STATE OF MAINE WALDO, SS	SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL ACTION DOCKET NO. BELSC-CV-2024-48
Charles Hadyniak, Lynn Hadyniak, Catherine Hadyniak, and Kyle Hadyniak.))))
Plaintiffs,)) AFFIDAVIT OF HEATHER DONAHUE
v.	
Town of Freedom, Maine,)
Defendant, and)
Parties in Interest.)

- I, Heather Donahue, of 53 Beaver Ridge Road, in the Town of Freedom, County of Waldo, State of Maine, duly sworn, do hereby state under oath:
- 1. I am an elected Member of the Freedom Select Board and resident of the Town of Freedom, Maine and this affidavit is prepared in both capacities.
- 2. I purchased my land on Beaver Ridge Road in 2020 and have been walking and snowshoeing on Beaver Ridge Road since then, which I have done without permission from any abutter.
- 3. I walked the full length of Beaver Ridge Road at least once a week during the summer of 2022.
- 4. I was not aware of any conflict around the road at that time, but I did notice a barricade and no trespassing signs.

- 5. Despite these signs, I continued to walk on the road. It was mapped as an open road in my 2015 DeLorme Maine Gazetteer (considered the authoritative mapping book of the State of Maine), on the tax map page of the town website, and on the Waldo County Emergency Response map that hangs in the Town Office. I have attached all three of these maps in Exhibit 1.
- 6. In a conversation that occurred while passing on the road in late summer of 2022, Lynn Hadyniak claimed passage on the road was by the Hadyniaks' permission only. I disputed this based on the maps. I continued to use the road. No one stopped me.
- 7. In Fall of 2023, during a conversation at Tyler Hadyniak's house, he expressed support for the use of eminent domain for a high-voltage powerline proposed to come through Freedom. I told him I found this surprising given the Hadyniaks' stance on the road. I didn't understand how they could barricade a public way, taking more than their share, while supporting the seizure of other resident's legitimate private property. This conversation led to an email exchange between me and Tyler Hadyniak regarding the status of the road. We agreed to disagree.
- 8. In March of 2024, I was elected to the Freedom Select Board.
- 9. On the Select Board, I was asked to be the point person for legal matters.
- 10. By agreement among the three Select Board Members, I am the primary researcher for the Select Board regarding the status of Beaver Ridge Road, in the hopes that if I could do some legwork for the Town Attorney, we might keep legal costs down. The current litigation is the second complaint filed by Tyler Hadyniak against the Town in the past year.

- 11. In the course of my research, I found many maps and documents that showed the scope and location of the public easement for Beaver Ridge Road as originally taken in 1823, and the portions explicitly retained by town vote in 1956. I also discovered the significant historical, emergency, and transportation value of Beaver Ridge Road to our town, in addition to its ongoing recreational use.
- 12. I found the only map of what is now Freedom without Beaver Ridge Road. Attached as Exhibit 2 is the first known survey of what was then known as Beaver Hill Plantation. It is from the Massachusetts Archives Maps and Plans #2637. On the map is originally noted, "from Senate papers 1811, No. 4236." Its exact creation date is given as 4/27/1810. I retrieved this online. I have labeled the year in red.
- 13. I found the first known map of Freedom, as Freedom, originally from 1818. In it, Beaver Ridge Road is already laid out. The Road connects Montville and Palermo. This map is in the Town Office, filed with documents from the Freedom Road Committee. I have labeled this map with the year, highlighted the original road in red, and placed dots where Greeley and Sibley Roads intersect Beaver Ridge Road—the same location in 1818 and today, and attach it as Exhibit 3
- 14. In Town Office records, I found the 1823 document filed with Kennebec County (Waldo County didn't exist yet), finalizing the way laid out and damages paid for what I believe to be the original length of Beaver Ridge Road, as a portion of the County Road taken through Freedom and connecting Montville to Palermo, and attach it as Exhibit 3.5. I have included and highlighted in yellow an excerpt from the original document that shows the taking to be a four road, which is sixty-six feet wide. I have learned that this document came from the Maine DOT archive and was researched and provided to the town by Town resident Robert Kanzler,

from his work on the Freedom Road Committee with Sallyann Hadyniak and Stephen Bennett

The Town will hire an expert surveyor to review the document, its legal descriptions, and provide
an opinion if it does include the Beaver Ridge (Hill) Road.

- 15. I found that Revolutionary War soldier, Levi Temple and his wife, are buried In Beaver Hill cemetery. His grave has not yet been found. This information was presented to the Select Board by the Freedom Cemetery Committee and supported by the attached screenshot from a search on findagrave.com.
- 16. I found, upon a close up of the 1818 map, that the shape of Beaver Ridge Road from Greeley to Sibley Roads looks as it does today. I have highlighted this portion of Beaver Ridge Road and labeled the year in red, which is attached in Exhibit 4
- 17. I found, on the 1916 USGS map, that the shape of Beaver Ridge Road from Greeley to Sibley Roads looks as it does today. I have highlighted this portion of Beaver Ridge Road and labeled the year in red. I have retrieved this map from the USGS "Get Maps" website (ngmdb.usgs.gov). See attached Exhibit 5.
- 18. I found, on the 1926 map, that the shape of Beaver Ridge Road from Greeley to Sibley Roads looks as it does today. There is a black and white version of this map in the town office. The color version here was downloaded through the "Hiiker" app's historical map collection. I have highlighted the portion of the road and labeled the year in red, and attach it in Exhibit 6.
- 19. I found, on the 1942 USGS map, that the shape of Beaver Ridge Road from Greeley to Sibley Roads looks as it does today. I retrieved this map from the Federal USGS "Get Maps" website. I have highlighted this portion of the road and labeled the year in red. This section of Beaver Ridge Road looks just as it did in 1818, 1916, and 1926, and I attach it in Exhibit 7.

- 20. I found, on the 1950 USGS map, that the shape of Beaver Ridge Road from Greeley to Sibley Roads looks as it does today. I retrieved this map from the Federal USGS "Get Maps" website. I have highlighted this portion of the road and labeled the year in red. This section of Beaver Ridge Road looks just as it did in 1818, 1916, 1926, and 1942, and I attach it in Exhibit 8.
- 21. The Town voted to discontinue Beaver Ridge Road to maintenance in 1956, while preserving a "public way" that implies at least a public easement "From O.B. Ward's to discontinued road over Beaver Hill."
- 22. I found, on the 1961 USGS map, that the shape of Beaver Ridge Road from Greeley to Sibley Roads looks as it does today, and as it did in 1818, 1916, 1926, 1942, and 1950. The exception in 1961 is that for the first time the road is now a dashed line instead of a solid line from O.B. Ward's house to the "road Over Beaver Hill" (now called Deer Hill) where it intersects with Sibley Road. This reflects the 1956 vote of discontinuance. I retrieved this map from the Federal USGS "Get Maps" website. I have highlighted this portion of the road and labeled the year in red, which I attach in Exhibit 9.
- 22.5 Attached in Exhibit 9.5 are the collection of aerial photographs taken in 1978, as found in the Town Office records safe, and the collection depicts that the Beaver Ridge Road ran in 1978 from the Greeley Road to the top of Beaver Hill and the Sibley Road intersection.
- 23. I found the next available USGS map available on their "Get Maps" website is from 2011. The USGS started using satellite mapping in 1972. The 2011 map shows the portion of Beaver Ridge road from Greeley to Sibley Roads as a solid line again. This map once again shows the

shape of this portion of Beaver Ridge Road just as it was in 1818, 1916, 1926, 1942, 1950, and 1961, and as I continue to walk it today, which I attach in Exhibit 10.

