

APPROVED MINUTES/FREEDOM/BOARD OF SELECTMEN
August 10th 2015 REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: 6:05 pm

PRESENT: Selectmen Ron Price (Chair), Ken Overlock and Steve Bennett. Also in attendance were Erna Keller, Sallyann Hadyniak, Marilyn Perry, Glenn Sporie, Sandy & Deb Palmer.

REVIEW MINUTES: Minutes from August 3rd 2015 were reviewed.

- Steve/Ken, made motions, to accept, one correction (Steve's comment under BRW pg 3 should say "Personally I consider it Industrial Real Estate.") and place on file; motions passed. (All in favor)

CITIZEN'S ISSUES:

- Sandy Palmer had a motorcycle accident on Ayer Ridge Friday. He said the town does a super job with their roads (ditching and maintaining) but didn't sweep them which left alot of dirt this time on the roads.
- Someone went and swept the corner only, I went back the next morning.
- Ron said Glenn Sporie went out and cleaned it up.
- Sandy: Really needs someone to hire sweeper for the whole road.
- Sandy & Deb says Freedom does an amazing job on the roads, we came from Montville where the roads aren't kept this way. Freedom's are wonderful compared to other towns.
- Ron- I will call to see if we can get a sweeper in here by the end of week.
- Sandy- I understand it might take a a few days, but please put up some caution signs so that others know. I am just worried that someone might get killed.
- Steve: They also did a nice job grading and ditching Sibley but there is also alot of dirt on the road there. It is an inconvenience.
- Sandy: All we are asking for are CAUTION signs.
- Steve: How many miles of roads was done
- Ron: 10 miles or so
- Ron: I will talk to the grader operator about a sweeper, he has one that attaches to the back of pickup truck, but is not ready to go.

TREASURER:

Erna reported:

Payroll Warrant.....	\$2823.13
A/P Warrant.....	\$7359.68
Ending checkbook balance.....	\$254,362.85

- Payroll Warrant this week is \$2828.13 (clerk, deputy clerk, treasurer, cleaning lady & road crew)
- A/P this week is \$7359.68 (CMP, Freedom General, Perc, BMV, O Connor, AAA, Glenn Sporie, Phillip Spaulding, Kelly & Collins, Clint, Hilltop)
- Ending Checkbook balance.....\$254,362.85
- What is address for the 100 bales of hay? Steve said "Wish he had known he has hay that the town can have. They just spread the fields again but it's available if need anymore."
- Ken/Steve moved to accept and sign the payroll; motion passed. (All in favor)

Ken/Steve moved to sign the A/P warrant; motion passed. (All in favor)

- Secretary remaining balance is \$132 for the year.
- Ron suggested taking what is needed from any other line in the administrative line (or employee costs if not all used) to cover what pay will be occurring in the future.
- Discussion and decided to go with Ron's suggestion

TOWN CLERK:

Cindy reported:

- Pete Curra needs one more person to add to the farm shares list
- Selectmen have the list and added another person
- Waldo County Humane Society has offered to do a FREE Rabies Clinic here in Freedom at town office. When they get the date I would like to put out a mailing, or send out with the 2015 tax bills.
- Discussion on mailing & rabies clinic
- 30 day notice for the 2014 taxes just went out. Cindy gave list to selectmen.
- Steve asked "Is this up from previous years."
- Cindy looked it up. No this is down from last years.
- Ken asked How long after taxes are committed does the process start?
- Cindy: 1 year from commitment
- Steve asked if Rec has decided on storage unit
- Cindy said " We will be meeting at the end of this week and will have an answer next Monday."

FIRE DEPT:

- Letter from Silverstein that they need a report on the arson on the East Gulch Road
- Any progress on abandoned & discontinued roads
- Steve- There was 5 people at the last meeting, we would like to have more show up. Our next meeting is the 1st Tuesday of every month.
- 10 different road articles & 1 selectmen policy
- There is a lot of vagueness, location issues, no distances listed on articles. Use to use peoples houses as references, some have died or house has been gone for years.
- Research and a more thorough look thru old town minutes & archives

ROAD COMMISSIONERS:

- Glenn Sporie went and cleaned up curve on Ayer Ridge Road
- Ron- I would like to express my gratitude to Glenn for going on his day off to clean the corner.
- Glenn: Anytime
- Need to get sweeper this week
- Ken: Intersections definitely need to be done
- Steve commented: Bob said you was going to mulch, I have some I could of given away to town.
- Ron: Derek Larrabee will be starting on the turn arounds Beaver Ridge, Davis Road, Russell Road and Deer Hill Road
- Deer Hill- we have culvert that needs to be replaced, ask Phil if we could fix with 2 culverts
- Glenn: maybe run the culvert diagonal 18'

