

Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes
April 25, 2022

Present: Elaine Higgins, Ron Price, Steve Bennett, Travis Price, Jim Waterman, Joe Freeman, Phil Bloomstein, Tim Biggs, Derek Leadbetter and Amanda Jamison.
 Present on Zoom: Tyler Hadyniak

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

Motion by Steve: To accept April 18, 2022 minutes as presented and place on file. Elaine 2nd. Unanimous.

FVFD: Jim Waterman reported an uncontrolled, unpermitted burn on Bailey Road. Jim reminded everyone that if you obtain a burn permit online, it is only for the day you purchased permit and can only start burning after 5pm that day and before 9am the next day. Jim reported the trip to Sawkill, NY took place and the 2005 Kawasaki Mule was picked up. Steve Bennett requested information from Jim about 2005 Kawasaki Mule, so that Steve can put Kawasaki Mule on the Town's insurance policy. Jim reported about a new website from the Waldo Civil Defense Association, <https://waldocivildefense.org/>. The purpose is to provide a forum for disaster preparedness education and training within Waldo County.

Public Works: Travis Price reported there are no weight limits on any Town roads now. Travis discussed Joe Cyr's driveway permit.

Motion by Steve: To have Chairman of Select Board call Jacki Robbins, CEO, to suspend building permit of Joe Cyr until drainage ditch is uphill of cross culvert. Elaine 2nd. Unanimous.

Travis discussed Town's permitting process and suggested that landowners do not get any other permits until driveway permit is reviewed and approved by Public Works Director. Steve read out loud Select Board Policy, "Driveway Entrance and Culvert Installation and Maintenance Policy". Travis stated there are two other issued building permits in Town without a driveway permit. Ron said site visits will need to happen from now on before issuing permits. Travis said on May 9th work will begin on Smithton Road to apply four inches of ¾ inch stone to road. Travis had quotes from five companies for paving a portion of the Rollins Road and Beaver Hill Road.

Motion by Elaine: To authorize Travis to hire best company in his opinion, either Mainely Paving or Wellman to pave roads. Unanimous.

Elaine is waiting for two quotes on computer, scanner/printer/fax for Public Works Garage. Ron will talk with Belfast IT person for a quote. Travis said grading dirt roads will start May 4th or 5th.

Citizen's Issues: Tim Biggs and Derek Leadbetter discussed proposal of installing a dock beside boat launch at Sandy Pond. The dock would be made up of three sections, approximately 25 feet in length.

Motion by Elaine: To accept boat landing from Hidden Valley camp. Steve 2nd. Unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Ron Price reported the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4,105.74 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$6,853.70.

Motion by Steve: To approve Treasurer's report and pay Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4,105.74 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$6,853.70. Elaine 2nd, Unanimous.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Select Board showed information about a rabies clinic, 4/30/22 from 10am – 2pm at Waterville Humane Society. The Waterville Humane Society is also offering ongoing, low cost spay/neuter clinics for cats for participating towns.

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Correspondence:

1. Steve called Melissa Andrews from Peace Ridge to set up a meeting with Peace Ridge, Jacki Robbins, CEO and Select Board. Possible dates are May 10th and 12th at 6:30pm.
2. Steve emailed Bill Kelly, Town Attorney, minutes from June 17, 2021 meeting about the Rollins Road. Steve has not heard back from Bill Kelly.

Town Official Reports:

Solid Waste: Phil Bloomstein gave update on sale of Fiberight Facility and the Municipal Review Committee (MRC). Important dates include: June 7, 2022 bids are opened; June 14, 2022 highest bid announced; June 30, 2022 acceptance of highest bid or MRC will own Fiberight Facility. Once sold, the anticipated opening would be a year from date of sale and would require \$20 million in investment to reopen.

Town Boards and Committees:

Appeals Board: Reported they are looking for two members.

Planning Board: Reported they are looking for one member.

Budget Committee: Next meeting is Wednesday, April 27th at 6pm, Town Office.

Old Business:

1. Ron discussed Skidgel Lot survey and survey found there are two lines that are in question because of no description in deeds and no monuments found. Discussion about one well, not on town property, that Town Garage currently uses. Steve suggested asking landowner for permanent right to use the well.
2. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) report – Ron will look into getting report done.
3. Jacki Robbins, CEO, is doing Town of Freedom Errors and Omissions Valuation Project 2022. Select Board agreed as she visits every town property that if people are home, she should knock on door and inform residents what she is doing.
4. Select Board agreed to invite Jacki Robbins, CEO, to a Select Board meeting to establish protocol with permits. Steve will invite her.
5. Joe Freeman asked about status of trailer on High Street. Ron will follow up with Maine Department of Transportation to get update.

New Business: none

Motion to adjourn at 7:51pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Jamison