

**Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes
July 25, 2022**

Present: Elaine Higgins, Ron Price, Steve Bennett, Travis Price, Cindy Abbott, Jim Waterman, and Amanda Jamison.

Present on Zoom: Tyler Hadyniak and Anne-Marie Adamson

Ron Price called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Motion by Elaine: To accept July 18, 2022 minutes as presented and place on file. Unanimous.

FVFD: Jim Waterman said he is adding a dry hydrant on the N. Palermo Road to utilize for fire protection in South Freedom. In total there are three working dry hydrants in Town and water available at the boat landing and the fire hydrant on Mill Street. Jim said the Association cooked the chicken for the Grange's Chicken BBQ.

Public Works: Travis Price reported that he took down "No Parking" signs that were hung at boat landing on last parking area on the right. Select Board agreed they never authorized or designated that area a "no parking area". Travis said they'll be ditching Clark Road tomorrow. They have removed tires from rims from Skidgell clean up. Those tires and tires from Spring Clean Up will be taken to PERC. Metal from Spring Clean Up, loaded up on two trucks, will be taken this week. Select Board agreed money earned from selling the metal goes into the Public Works Capital Reserve Account. Discussion about Sick Time/PTO Policy.

Motion by Elaine: To increase sick time/PTO time for full-time employees to 52 hours per year that can not carry over year to year. This change will be effective immediately and each succeeding year will begin on January 1st. Unanimous.

Discussion about route of Freedom garbage truck and the safety issue of only picking up garbage on right side of road and not crossing road to pick up garbage. Select Board agreed on this safety issue and will speak with the Solid Waste Director. Ron said the weed whip has been ordered from Chase's.

Citizen's Issues: none

Treasurer's Report: Cindy Abbot reported the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4,371.64 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$61,033.22. The ending checkbook balance is \$36,768.00. The updated school payment of \$56,629.86 for school year 2022-2023 is included in this week's A/P Warrant. Cindy reported that the Town Office will be closed on Wednesday, July 27th and Thursday, July 28th to work with the auditor.

Motion by Elaine: To pay Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4,371.64 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$61,033.22. Ron 2nd, Unanimous.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Cindy Abbott requested timeframe for when Select Board will commit taxes. Discussion about committing taxes in August, no specific date set.

Correspondence:

1. Municipal Review Committee: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at 9am Zoom meeting to learn about update.

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Town Official Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

1. Select Board discussed landowner's permit violations on Smithton Road. Jackie Robbins visited property and left a letter. Steve will speak with Jackie to find out if she has heard back from landowner. Cindy said she would look up the State Statute regarding fines for permit violations.
2. It was reported that the camper has been moved off of property on Mitchell Road. Travis will speak with landowner about removing gravel that filled ditch to move the camper onto property.
3. Steve said he will follow up with Jackie about Peace Ridge.

Town Boards and Committees:

Recreation Committee: Cindy said there is a mailing going out about parade on August 20th.

Town Charter Committee: Steve said the committee hoped to have the Charter ready for a vote this Fall.

Old Business:

1. Steve Bennett said he spoke with person at Carmichael Transport. Driver for Carmichael Transport backed into side of Post Office building. The person Steve spoke with said they have someone that takes care of property damage and would send someone out to look at it. Steve asked Carmichael Transport to be called prior to person looking at damage, so that Steve could meet person at the Post Office building.
2. Ron said the Sheriff's Office will put the boat landing on their evening route.
3. Select Board decided that Steve will call Peace Ridge to discuss PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes).
4. Discussion about Interlocal Agreement. Steve expressed concern about the Coalition's hiring of Axiom, potential broadband provider, to conduct feasibility study. Elaine said the \$11,000 being asked for from each of the five towns from Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Coalition will be utilized to get the Utility Broadband Corporation up and running.
5. **Motion** by Ron: To take \$100,000 from the TAN (Tax Anticipatory Note). Steve 2nd. Unanimous.

New Business:

1. **Motion** by Elaine: To change June 21, 2022 minutes to reflect that Peace Ridge did obtain a building permit on March 31, 2022. Unanimous.
2. Special Town Meeting on Thursday, July 28th at 6pm. Steve will call Tyler Hadyniak and ask him to moderate.

Motion to adjourn at 8:04pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Jamison