- 24. I found the next available USGS map of the area on the Federal USGS "Get Maps" website was from 2018. This is the first map in which there is a break in the road depicted after 200 years intact. I have highlighted the portion of the road from Greeley Road to Tyler Hadyniak's house in red. The discontinued portion on this map is a dashed line, after O.B. Ward's house. I have also highlighted the Sibley Road and labeled the year in red, and attach the map in Exhibit 11.
- 25. The Hadyniaks had been living on the road and confronting members of the public who were using the road for just over twenty years by 2018. These confrontations were confirmed by their own testimony at the town hearing on January 28th and corroborated by the town's public online questionnaire/survey regarding use of Beaver Ridge road, collected in 2024.
- 26. I found the next available USGS map of the area available on their "Get Maps" website is the current, 2025 map. Beaver Ridge is depicted as a discontinued road after the Hadyniaks' homes, but with a small gap in the Northern end of the route. At this gap is a new road diverting the public way in a Northwest direction toward Sibley Road, on and to Bennett family land. I attach the current USGS map that I've labeled with the year in red and circled, in yellow, the new gap in the road. This is a screenshot of the current USGS map from within the "Hiiker" app that I use to record my walks, and is attached in Exhibit 12.
- 27. Using the "Hiiker" app, I recorded my walk of January 27. 2025 on Beaver Ridge Road from Greeley Road to Sibley Road and back down to the Southern end of the disputed portion. The road, despite diversion, is still fully passable on foot. With a day's repair, it could again be

passable by ATV and snowmobile. Its original stone wall boundaries are damaged, but still visible.

- 28. The attached screenshot of my recorded walk shows the shape of Beaver Ridge Road today is as it has been for 207 years, as measured from the date of the 1818 map attached hereto in Exhibit 3The recording shows I am well within the sixty-six foot easement. I have labeled the year in red, and it is attached in Exhibit 13.
- 29. On my January 27th walk, I took the attached photograph, facing north, toward Sibley Road, from the junction at which the Bennett's road diverts the public way, which I attach in Exhibit 14. There are no trees in this brushy section (the small gap in the current USGS map) over fifteen years old, judging by tree circumference. There is certainly no eighty year old growth here. The culvert has been removed and replaced with a small wooden bridge.
- 30. In this photograph in Exhibit 14, the orange blazes I painted are depicted, using the historical maps, gps, and visible rock walls. The blazes are approximately thirty feet apart, showing the center of the easement.
- 31. From that position of taking the photograph in Exhibit 14, I pivoted left to take the attached photograph of the Bennett's diverting road, facing northwest, as attached in Exhibit 15. The Bennett's road forms a berm that functions as a dam to keep water in the public way and prevent it from running onto their land, ensuring that the public way continues to be damaged by water.
- 32. On this January 27th walk, Stephen Bennett and his wife Judy were waiting for me in their car at the intersection of Sibley, Deer Hill, and Beaver Ridge Roads. According to Mr. Bennett's testimony at the hearing on January 28th, Tyler Hadyniak had notified him when I passed his house, so the Bennetts could meet me at the Sibley Road. I was accused of criminal trespass and

vandalism I was told by Mr. Bennett that he, "Would be calling the sheriff again." Mr. Bennett informed me that he would "Tell everyone!" of these accusations.

- 33. I requested he bring a survey to the next day's hearing.
- 34. Mr. Bennett and his daughter, Erin Bennett-Wade reiterated their accusations at the public hearing on January 28th.
- 35. I have received no visit, nor any other communication, from law enforcement.
- 36. I have attached as Exhibit 16 a screenshot from the OnX hunting app, which shows roads and property lines. I have circled in red the section where Erin Bennett-Wade has a driveway leading to no home. This driveway runs parallel to and overlaps the sixty-six foot easement. This driveway also functions as a dam to retain water in the public easement, ensuring continued damage, while preventing the water from running onto Bennett property.
- 37. Given that Article 34 in the 1955 Town Report (voted on in 1956) states that the retained easement runs, "From O.B. Ward's to discontinued road over Beaver Hill," the next phase of my research was to determine the location of the "discontinued road over Beaver Hill, in which I focused on the road being "over" and "Beaver Hill" as a geographic location and not a road name.
- 38. The attached photo from the Town Office copy of the 1955 Town Report, shows notations in the margin beside each of the roads mentioned in the article, as attached hereto in Exhibit 17. All are accurately labeled with current road names. Next to the article regarding the disputed road is written, "Bloomstein" The Bloomstein's live on the upper section of the road over Beaver Hill, now called Deer Hill. I do not know who added this marginalia, but it names roads as they were after the adoption of 911 addressing standards, sometime in the late 1990s.

- 39. I was aided by Barbara Arsenault in the Waldo County Commissioners office in obtaining an index of all petitions from the Town of Freedom to the County regarding road matters.
- 40. In 1931, there was a petition for repairs on the road "over Beaver Hill to Shibley's (sic) Four Corners." I have attached the relevant page of the index with this line highlighted, in Exhibit 18.
- 41. I then requested the original petition from 1931 and Ms. Arsenault kindly provided a copy. I have attached it in Exhibit 19. I have highlighted the description of the road over Beaver Hill in yellow. It describes the road as running, "...over Beaver Hill in a westerly direction to Sibley's Four Corners..."
- 42. The location of this road was further confirmed by the 1938 Maine Traffic Flow Maps. These maps were produced at the time Maine was installing or upgrading State Aid roads for newly popular automobiles. In the map attached in Exhibit 20, the then-newly constructed North Palermo State Aid Road is depicted (left side dark print) as an upgraded Eraffic corridor, which still serves as a major traffic route through Freedom. The singular purpose of the Traffic flow map was to depict the designed traffic flow, which is why the North Palermo Road stands out in the depiction. The elimination of a depiction of a portion of the Beaver Ridge Road from this map is as a suggestion of the status of the Beaver Ridge Road in 1938 is contradicted by the many post-1938 maps I have attached to this affidavit this. It is further contradicted the 1944 and 1948 Town appropriations and requests for funds as demonstrated in the attached Exhibits 22 and 23.
- 43. For demonstrative purposes, on the traffic map in Exhibit 20 I have highlighted the "road over Beaver Hill" in yellow, and labeled in red. The yellow portion highlights the location of the Beaver Ridge Road that ran "over" Beaver Hill as referenced in the 1956 Warrant Article in

