

**Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes  
August 16, 2021**

**Present:** Steve Bennett, Ron Price, Elaine Higgins, Travis Price, Dyann Anderson, Cindy Abbott, Jim Waterman, Alyssa Brugger, Eleanor Hess, and Tyler Hadyniak.

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

**Motion** by Steve: To approve August 9<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented and place them on file. Elaine 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

**FVFD** Jim Waterman reports orders are being taken by the Church of Ladder Day Saints for dehydrated food, #10 cans, 6 cans to case. Food lasts for 30+ years. A long discussion from Select Board took place regarding if the town should purchase some for an emergency use and for GA. Orders must be in by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Steve Bennett makes a motion to put \$430 on next weeks warrant for an order of dehydrated food, Elaine seconds motion. Unanimous.

Jim reports there was a head on collision, both parties are ok, vehicles are likely totaled.

Dotty Jensen's daughter passed away on July 24<sup>th</sup> from a brain aneurysm, she had fallen from a ladder and suffered a brain bleed.

Sandra Ouellette had a concussion from her horse kicking a door she was behind, she suffered a brain bleed as well.

Jim has questions regarding the budget, specifically the Capital Reserve account. Dyann Anderson has been working on this with Amy Dunn and will have a resolution shortly.

Jim would like to have this amount because there is a 2002 Fire Truck for sale in New York the department is interested in.

This Saturday the department will take part in the Freedom Boosters Parade and Field Day, they will be doing their annual chicken bbq lunch. Cindy will be making tickets for presale.

Jim has an agreement for mutual aid from Palermo, Ron makes motion to sign, Elaine seconds, unanimous. Document is signed and will be returned to Palermo Town Office.

**Public Works:** Travis Price started ditching on Raven Road.

**Citizen's Issues:** Tyler Hydiniak would like to report his findings next week on the Beaver Ridge Road. Ron asks what the purpose of presentation is for and Tyler responds with it will be helpful to know where abandoned part begins and ends, the public way, etc. He would like a conclusion for public knowledge. Steve Bennett did some research to try and clarify this years ago.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dyann Anderson reported the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4336.60. The A/P in the amount of \$1123.74 and ending checkbook in the amount of \$374,123.13.

Dyann received MMA Risk Management refund check.

Amy Dunn will be coming in Sunday for further TRIO training with Dyann and Alyssa.

Dyann is still waiting for invoice for Domain.

Steve Bennett makes a motion to pay July school payment next week, Elaine seconds, unanimous.

**Motion** by Elaine: To approve and pay first Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4336.60 and pay the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$1123.74. Steve 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector:** Cindy Abbott will be contacting Seacoast security to see who is not setting alarms properly after they leave building.

Farm to Farm program all set to distribute.

Cindy reviewed her cash receipting and tax report with Selectboard.

The town of Freedom has entered into an agreement for excise tax with the following towns: Montville, Knox, and Jackson. Elaine makes a motion to approve agreements with all three towns, Ron seconds, unanimous. Beaver Ridge Wind abatement needs some clarification, the proposed idea is to give back over a three year span and take from overlay. Cindy will try to clarify with auditor how town would go about doing this since the books are closed for the year 2020.

**Old Business:** Steve makes a motion to sign and send letter to Francis regarding website and her devotion to town. Ron seconds, unanimous. Steve will draft warrant for special town meeting. The special town meeting will include:

- \*Community development info for Broadband coalition, \$20,000 from each town for feasibility study.

- \*Adoption of town charter committee, a five person team with a \$250 budget and one year to produce charter.

- \*Skidgell lot and the town obtaining 2-3 more acres after a survey, this would still be part of the \$10,000 approved at town meeting.

Each article will need a moderator, Select Board and town clerk are still working out the details of how this would work, possibly an article saying moderator can be a blanket, and then adjourn each one. This will be followed up at the next Select Board meeting.

Peter Nerber informed the town the Waterville Humane Society shut down, Nerber recommends Augusta Humane Society. Cindy will contact them and see if they will require additional funds, or if Waterville will move their contracts.

Black Hills stock/Smithton Cemetery, Key Bank \$3,392.24, Philip Thurston CD \$5,278.36, value of stock as of 8/12 \$71.12, town has 108 shares, valuing at \$7,600.

South Freedom cemetery association has \$16,000+ in accounts.

Ron makes a motion to have Steve Bennett sign agreement saying partial reinvestment to purchase more stocks/shares. Elaine seconds, unanimous.

Frances has been notified of new website, which should be up and running by 8/22. Town would like to post a tribute to her, Frances would like a copy of original website.

**New Business:** MMA vice president vote needs to be in by August 20<sup>th</sup>, there are three options. Ron will vote on behalf of board, Steve makes motion, Elaine seconds, unanimous.

2022 state evaluation went up \$150,000.

**Parks and Recreation:** Cindy asks for permission to purchase food at Sam's Club for Saturdays event, total would be \$214.47. Ron makes a motion to approve, Elaine seconds, unanimous.

Future plan is to purchase an electronic sign for out front of town office to display town information.

**Motion** to adjourn at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alyssa Brugger