

Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes September 20, 2021

Present: Steve Bennett, Ron Price, Elaine Higgins, Travis Price, Dyann Anderson, Cindy Abbott, Jim Waterman, Tyler Hadyniak, Eleonor MacMakin and Amanda Jamison

Ron called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

Motion by Elaine: To accept minutes as corrected from September 13, 2021 and place them on file. Unanimous.

FVFD: Jim Waterman will find out when Montville will do CPR class. Last Monday the Freedom Volunteer firefighters took a CPR class. Jim reported there was a car accident this past weekend at the intersection of N. Palermo Road and Route 137. Ron will call the Maine DOT to ask about cutting the brush back along Route 137 to increase visibility at that intersection.

Public Works: Travis Price noted the invoice received for lubricants he just purchased and said that based on Irving Oil's quoted prices, there would be a savings if the Town switched to Irving. He is ditching on the Townhouse Road. Travis reported that it looked like someone tried to get into Public Works garage but was not successful. Ron Price said he thinks there should be a security system on that building based on the amount of investment the Town has made. Ron will check on pricing from Seacoast Security and report next week.

Citizen's Issues: Tyler Hadyniak volunteered to be on Town Charter Committee.

Motion by Ron: To nominate Tyler Hadyniak to do groundwork and research about Town Charter and report to Select Board what the board needs to do to proceed. Elaine 2nd.

Unanimous. Tyler said he will contact Steve as soon as he reads the Town Charter statute and call for volunteers in his weekly column. Steve said this should also be put on the website.

Treasurer's Report: Dyann Anderson reported the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$3,904.34 and A/P Warrant in the amount of \$158,729.64. The ending checkbook balance is \$539,036.73. Included in the A/P Warrant is a \$100,00 payment on TAN and the August school payment. Dyann also reported that she called Trio about fire department reserve account. Trio was very helpful, and she is making progress on that.

Motion by Steve: To pay the County Tax next week. Elaine 2nd. Unanimous.

Motion by Ron: To pay another school payment next week. Elaine 2nd. Unanimous.

Motion by Elaine: To accept Treasurer's Report for Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$3,904.34 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$158,729.64. Ron 2nd. Unanimous.

Town Committees:

Cemetery Committee: Cindy Abbot said she, Steve Holmes and Elaine walked around cemeteries. There are a couple of cemeteries that have hanging trees across the road and brush growing up along roads that restricts access. Cindy will have a written report with pictures next week.

Freedom Boosters & Recreation Committee: Trunk or Treat will be on October 31st at the Town Office. Veteran's Day ceremony will be outdoors on November 11th. Cindy said Joe will take down the flags along Route 137.

Budget Committee: Steve will take ordinance and rewrite it as it passed at the Special Town Meeting.

Community Development Advisory Committee: Steve will schedule a meeting. He questioned whether he should be on the committee since it serves in the capacity of an advisory committee. He will bring this up with committee members at their next meeting.

Correspondence:

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): Ron is working on signing up the town online to receive these funds.

Municipal Review Committee (MRC): Looking for three directors to serve on MRC board, deadline to submit nominees is October 16th.

Old Business:

- Elaine said the State adopted June 19th, known as Juneteenth, as a State Holiday. She said this needs to be added to the list of holidays for Town employees.
- Steve has not received anything from MMA in regard to Tyler Hadyniak's research about Beaver Hill Road.

New Business:

- Elaine spoke about Chip Curry's request for ideas for laws that townspeople want to pass. Elaine and Ron brought up the idea of submitting a law that requires people with dogs to be restrained in the back seat. Discussion continued; no decision made.
- Steve called about reinvesting dividends rather than receiving them as cash quarterly from the Black Hills Stock that was donated to Town for Smithton Cemetery. To make that change the company needs to have bylaws of association, a letter from donor and a corporate resolution. Steve called Bill Kelly to work on a corporate resolution that the Select Board can review.
- Steve felt the signs on Timberwood Lane and Rollins Road give a misleading message. Both those roads are discontinued roads that maintain public access, but the signs hung by landowners do not convey that message. Ron said he would contact and share the following information. First, the road is still a public way, no status change. Second, the MMA email can not be shared because it is a legal opinion for the Select Board. Third, the Select Board would appreciate if the signs were taken down. A suggestion made for a sign could read, "This road is maintained by private funding".
- Basil Barnes let Town know he did not receive tax bill for his nine acres in Freedom. Ron will get that information to Jackie for a supplement.

Motion to adjourn at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Jamison