question. As has been referenced by Plaintiffs' affiant Stephen Bennett in public, the portion of Beaver Ridge Road that was heavily damaged in 1954 includes this yellow area, as marked, and this area was not repaired by the Town, but was repaired through a private donation and work. Thus, a large portion of the Beaver Ridge Road was unusable between 1954 and the time of the 1956 vote to discontinue the road "From O.B. Ward's to discontinued road over Beaver Hill." The only rational reading of Article 34 is that the Town voted to discontinue the Beaver Ridge Road "over" "Beaver Hill", a geographic location, to the "discontinued road," meaning the large section of Beaver Ridge Road (now called Deer Hill) that was for all practical purposes "discontinued" or unusable after the 1954 hurricanes.

- 44. There is no record of any Freedom public way being "discontinued" by legislative vote prior to 1956 which could possibly be construed as being the "discontinued road over Beaver Hill," if we give each of these five words their reasonable meaning. Multiple on-line dictionaries demonstrate that a common synonym for "discontinued" is "inaccessible" and defined as "no longer available." The first definition in the World Book dictionary defines "discontinue" as "to cause to cease; put and end or stop to." The Cambridge Dictionary defines "discontinue" as "To end something or cause it to end." The drafters of the 1956 Warrant Article we not exacting in their use of words: they voted to keep all the discontinued road sections of the Beaver Ridge Road "opened as <u>public ways</u>," which many people in Freedom assume really intended to retain a "public easement."
- 45. Stephen Bennet read a letter from Richard Martin at the February 4, 2025 public hearing on the Beaver Ridge (Hill) road, and Mr. Martin wrote, "The road over Beaver Hill was washed out in 1953 (sic, 1954) from a hurricane and never repaired." Mr. Martin signed this letter, "Sincerely, Richard Martin, previous owner of property bordering the Over the Beaver Hill Road

and a resident of Freedom for over 50 years." Mr. Martin owned 85 acres in the area between North Palermo Road and Beaver Hill Road along Sibley Road. The road over Beaver Hill could be considered "discontinued" in a literal sense that no one was using it at that time after the back to back hurricanes in 1954, as the population of Freedom dropped dramatically between 1950 and 1970, and there were too few taxpayers to cover such repairs.

46. Plaintiff's claim the "road over Beaver Hill" is near where their property begins, which is over a mile and a half from the area Mr. Martin describes. I have attached the letter from Richard Martin, entered into the record by Stephen Bennett in Exhibit 21.

47. The Plaintiff's claim the road has been abandoned for at least eighty years. That would be 1944, from the date of their filing. I have attached the Town of Freedom's appropriations for 1944 in Exhibit 22. I have highlighted the title of this document and the item that reads, "Improve Beaver Hill Road—\$400.00" I found this document in the town vault, with assistance from our Clerk, Cynthia Abbott. Residents of Freedom testified to their ongoing maintenance of the road at the January 28th hearing. Though I found no appropriations were made by the Town after 1944, we have a Town Meeting form of government and our residents *are* the Town, and function as the legislative body. Therefore, it is reasonable to consider that residents' maintenance is maintenance by the Town.

48. I searched online to find the equivalent spending power of four hundred 1944 dollars today. It is \$7,172.84. I have attached a screenshot of this Google search in Exhibit 22.5. For context, the Town of Freedom recently appropriated a little over \$4,000 which served to maintain about a thousand feet of a gravel road.

- 49. I further searched the County's road index for Freedom and Beaver Hill/Ridge and found that a petition was presented to discontinue—for winter maintenance only—a portion of Beaver Ridge Road one-half mile past O.B. Ward's residence in 1948, which record is attached as Exhibit 23. The reason this was done was because Beaver Ridge Road is steep in parts and O.B. Ward's house was then the last winter occupied house when travelling from the Greeley road toward the top of Beaver Hill.
- 50. There is no mention of any otherwise discontinued road in this petition, nor is there any mention of the "road over Beaver Hill". If either was a terminus for this winter discontinuance, it would have been included as important context for the Commissioners. I have attached the copy of this petition provided to me by Barbara Arsenault in the County Commissioners office. I have labeled this document in red.
- 51. The 1948 petition to discontinue winter maintenance is the only town or county document to mention anything about the status of a road for a half-mile past the Ward house. The Plaintiffs have offered no official town or county document to support their claim that the easement on Beaver Ridge Road ends a half-mile from O.B. Ward's property.
- 52. I found it to be a reasonable assumption that the town was otherwise maintaining the full length of Beaver Ridge Road in 1948. This assumption is supported by Plaintiff's 1997 letter to Maine Municipal Association.
- 53. In the Town Office map archive, I found the survey of the Log Land subdivision, from which the Hadyniaks bought their land. I've attached in Exhibit 24 it as found, except for my highlighting of the property pins and noted distance to the center of Beaver Ridge Road.

- 54. I've also attached a closeup of the subdivision map, showing the property pins were placed outside the easement, on the edges of the road, which I attach in Exhibit 25.
- 55. The distance from the pins to the center of the road is marked as twenty-five feet. The original easement is four rods wide, or sixty-six feet, so this number should rightfully be thirty-three feet.
- 56. A 1991 the deed into a Hadyniak from Log-Land Corporation was the first deed to include a description that went to the centerline of the Beaver Ridge Road.
- 57. The Hadyniaks were informed via a September 1992 letter from Selectman Red Mitchell to Sallyann Hadyniak regarding the Road that, "Snowmobilers enjoy this route over the hill". This logically assumes the retention of the public easement over Beaver Ridge Road. See Exhibit 26.
- 58. Red Mitchell also wrote, "As these roads were discontinued in the fifties, I stated at the time that as the town grows, these roads will be reopened." This would not be possible without the retention of the public easement. I have attached this letter with the aforementioned portions highlighted in yellow in Exhibit 26.
- 59. I have learned that Red Mitchell was far from being an attorney, and his correspondence in the 1990s on this topic was not always consistent. Mr. Mitchell's correspondence demonstrates that he was not very careful to address the legal distinctions of the terms "discontinuance, public way, public easement, or abandonment;" however, documents he did write from a layman's perspective do make clear that the Town intended to retain at least a public easement in the disputed portion of Beaver Ridge Road.
- 60. In his 1992 letter, Mr. Mitchell is acknowledging both the discontinuance of maintenance in 1956 and the retention of the public easement. As I have discovered, the difference between these

separate legal categories at different periods of time can be very confusing for the layperson. See letter attached in Exhibit 26.

