

**Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes
August 15, 2022**

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

Present on Zoom: Tyler Hadyniak

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

Motion by Elaine: To accept August 8, 2022 minutes as presented and place on file. Steve 2nd. Unanimous.

FVFD: Jim Waterman said dry hydrant head has arrived and will be installed on N. Palermo Road. Fire Department will prepare and cook the chicken bbq for the Freedom Parade and Field Day on Saturday, August 20th. Cost will be \$12 for chicken and various sides.

Public Works: Travis Price reported he put up 300 yards of winter sand today and most likely will take the rest of the week to finish hauling sand to put in sand/salt shed for the winter. Discussion about landowner's permit violations on Smithton Road. Select Board decision to have Travis call Jackie Robbins and instruct her to call Bill Kelly and inform him of the situation, to finalize fine amount and have Bill Kelly write a letter to landowner. Ron will look for a 55-gallon steel garbage can for boat landing.

Treasurer's Report: Cindy Abbott reported this week the Payroll Warrant is in the amount of \$4,713.68 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$16,547.46. The ending checkbook balance is \$228,048.45. Cindy reported she is working with Karen on Payroll issues and to balance the checkbook. On Wednesday, August 17th the Town Office will close at 11:30am.

Motion by Elaine: To accept the Treasurer's report and pay the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4,713.68 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$16,547.46. Steve 2nd. Unanimous.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Cindy Abbott showed Select Board abatements.

Motion by Steve: To approve the 6 abatements. They are for 1) Dennis Turner, 2) Dianne Cody, 3) Thomas Clay, 4) Sandra Willette, 5) Carrie Bickford, 6) Craig Sanborn. Elaine 2nd. Unanimous.

Citizen's Issues:

1. Elaine reported that one citizen reached out to her questioning their tax bill. Elaine advised citizen to come to the Town Office with their deed to make sure all the information is correct.
2. Steve reported that the Fibright Plant in Hampden is now owned by the Municipal Review Committee. Steve read a report and cautioned that MRC would be partnering with CS Solutions tied to Cate Street hedgefund that worked in Maine a few years ago to reopen a paper mill. They were unsuccessful and left behind debt.

Correspondence:

1. Letter from Eleonor MacMakin resigning from the Town Charter Committee.
2. Town of Unity tax bill for the land that is in Unity from the purchase of the Bagley property. Ron will fill out an abatement form.

Town Official Reports: none

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Town Boards and Committees:

Town Charter Committee: Tyler Hadyniak reported that the committee anticipates having a Town Charter for Freedom by next Town Meeting in March. Steve asked that if town positions were added after adoption of Town Charter that there be no need to rewrite Town Charter for a new appointed position. Tyler agreed that that type of appointed position could be handled at Town Meeting rather than needing to update Town Charter.

Recreation Committee: Cindy reported that Kim and Steve Holmes cleaned the snack shack in preparation of Saturday's Parade and Field Day event. There will be raffle drawings for backpacks and lunch boxes. A bluegrass band will play at Field Day.

Motion by Elaine: To approve Cindy to use the credit card at Sam's Club for food and snacks for the snack shack. Steve 2nd. Unanimous.

Planning Board: Tyler Hadyniak let Select Board know of a proposed one acre solar farm on Smithton Road.

Cemetery Committee: Reported that Steve and Kim Holmes have started work to purchase four new gravestones.

Budget Committee: Next meeting, September 15, 2022 at 6pm.

Old Business:

1. Elaine had edited version of the Interlocal Broadband agreement from the Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Committee.

Motion by Elaine: To have Ron sign Interlocal Agreement and send to Bernstein Shur law firm. Steve 2nd. Unanimous.

Steve asked Elaine for the SWWCBC financial statements or monthly bank statements. Elaine will ask Bob Kurek.

New Business: none

Motion to adjourn at 7:18pm.

Reconvened at 7:20pm

Motion by Elaine: To accept the rewritten PTO/Sick Time Policy. Steve 2nd. Unanimous.

Motion by Elaine: To appoint Phil Bloomstein as a member of the Board of Directors of the Waldo Broadband Corporation to be the representative from Freedom. Unanimous.

Motion to adjourn at 7:32pm

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Jamison