

Meeting Minutes
Freedom Board of Selectmen
Date: 7/27/2026

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

Approved 8-3-2026

Select Board Meeting

In attendance: Laura Greeley, Lissa Widoff, Kory Boulrier, Beth Owen-Mishou, Cindy Abbott, Jim Waterman, Stan and Kerri Taylor, Heather Donahue, Joe Freeman, Patrick Terry, Bob Kanzler, Roy Mishou (via zoom), Bryan Murphy, Kyle Price, Tyler Hadyniak, Elaine Higgins, Meredith Coffin (via zoom), Kevin Greeley, Clara Alvarez, Drew Fales, Pamela Herman (via zoom), Tim Biggs

Select Board Meeting

1. Call Meeting to Order / Finalize Agenda: Laura Greeley called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
2. Announcements:
 - **Kory Boulrier made a motion to go into executive session for 1 MSRA 405 (6) a, for an emergency executive session, Lissa Widoff seconded and all approved.**
 - **They came out of executive session at 5:55pm and no decisions were 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
 - Mail delivery has been delayed due to the delivery driver being sick. If anyone wants to pick their mail up, they should go to the post office to pick it up.
 - Jim Waterman asked about the repairs on the security system by Sea Coast Security, Lissa Widoff reported that she has a contract from Sea Coast that needs to be reviewed tonight and signed.
 - ATV use on trails: He cautioned those using ATV's to be careful on the trails.
 - Jim Waterman asked about the work on Pleasant Street. Lissa Widoff explained that there are different phases to the work that are going to be

completed. Jim Waterman asked when public works is going to begin digging. Laura Greeley spoke with Michael Dutton and he mentioned that no one has contacted him from the fire department regarding the hydrant. Laura Greeley also spoke with Michael Dutton about the traffic and parking. He will speak with his team about people parking bumper to bumper on Main Street.

- Lissa Widoff asked if the fire department had thought about anything else to replace the hydrant. Site planning is important.
 - Heather Donahue asked why they were choosing to not use the hydrant. Jim Waterman clarified. Jim said the FVFD is considering developing a counter proposal for consideration. The issue is wanting to avoid FD liability for anything happening to TLK property, since the pipe failures were likely due to the intake pipe being plugged.

4. Treasurer's Report: Contessa Mancini (not present)

- A/P Warrant: \$6910.86
- Payroll Warrant: \$3803
- **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay the A/P warrant for the week 7-27-2026 of in the amount of \$6910.86, Kory Boulier seconded and all agreed.**
- **Lissa Widoff made a motion to pay the payroll warrant for the week 7-27-2026 of in the amount of \$3803, Kory Boulier seconded and all agreed.**
- Camden National Balance: \$276,530.34
- Checks received:
 - \$67.77
- The Audit is still being worked on. Lisa, the accountant for the auditor, is new to Freedom. Laura Greeley is keeping track of what is being asked for so next year we will have everything available that she is asking for.
- Jackie came in today and solar is now going to be included in the calculation for the Town Valuation. For the commitment, \$50,000 will be used from the undesignated fund balance. Assessments are still frozen, except for corrections that have been made. 13.9 mill rate last year 14.4 will be the rate this year.
- Laura Greeley had the zoom meeting with the US treasury regarding the ARPA funds. Freedom was given \$76,000 and all that has been reported to date was \$40,000. She found them kind and flexible to work with. She needs to review what the remaining money was spent on.
- Registration for the grant is complete.

5. Public Works: Ryan Willette (not present)

- Laura Greeley reached out to Ryan Willette
 - Truck #6: they are waiting on the repair man.
 - Salt: there is a contract with KVCOG for salt. KVCOG will reach out to us when it is available.
 - There are a couple of estimates on sand. Preparation has occurred in anticipation of the sand.
 - The grader is running and Town House Road was started today.
 - There was an interview this evening for a public works position.
6. Town Clerk & Tax Collector Report: Cindy Abbott
- Cindy Abbott asked if any pictures were taken when the electrical panel blew.
 - She reached out to the state police regarding the police report on the missing AED by email. The police stated that it is still an open case. It was suggested that Cindy continue to reach out to the insurance company and the police.
 - Tax bills will include the property card and the valuation report.
 - Laura Greeley asked Kyle Price to forward any additional information he has on the Veterans Exemption to her.
 - Laura Greeley stated that there will be a letter of explanation included in the tax bills. Lissa Widoff asked how they would be fielding questions. It was suggested that people be asked to send emails.
 - Smithton Cemetery:
 - The select board will be closing the account and turning the funds over to the cemetery.
 - Black Hill account, there is no record of the interest being applied to their account. Cindy Abbott stated that she had created a spreadsheet. She said it is under cash received as Black Hill. Laura Greeley stated that she printed off 4 years and has not seen it transferred any interest going into their account since 2019.
7. Correspondence:
- Katie McDonald: on behalf of the Freedom Residents who have contributed to the renovation of the garden, in front of the town office. They would like a garden hose holder in the front of the office. They will review what they need in terms of a hose and/or a rack and a hose and review it again next week. People are welcome to cut bouquets.
 - Laura Greeley suggested that the Select Board be careful in responding to requests for information from journalists.
8. Citizens Issues:

- Brian Murphy asked if we could send a note to the agencies that have been responding to the pond.
- Heather Donahue reported that she had a call from the Midcoast Villager regarding a statement on Beaver Ridge Road Survey. She reviewed her statement. She mentioned the 1919 documents that were used to make the decision. She reported on documents that existed past the point where Mr. Dorsky made his decision. She does not feel that the survey is conclusive.
- Clara Alvarez expressed concerns about a neighbor removing flags from her property and cutting trees. This has been reported to the police and she will contact the DEP. She feels they are being harassed. The neighbors have cut trees down to the waterfront.
 - Laura Greeley and Lissa Widoff asked Cindy Abbott what she would be doing from a CEO perspective. Cindy reported that there is a boundary in question and that while it is in dispute no trees should be cut. Have the responsible parties violated shoreland zoning?

9. Town Officials Reports

- Code Enforcement: Cindy Abbott
 - No updates on pending cases.
- Assessors Agent: Jackie Robbins (not present)
 - Abatement 43% explanation from Jackie was forwarded to the select persons. Laura Greeley will follow up with the citizen who was concerned about their assessment.
 - Laura Greeley reviewed the abatement request from another citizen and she will reach out to him with an explanation.
 - Laura Greeley suggested that they create a form that reflects the other income section.
- Health Official: Patricia Ashland (not present)
- School Board Director: Eleanor Hess (not present)
- General Assistance Officer: Kory Boulier
 - No new requests this week.
- Plumbing Inspector: Cindy Abbott
- Solid Waste Director: Phil Bloomstein (not present)
- Animal Control Officer: Johnna Hatt (not present)
- Town Boards & Committee Reports:
 - Planning Board: Tyler Hadyniak
 - A Short-Term rental policy was forwarded to the planning board.
 - Tuesday July 28 is the next meeting

- Recreational Committee: Chair yet to be determined
 - Back packs have been purchased
 - Meeting next Tuesday
 - Working on signage
 - Still need volunteers
 - The parade starts at Public Works.
 - Lissa Widoff suggested that a list of specifics for volunteers be created.
- 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)
- Comp Plan Committee:
 - Work is ongoing
- Historical Society:

11. Old Business:

- Building Permit Fee Schedule;
 - Building permits for anything over 200 square feet and not 100 square feet.
 - **Lissa Widoff moved that the permit fee schedule be changed to accurately reflect the 200 Square foot minimum for building permits, Kory Boulter seconded and all approved.**
- Boat Landing Policy Discussion
 - Regarding the suggestion that residents have parking stickers.
 - Lissa Widoff asked how stickers are going to be enforced and she is reluctant to include things that are going to be difficult to enforce.
 - The policy amendments were presented to the other Select Board members.
 - **Lissa Widoff moved to accept the updated boat landing swimming policy as amended, Kory Boulter seconded and all approved.**
- Proposed amendments to the recall ordinance
 - Lissa Widoff reviewed the proposed changes.
 - Increasing the percentage
 - Naming examples of things that would legitimately warrant a recall. MMA suggested that being too specific can also be a problem.
 - Modifications were discussed.

- Lissa Widoff will send Cindy Abbott a copy of the updated ordinance.
 - Food Sovereignty Ordinance was also discussed. Heather Donahue offered to send the select board examples.
 - Website Updates/Status: Meeting next week for updates and a new landing page.
12. New Business:
- Emergency Management Director: Kory Boulier will reach out to other towns and see if there is someone who would be willing to take on Freedom as well.
 - Select Board Meetings Policy was reviewed and updated as needed. It was suggested that citizen input be limited to 3-5 min and encouraging those who need more time to schedule time with the select board members.
 - Policy Meeting/ Select Board Workshop: August 10th at 5pm
 - Sea Coast Repair Contract: \$2300 with deposit and balance. This will be submitted to the insurance company for reimbursement.
 - **Lissa Widoff moved to approve the contract with Pie Barker in the amount of \$2338.66 for the repair of the alarm system, Kory Boulier seconded the motion and all approved.**
 - The assessments were reviewed prior to setting the taxes.
13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday August 3, 2026 at 6:00 pm.
14. Adjourn: **Kory Boulier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, Lissa Widoff seconded the motion and all approved.**

Recording Information:

Shareable link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/osmgLou6V9szMhGikVbMSeJWTduWbKKxKmj8Spt8lyck2LPjdWet3NgVw7_PuW5l.8v6uJmN1oJtuhxOQ

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