- 61. In a letter from Red Mitchell to Sallyann Hadyniak dated May 21, 1996, he no longer equivocates, and states: "The road still remains under the selectmen's control." I have attached this letter with said portion highlighted, in Exhibit 27.
- 62. In 1997, the Plaintiffs Charles and Lynn Hadyniak signed a letter to Maine Municipal Association, which was co-signed by the Select Board as well as neighbors Walter and Rebecca Woods. I have attached this letter with portions highlighted, as Exhibit 28.
- 63. In this 1997 letter to MMA, it is stated as fact that, "Until March 3, 1956, the Town of Freedom maintained the entire length of Beaver Ridge Road." This statement is unequivocal in the letter.
- 64. In this letter to MMA, it is stated as an agreed fact by Plaintiffs' Charles Hadyniak and Lynn Hadyniak that, "On March 3, 1956, the Town of Freedom voted to discontinue Beaver Ridge Road from Ollie Ward's place." Two key pieces of information are noted: 1. the discontinuance location as plainly stated in the letter must have been for the entire "Beaver Ridge Road" as it ran up Beaver Hill from O.B. Ward's home, as there are no words of distance or limitation, and 2. the letter is silent as to the fact that Article 34 retained a "public way" or public easement.
- 65. In MMA's response to this letter as attached in <u>Exhibit 29</u>, Richard Flewelling wrote that public interest in the road would have reverted to abutting property owners, "unless otherwise stated in the order of discontinuance." (Emphasis his). He further reiterates, "The 1956 town meeting records should be checked to make sure that this is not the case." But it is the case. The public easement was retained.

- 66. Neither the Select Board nor Town Meeting took a vote to rescind, vacate or discontinue the "public way" or public easement retained in 1956.
- 67. After all of my research, I conclude that the only logical and rational interpretation of the geographic location described in the phrase "to discontinued road over Beaver Hill," particularly because the starting point at O.B Ward's house is located at the bottom of Beaver Hill, is a reference to that portion of the Beaver Ridge Road that was heavily damaged in 1954 and located at the top of Beaver Hill, and the word "discontinued" was just a reality of the fact that there was a portion of the road that was heavily damaged with no intent to repair it.
- 68. The Select Board made no filing with the County or MDOT to rescind the public easement on Beaver Ridge Road.
- 69. In 2011, Stephen Bennett had an article added to the warrant for the annual Town Meeting. In it, he asks the Town to vote for the Select Board to explore whether a discontinuance should be declared on the currently disputed portion of Beaver Ridge Road. The article language specifies discontinuance and says, "Can't use abandonment, as requested."
- 70. I have attached a copy of this 2011 warrant article from the Town Office archives. I have labeled this document in red in Exhibit 39 (green highlighting is original to this Town record.)
- 71. Under the 2011 iteration of MRSA 3028, a declaration of abandonment would have retained the full public easement, including snowmobiles and ATV's. A declaration of discontinuance, however, would have provided for additional municipal action to determine the extent of the public easement, if it was retained at all. The Select Board never followed up on this article.
- 72. Mr. Bennett, according to his own testimony, intended to limit the use of Beaver Ridge Road to foot traffic only.

- 73. Mr. Bennett was already aware of the existing discontinuance with a "public way" easement retained, from his time on the Freedom Road Committee. Despite this knowledge and his 2011 article, he also claims in sworn testimony that the road was abandoned in the 1920's. The Select Board has repeatedly requested the minutes from the Road Committee be provided them, to no avail.
- 74. I have included an excerpt from Mr. Bennett's affidavit, filed with Plaintiff's motion for Summary Judgement. I have highlighted and labeled this screenshot in Exhibit 31.
- 75. Regarding his placement of this 2011 article on the town meeting warrant, Mr. Bennett says, "I thought the road had much value as a recreational trail across the axis of town." I couldn't agree more. I believe the residents in 1956 also agreed, which is why they retained the public easement.
- 75.1 The Select Board of the Town of Freedom did not proceed with requests to "privatize" any portion of the Beaver Ridge (Hill) Road in 2021.
- 76. I've attached and highlighted in Exhibit 32 a screenshot from the Court's December 2024

 Order. It cites the Plaintiff's complaint regarding their claim that "the general public has not used the...Road...for at least the past 80 years," this representation is entirely in conflict with the testimony received from the public on January 28 and February 24,2025, and entirely contradicted by over 50 on-line responses from the public to a questionnaire which requested information as to use of the Beaver Ridge road. Uses for ATVs, snowmobiles, walking, hunting, traversing the road to other parts of town, horseback riding and snowshoeing continue by many members of the public. Many members of the public testified to routinely cutting brush to keep open the Beaver Ridge Road.

- 77. I've attached in Exhibit 33 a photograph from one of my walks on Beaver Ridge, showing the open road. Also pictured are snowmobile tracks (not mine). This is facing south on Beaver Ridge Road from the southernmost windmill. This photo is typical of the open road surface of the Beaver Ridge Road from the Hadyniak properties to Ronald Price's fields where the wind turbines are located at the top of Beaver Hill.
- 78. I've attached in Exhibit 34 a photograph of the southernmost windmill near the top of Beaver Hill next to Ron Price's property, to contextualize the other two photographs.
- 79. I've attached in Exhibit 35 a photograph facing north on Beaver Ridge road from the southernmost windmill. Clearly, this road is passable for vehicles for much of the year and hasn't been abandoned for five years, let alone the claimed "eighty."
- 80. Exhibit 32 also includes an excerpt from the Court Order All Pending Motions ("Court Order") which cites that the Complaint alleges some kind of action by the Select Board in 1997, the time of the correspondence with MMA. I would reiterate that no legal action or legally authorized vote was taken by the Select Board at that time, or any time, to abandon or determine the status of Beaver Ridge Road. There was not then, nor has there ever been a vote by the Select Board or the Town to rescind the public easement on Beaver Ridge Road.
- 81. Exhibit 32 also includes an excerpt from the Court Order that refers to Plaintiff's allegation that the Town has "never interfered with the Plaintiffs posting the Road as private property."
- 82. Regarding the allegation in the preceding paragraph, I called MMA's Legal Department this past summer, to ask whether the Town could remove the Hadyniaks' "No Trespassing" signs. I understood from MMA attorney Rebecca McMahon that the Select Board should not touch the Hadyniaks" personal property. I have no reason to believe that previous Boards would have been

given different advice. From the perspective of the current Select Board, the presence of these signs doesn't establish private property rights; it creates unlawful obstruction and a public nuisance as stated in the Town's Counterclaims.