- Steve- safety reasons and necessity
- Ken: Maybe we should ask Ken Boulier about widening his dooryard and using that as a turn around. That way we are only working on the part of road we are suppose to be maintaining
- Ron will talk to Ken. He asked if Ken or Steve could go and look over the situation at Ken Bouliers
- Ken- I will go tomorrow after work
- Ron will have spreadsheet next week with the price for last years contract for plowing and this years for the following towns to go over
 - a. Knox
 - b. Albion
 - c. Unity
 - d. Troy
 - e. Montville
 - f. Dixmont
 - g. Thorndike
 - h. Palermo
- Salt & Sand Shed
- Ron has proposal from the engineering firm- John Cleveland
 - a. Site review \$2775 phase 1
 - b. Local & state permitting phase 2
 - c. Design, MDOT Com \$3500 phase 3
 - d. phase 4
 - e. phase 5
 - f. If structure is \$67,000 state will pay 51 1/2% ... There is around \$55,000 in Capital Improvement/Salt Sand Shed account
- Steve- This is the least expensive way we have found, will it work where it is or will we have to make a new road or adjustments?
- Ron- This will still work as long as we don't enlarge. We might have to go to the planning board about a variance, 20 feet from Gerry Spaulding's line.
- Ken- Will the building hold enough sand to get us thru the winter?
- Ron- yes
- We will need a town vote to use this money for building
- Public Works Hearing/ Vote for S & S Shed, also hold it on the Dam
- Erna suggested talking with Cindy about when it needs to be posted and the warrant
- Steve will write up the warrant
- Contract for Snow Plowing/ keep Public Works Dept.
- Steve- So we have the preliminary budget for 2016 with truck replacement & paving added for then. Concept for whether we contract out winter roads too
- Ken: We will be giving that contract information to the budget committee to go over to make their suggestions on whether to keep our public works dept or to contract out because of cost effecting the town. This was the plan at the last budget meeting. Public Works continues to plow this winter into spring of next year-2016
- Maybe break up into two meetings and have hand outs available to show citizens the cost of both available to vote on at town meeting

ASSESSOR'S:

- Jackie & Ron has come up with 2 options
 - a. Option #1 is using an additional 50,000 from undesignated funds to off set taxes
 - b. This would have \$11,000 overlay
 - c. 18.3 MIL RATE
 - d. 2014 Mil Rate was 18.9
 - e. Option # 2
 - f. Mil Rate will be 19.2 without the additional \$50,000 from undesignated fund
- Tax Commitment will be ready for next Monday night to sign. Ron/Ken motion to commit taxes at next Monday nights selectmens meeting. (All in favor)
- Ron will call Jackie to go over tax commitment again and will let Steve and Ken know when she will be there so they can also talk to her
- Bills go out by end of the week
- Ken- This year we got even leaner by taking an additional \$40,000 from public works from the budget. We have the school and county that has gone up. Plus no personal property tax and the loss of 7.5% to BRW if they accept
- BRW- Todd sent an email to Steve saying that BRW accepted the agreement that the selectmen sent to them. They will sign and send back to the town.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Glenn Sporie has a post hole digger (self contained) for sale for \$250 Only used a few times
- Ken/Steve motion to purchase (All in favor)

HISTORICAL:

- Still haven't heard from Myrick...
- Need to contact

RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE:

- Meeting Friday at 2 pm

Cemetery Committee:

- Erna is looking still for a lawn mower

Budget Committee:

- Steve would like to have a legal budget committee with 3 selectmen and 4 elected budget committee members
- says he was told that people spoke at budget meetings but didn't feel like they was heard
- Ken: Right now we had like 11 people on the committee and everyone voiced their opinions and we discussed alot of different options on alot of the budget
- Erna: Committee was appointed by the selectmen and sworn in. So does that mean I don't have to be there.
- No you are treasurer it is hard to read some of the reports without you.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Target Tuesday August 25th @ 6:00 pm here in election hall for Public Hearing/Vote on Public Works S & S Shed and the Dam

Ron/Ken motion to adjourn meeting 8:45 pm

Next Regular meeting will be August 17th 2015 @ 6:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary