, Kyle Price, Mary Ann Bennett, Atty William Kelly, Trudy Price, Travis Price, Ron Price, Meredith Coffin, Dylan Turner, Elaine Higgins, Palmer Pearson, Lissa Widoff, Michael Dutton, Billie (via zoom), Clara Alvarez (via zoom)

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

1. Call Meeting to Order / Finalize Agenda: Laura Greeley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
  - o Laura Greeley made a motion to go into executive session at 6:00pm for 1MRSA 405 (6) E for legal consultation. They came out of executive session at 6:14pm with no decision made.
2. Announcements:
  - o Lissa Widoff sent the select board a proposal for a landscaping design plan on the Cannery Lot.
  - o The select board asked if this can wait until next Monday. Heather Donahue asked if they could look at the total expenditures on the lot. They will look that over and sign it next Monday.
  - o Laura Greeley stated that they are going to mail out a check this week for the actual unpaid tax from 2019-2023 for unpaid tax and penalties and interest. Some was partial payments, late payments. \$19793 was actually outstanding tax that the town owed. \$27,000 was interest and penalties. Ron Smith, accountant forgot to sign a missing 941. We currently owe approximately \$60,000. The final amount is good to the 21st of April. We will file an abatement with this and hopefully they will get some of the penalties back. Ron Smith will provide an abatement letter by Thursday and that will be sent with a check for \$60046.54. Laura Greeley has asked Ron Smith to provide an outline. These issues occurred between 2019 and 2023. Laura Greeley is not sure what occurred. Him forgetting to sign the form cost the town \$10,000.
  - o Elaine Higgins stated that there should be some type of responsibility from whoever was responsible.
  - o Ron Price feels like there is a lot of finger-pointing.
  - o Laura Greeley said we can see the importance of having an appointed treasurer. As the town grew the responsibilities of treasurer became very specific and more complex. The check will be sent out on Thursday. The payroll issue is good moving forward.

- Heather Donahue made a motion to pay the IRS in the amount of \$60,046.54, Laura Greeley seconded the motion and all approved.
- Laura Greeley made a motion for a special town meeting on Tuesday March 22, 2025, to see whether the voters will agree to appropriate the money to pay the penalties and fees that Travis has incurred due to the error in the W-2 submission, Heather Donahue seconded and all approved.
- Kyle Price spoke, with permission from the town and on behalf of his brother, he stated that double W-2's were filed as well as blank W-2's. They are saying that he owes about \$28,000. He is also concerned about the lien on his property.
- Laura Greeley spoke with Ron Smith. Once this has all been paid it has to go to the social security office. That is the final department and until that is done this could go on for up to 2 years. Once it has been paid and closed the town can request an audit to make sure the proper W-2's have been received. Travis Price has provided information from the Maine Revenue service and the IRS. She asked for the amount currently owed.
- Travis Price stated that there was a vote from the select board to pay the penalties that he accrued due to the town's mistakes.
- Laura Greeley stated that she was unaware that the past select board had made an agreement with Travis Price regarding the fees and penalties.
- Travis stated that this all occurred on the night that Ron Price had resigned.
- \$27,912.72 appears to be the final amount. Following the meeting next Tuesday they would like to make the payments on Travis' behalf from the town's account. Laura Greeley will ask Atty Kelly and Ron Smith that the lien be expunged.
- Lissa Widoff suggested that the agency that put the lien on the property be contacted regarding releasing and expunging the lien.
- Meredith Coffin asked for clarification about the meeting next week.
- Laura Greeley made a motion to sign the warrant to have a special town meeting on 4-22-2025 at 6pm, for 3 articles: 1. To choose a moderator, 2. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to make payments to Maine Revenue and IRS to settle errors made on past employee tax fillings up to \$30,000, subject to the Town entering into an agreement for reimbursement or assignment to the Town from the employee for the amount paid by the Town., Heather Donahue seconded the motion and all approved.
- Heather Donahue made a motion to use the town credit card to pay for a mailing not to exceed \$70. To announce the special town meeting, Laura Greeley seconded and all approved.

- Laura Greeley said that if anyone got loud, rude or angry had nothing to do with the decision. She feels it was the right decision to make.
3. Review and Approve Minutes: Secretary's Report:
  4. Fire Chief & EMA Director Reports: Jim Waterman
  5. Public Works: Ryan Willette
  6. Treasurer's Report:
  7. Town Clerk & Tax Collector Report: Cindy Abbott
  8. Citizens Issues:
  9. Review Correspondence:
  10. Town Officials Reports
    - Code Enforcement: Cindy Abbott
      - Assessors Agent: Jackie Robbins
      - Health Official: Patricia Ashland
      - School Board Director: Eleanor Hess
      - General Assistance Officer: Ryan Willette
      - Plumbing Inspector: Cindy Abbott
      - Solid Waste Director: Phil Bloomstein
      - Animal Control Officer: Meg Anderson
    - Town Boards & Committee Reports:
      - Planning Board: Tyler Hadyniak
      - Recreational Committee: Chair yet to be determined.
      - Appeals Board: Michael Smith
      - Historical Society: Wilson Hess
      - Cemetery Committee: Steve Holmes
      - Budget Committee: Laura Greeley
      - CDAC Committee: Lissa Widoff
      - Broadband Committee: Phil Bloomstein
      - Ad Hoc Policy Committee: Rene Ouellet
      - Budget Committee:
  11. Old Business:
  12. New Business:
  13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday April 21, 2025 at 6:00 pm.
  14. Next Select Board Workshop Monday April 14, 2024 at 7:30 am
  15. Adjourn: Heather Donahue made a motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm.

Recording Information:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/enyvfwWYm48MY-qf6luz2Rg5JkqSQzAx09pHFOMHZ4\\_p\\_PJIL6UuzBiW1Cbt9U7.4T3f7G25VYLON5rx?startTime=1744667792000](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/enyvfwWYm48MY-qf6luz2Rg5JkqSQzAx09pHFOMHZ4_p_PJIL6UuzBiW1Cbt9U7.4T3f7G25VYLON5rx?startTime=1744667792000)  
 Passcode: 9xi7@6bw