- 83. In Exhibit 36 I have attached a second, highlighted excerpt from the Court Order which states, "the absence of facts asserting that the municipality disclaimed its interest in a public easement at the time of abandonment indicates that the Road may still be subject to a public easement." There is an absence of facts supporting this assertion because they don't exist. The Town of Freedom has never disclaimed its interest in the public easement to Beaver Ridge Road. Not by Select Board vote, not by Town vote.
- 84. I have attached in Exhibit 37 a highlighted excerpt from Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Injunction. It states, "Since January 25, 2025, there have been no less than four incidents involving members of the public using the disputed portion of Beaver Ridge Road in a manner which could be deemed a public nuisance."
- 85. I am confused by the Charles Hadyniak's affidavit testimony that there is no public use of the road. The quoted statement regarding multiple public uses in a week, in conjunction with the consistent legal letters and calls to law enforcement over the past year, in an attempt to police the public's use, contradict the claim of no public use. As stated above, I have used the road many times without being challenged.
- 86. I have attached as <u>Exhibit 38</u> a thumb drive with a video taken February 2, 2025 of one of the incidents described in the pending Plaintiffs' Motions. In this video Charles Hadyniak and Tyler Hadyniak confront a snowmobiler using the Beaver Ridge Road and Charles Hadyniak takes the dangerous position of standing in from of the snowmobile and blocking its passage; this self-help

aggressive behavior is deliberately inciting confrontation. In contrast, the snowmobiler repeatedly informs the Hadyniaks that they are unsafely obstructing his passage and must repeatedly request them to move.

- 87. I have been subjected to threats and accusations by abutters since I began researching this matter, which I believe is an attempt to intimidate me into silence. The Hadyniaks have threatened to sue me personally.
- 88. In a letter from Tyler Hadyniak dated July 26, 2024 to the Select Board, in which he describes three different residents' use of the road, despite obstructions both placed and spoken by himself and his family. In this letter, he also describes his intent to sue Select Board members individually. He also expresses his disregard for what his litigation may cost our town's taxpayers. He copied law firm Preti Flaherty, which has no role in this litigation, and copied the Maine Attorney General on this letter. I believe these threats an effort at sophomoric intimidation and are done in bad faith as the Freedom Select Board merely does its duty to defend public rights in a public easement.
- 89. At the duly noticed public hearings pursuant to 23 MRS §3028-A, conducted by the Select Board on January 28, 2025 and February 4, 2025, six hours of testimony was offered by the public and that testimony includes and reveals the following personal knowledge commentaries with regard to personal use of the Beaver Ridge Road which covered the period from 1960s to the present:
- (i) many members of the public sought clarify from public officials for the last thirty years and it was confirmed that the Beaver Ridge Road was open to the public; (ii) many residents have ignored the postings and obstructions by the Hadyniaks based on representations of open public

use, or because they would not be cowed by the Hadyniaks; (iii) as late as 1966 the Beaver Ridge Road was passable by vehicle to Ron Price's fields where the wind turbines are presently located, as testified to by long-time resident Robert Kanzler (iv) for at least the last 3 decades ATVs and snowmobiles have annually traversed the Beaver Ridge Road; (v) Ron Price has admirably allowed anyone to use his fields as a detour for ATVs and snowmobiles for travelers who come up Beaver Hill and then continue down the Deer Hill Road (as it is currently known and depicted in yellow highlighting on Exhibit 20); (iv) in the 1980s Boy Scout troops used the Beaver Ridge Road travel to the Russell Road up and over Beaver Hill; (vii) the residents have pitched in to cut brush and keep the Beaver Ridge Road open on a near-annual basis; (viii) ATV and snowmobile operators have traversed the Beaver Ridge Road up to Ron Prices fields, then traversed the fields, and continued on their travels; multiple people understood from Red Mitchell, former Selectman, that the Beaver Ridge Road was open to the public and they relied on that information to use the Road; (ix) it was stated in the hearing by Rober Kanzler that the property owner Sallyann Hadyniak was not pleased but backed down when conceded that the Beaver Ridge Road was a public easement; (x) within the last ten years or so, a Town Road committee discussed and understood that he Beaver Ridge Road was a public easement; and, (xii) the Road has been used to access property for hunting on abutting private property, horseback riding, hiking, walking, and snowshoeing, which according to the Plaintiffs was without their permission. An Attested and Select Board approved copy of the minutes/transcript of the public meetings of January 28 and February 4, 2025 public hearings are attached hereto in Exhibit 39.

90. Attached in Exhibit 40 is the summary sheet depicting the results of an on-line questionnaire as to public use of the Beaver Ridge Road that was administrated by the Town of Freedom,

91. Attached in Exhibit 41 is a map that includes the Beaver Ridge Road as part of a seven mile loop, comprised of the Mitchell Road, the Deer Hill Road, the Beaver Ridge Road, and the Greeley Road that residents use as a collection of public ways for traversing the central part of the Town of Freedom over public ways.

DATED: February 20, 2025

Heather Donahue

STATE OF MAINE

February 20, 2025

WALDO, SS

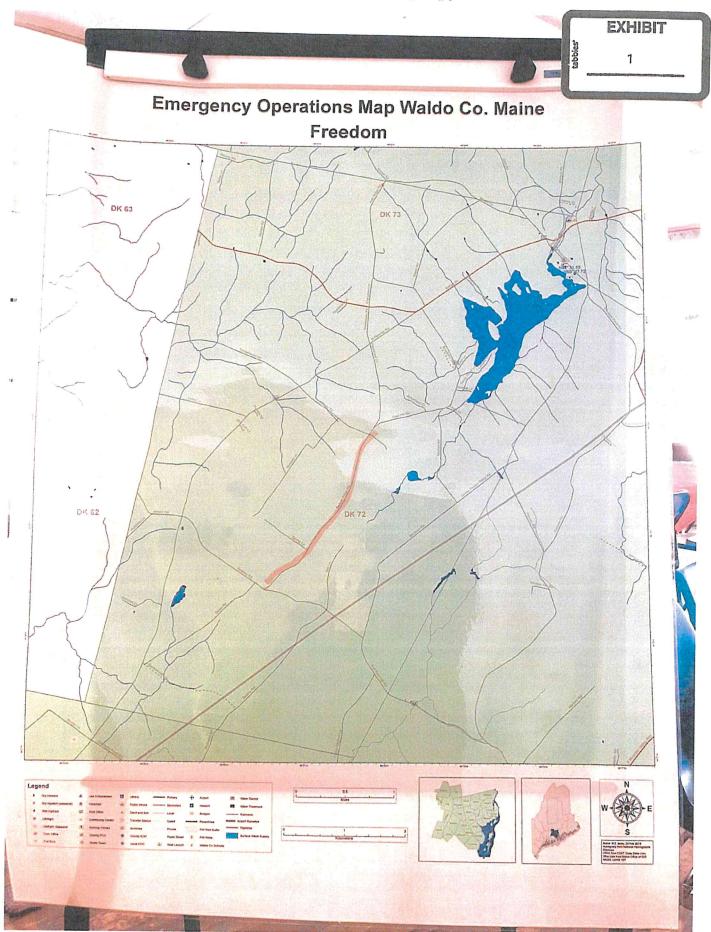
Personally appeared the above named Heather Donahue, individually and in her capacity as a Select Board Member of the Town of Freedom, Maine, who first being duly sworn, made oath that the forgoing statements are based on her personal knowledge and the facts set forth are true, with the exception of those facts which are based upon information and belief and that, as to those facts, she believes them to be true.

