

**Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes
April 11, 2022**

Present: Select Board Members: Ron Price, Chairman, Elaine Higgins and Steve Bennett.
Attendees: Travis Price, Dyann Anderson, Jim Waterman, Joe Freeman, Dave Bridges and Amanda Jamison.
Present on Zoom: Tyler Hadyniak, Cindy Abbott

Ron Price called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

Motion by Steve: To accept April 4, 2022 minutes as amended place on file. Elaine 2nd. Unanimous.

FVFD: Jim Waterman wants people to know that if you obtain burn permit online, you still need to comply with rules of burning after 5pm and before 9am. The rules are on the webpage for Maine Burn Permit System. Jim submitted bill to order wild land gear. He has applied for a grant from Maine Forest Service that would reimburse half of cost. Jim showed Dehydrated Food Preparedness order form for food from Waldo County Emergency Management Agency. Order must be in by April 20th. Jim said Sawkill Fire Department in New York has a 2005 Kawasaki Mule 310 with 80 hours of use, 80 gallon tank and pump for sale for \$4,000. The Association would like to buy it.

Motion by Elaine: To allow Jim to purchase 2005 Kawasaki Mule for \$4,000 and take funds from the Capital Reserve Account. Unanimous.

Public Works: Travis Price is trying to get a hold of someone from Peace Ridge to discuss work on Irving Lane. Discussion continued about Irving Lane. Jackie Robbins, CEO, plans to go to Peace Ridge. Travis has a culvert application for Smithton Road. Travis had information on cost of disposing tires.

Motion by Elaine: To change our tire rate of stickers on car tires \$2.00 each, pick up truck tires \$3.00 each, anything larger \$10.00 each. Steve 2nd. Unanimous.

Discussion about Mitchell Road and Smithton Road upkeep. Travis recommended adding material, crushed stone, to Smithton Road.

Motion by Steve: To accept bid from Pike Industries to apply crushed stone to Smithton Road. Elaine 2nd. Unanimous.

Discussion about beavers that have just moved in and building dam and lodge behind Public Works Garage. Steve will look into getting someone to trap the beavers. Travis said he has contacted paving companies to get quotes for paving Rollins Road and Beaver Hill Road. Discussion about the need for Travis to have a computer in the Public Works Garage. Amanda will contact NRCS to find out if they donate, no longer used computers, to Town Governments.

Citizen's Issues: none

Treasurer's Report: Dyann Anderson reported the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4,015.89 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$15,748.75. The ending checkbook balance is \$354,391.00. Dyann reported she worked with Dan Couverette on Trio Payroll issues.

Motion by Elaine: To allow Dyann to engage Dan Couverette for the next three months. Steve 2nd. Discussion – Ron suggested Dan and Ryan, Town's IT person should work together on some issues that Dan is identifying.

Amend Motion by Elaine: to allow Dan Couverette here as long as needed. Steve 2nd. Amendment passes.

Motion as amended – Unanimous.

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Motion by Steve: To pay February school payment in next week's A/P Warrant. Elaine 2nd. Unanimous.

Discussion about Chart of Account's lines. General Assistance goes into General Government line and Fire Department lease payments on truck should go in Capital Reserve line.

Motion by Elaine: To pay Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4,015.89 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$15,748.75. Steve 2nd, Unanimous.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: no report

Correspondence: none

Town Boards and Committees:

Appeals Board: Dave Bridges gave Select Board his resignation. He gave Select Board current appeal.

Planning Board: Frances Walker resigned, looking for one new member.

Town Charter Committee: Next meeting is on Tuesday, April 19th at 6pm.

Budget Committee Meeting: Next meeting is on Wednesday, April 20th at 6pm. Ron suggested talking about paving more miles of road in 2023. Discussion about on demand hot water heater for Town Office.

Old Business:

1. Audit by RHR Smith, Ron talked with Ron Smith about roads being listed as Capital Assets.
2. Elaine gave update for Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Coalition about Axiom's feasibility study.

New Business:

1. Steve said the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) had about 15% of town responding to survey. Steve read some of the responses.
2. Select Board Policy Workshop tomorrow morning.
3. Steve shared Bill Kelly's opinion letter about Peace Ridge's request for tax exemption. Steve suggested inviting people from Peace Ridge to an assessor's meeting with Jackie.
4. Elaine called Maine's Senators about ME DOT bridge inspection report about bridge on Mitchell Road. Ron suggested that the Stream Crossing Grant Program may be an opportunity for funding to repair the bridge.
5. Ukrainian flag donated to the Town. Select Board will hang it on Town Office.

Motion to adjourn at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Jamison