

**Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes  
August 2, 2021**

**Present:** Steve Bennett, Ron Price, Elaine Higgins, Travis Price, Dyann Anderson, Jim Waterman, Tim Biggs, Ann-Marie Adamson and Amanda Jamison

Ron called the meeting to order at 5:59pm.

**FVFD:** Jim Waterman reported that Central Maine Cost Recovery reimbursed a portion of costs incurred by the FVFD and Public Works department for the September 14, 2020 car accident. Total check is in the amount of \$3,633.20. Public Works will receive \$2,387.20 and the fire department will receive \$754.00. Travis said he can look into purchasing recycled, straightened guard rail at a discount and to try not to spend more than the reimbursement. Jim also said the fire department scheduled to BBQ at field events after town parade on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Motion** by Ron: To allow Jim to purchase an AirPac and take money out of FVFD capital reserve account. Steve 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

**Public Works:** Travis Price said he started prepping Town Garage addition for insulation. He is trying to locate enough bags of insulation from one vendor and needs it by Wednesday. Also on the schedule is finishing up cold patch on Beaver Ridge Road. Steve reported that he sent the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) a letter asking how far off the road can a town cut trees, mulch, ditch and how high you can cut limbs. MMA responded. Ron and Steve looked at drainage on Deer Hill Road. Action items: Steve will draft a letter to residents along Deer Hill Road and send Select Board letter to review. Steve will then send letter and MMA's email to Bill Kelly to make Bill Kelly aware.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dyann Anderson reported Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$6,091.48 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$5,281.58. The ending checkbook balance is \$213,870.00.

**Motion** by Steve: To approve Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$6,091.48 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$5,281.58. Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

Dyann reported the second A/P Warrant in the amount of \$817.00.

**Motion** by Ron: To approve second A/P Warrant for liens to be instituted at Waldo County Registry of Deeds in the amount of \$817.00. Unanimous.

**Motion** by Ron: To pay bill to CNC Technologies to ensure web address and pay by credit card. Steve 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

Select Board discussion about the need to have a Special Town Meeting in September. Topics that may need to be addressed during Special Town Meeting: amending Budget Committee Ordinance; Dangerous Buildings Statute; Broadband Committee vote; Frank Bagley land; Hearing and vote on Town Charter; Information Hearing on Community Development Advisory Committee.

**Motion** by Steve: To hold a Special Town Meeting on September 22, 2021 at 7pm in the Election Hall. Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

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**Motion** by Steve: To approve minutes from July 26<sup>th</sup> as amended. Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

**Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Coalition:** Elaine Higgins reported that the group is getting closer to needing the funding from the American Rescue Plan of \$9,000 from each of the five member towns to set up a feasibility study on running fiber to each residence in the five towns. Discussion of a need for an article on warrant of Special Town Meeting.

**Old Business:** Steve contacted insurance company to add \$80,000 of value to Town Garage and increase contents value by \$20,000.

Steve talked about the Black Hills Investment that is designated for Smithton Cemetery. Steve said there is a choice to take the cash dividend, as the town has been doing, or to reinvest the dividends. Decision to table this discussion now until Cindy Abbott returns.

**Motion** to adjourn at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Jamison