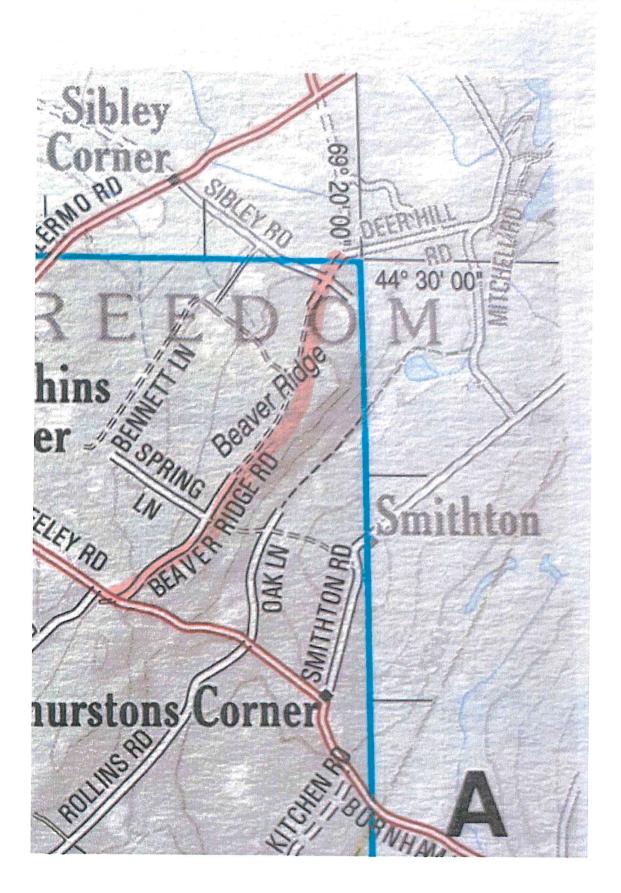
Notary Public

WILCIAMS. WELLY

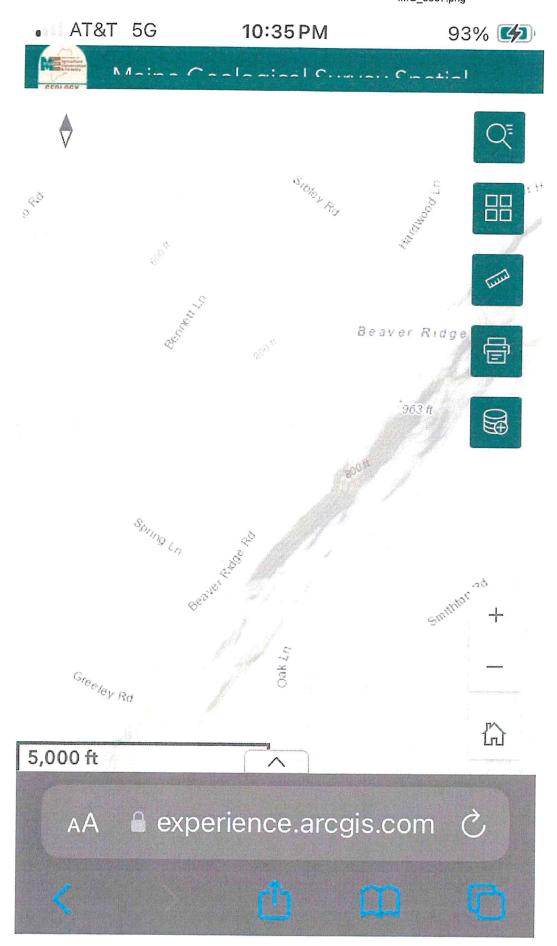
Printed Name

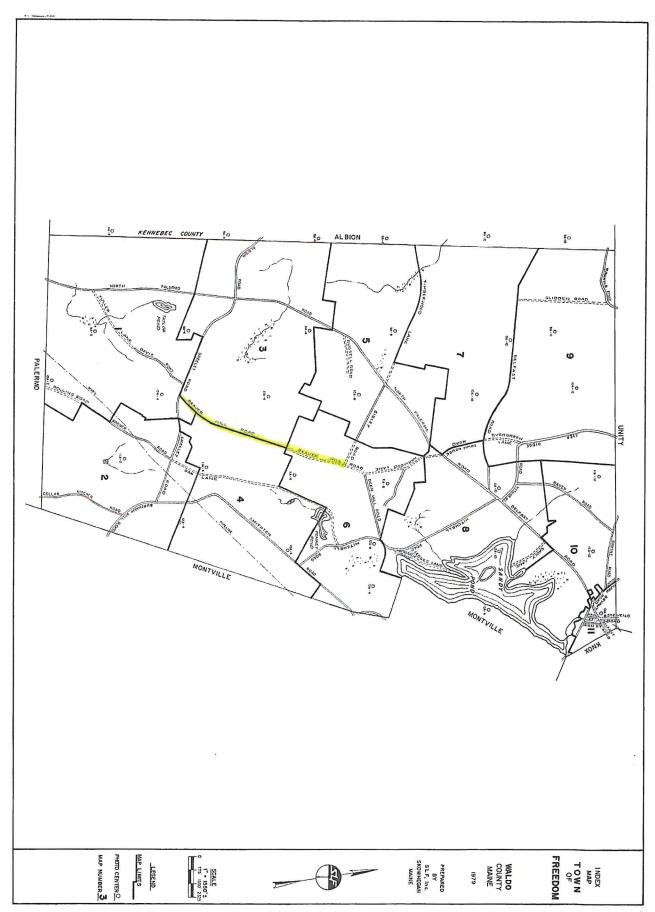
BAR # 7077 My Commission Expires:





2/18/25, 9:18 AM IMG_3367.png





EXHIBIT

tabbies

2

Too Take Same

An the House of Representation Sant in the Louis & countries in the Committee on terms And is for concurrence

any.

which does for

N. G. Car Port

of Smar Stat 26 MIT

Trace a development

1810



X

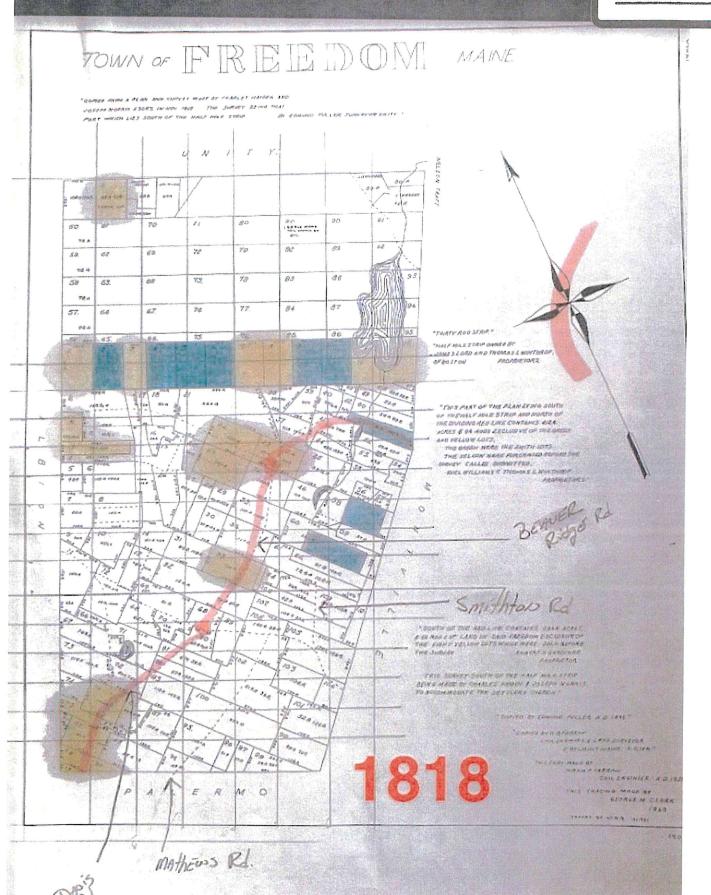
1818 map of fre...



EXHIBIT

3

tabbles*



in the Gundy of Mountee hading home shows Sylwaster to Abought len Chunch Ullans and Joseph My Ablot having been first James Smiths bours and barman Suche Sylveslew Thouse and Bar of ellastrille in the Country of Sin ortho and forty well and healy of Ty hoster, Jumin pavoung behoom John Tonnys hunder and Hasin of the time and "place of ourmissing to perform the seekees as men Juron and hanny given sees on a ble motivee to all persons interested years west fire humelas d and for by nods to the Soundard in Tredow a bloves alla the south line I hower newwing south Six by fores detimed in the women ind commendation have lauleverd a newood ingle 11 11 1 1 1. 1. Lance and there here have and way four north winds begins way on the Westerly line of the Town To jourduance of the annexed warment the said Suns you I fully seasof mounted or

EXHIBIT3.5

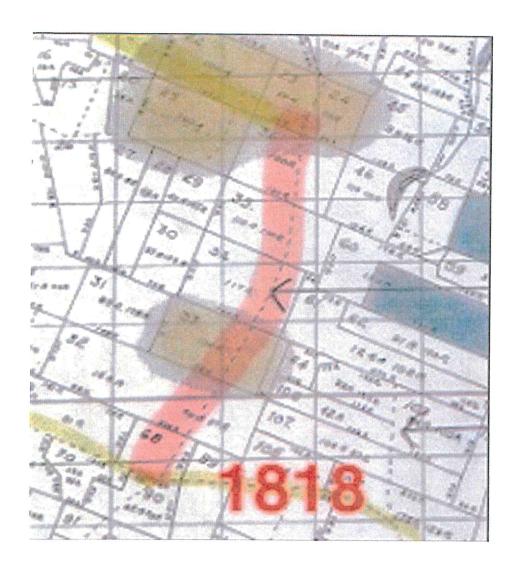


	EXHIBIT	
tabbies*	4	
-		

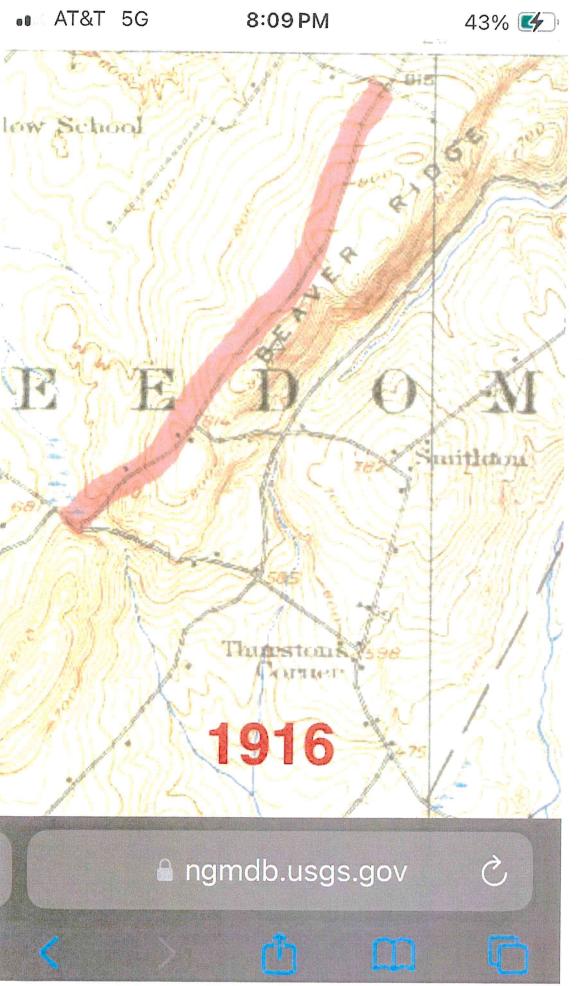
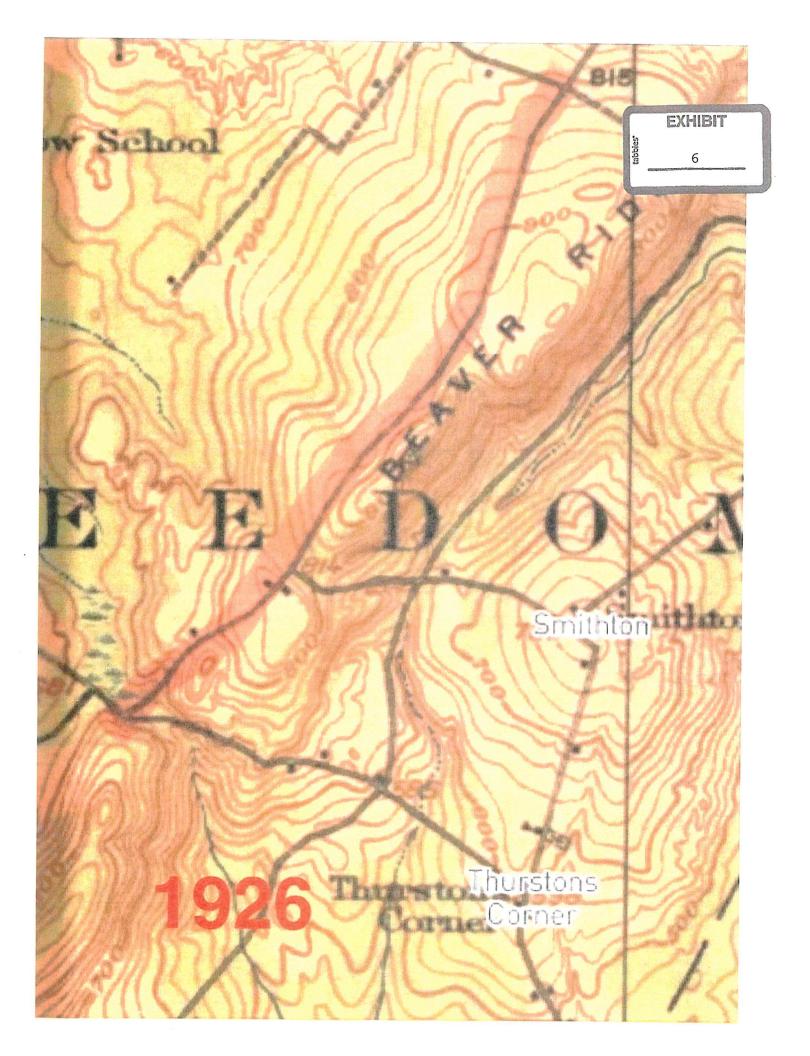
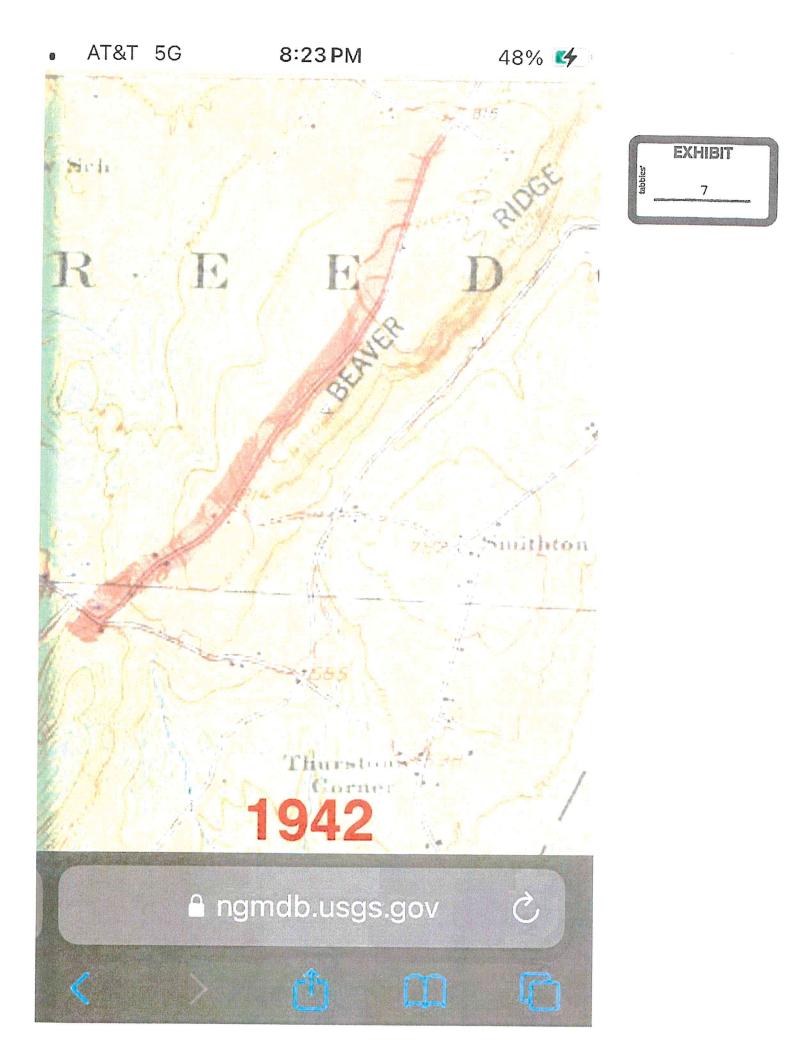
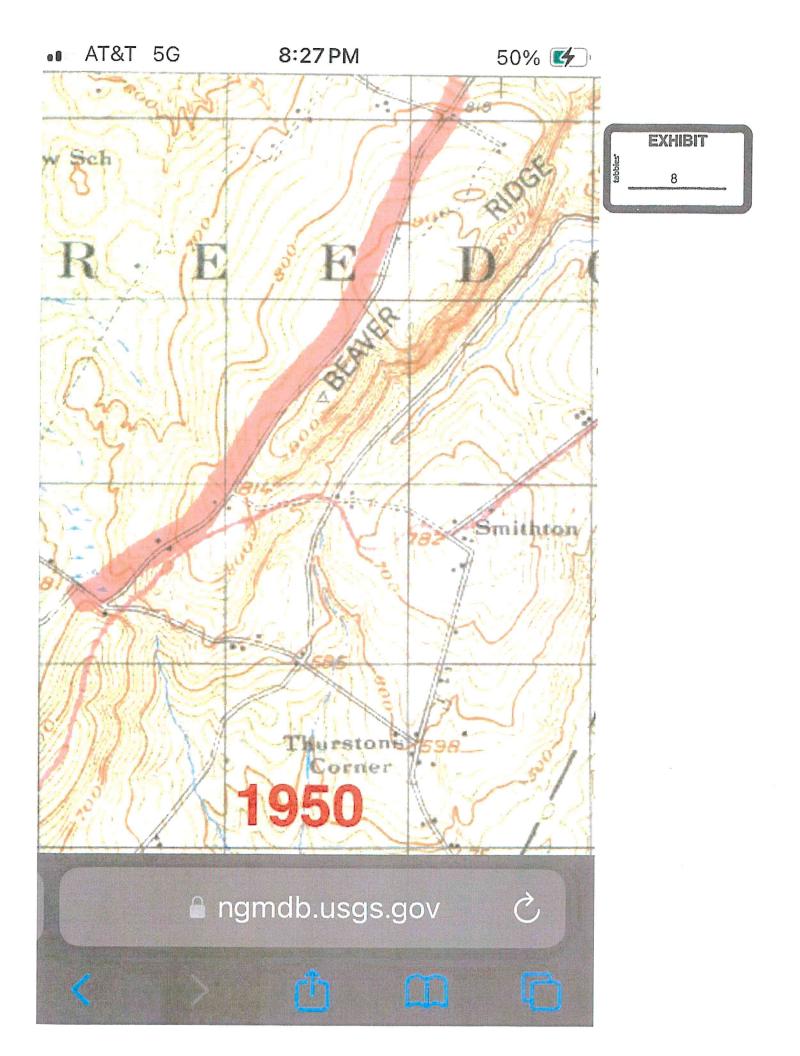
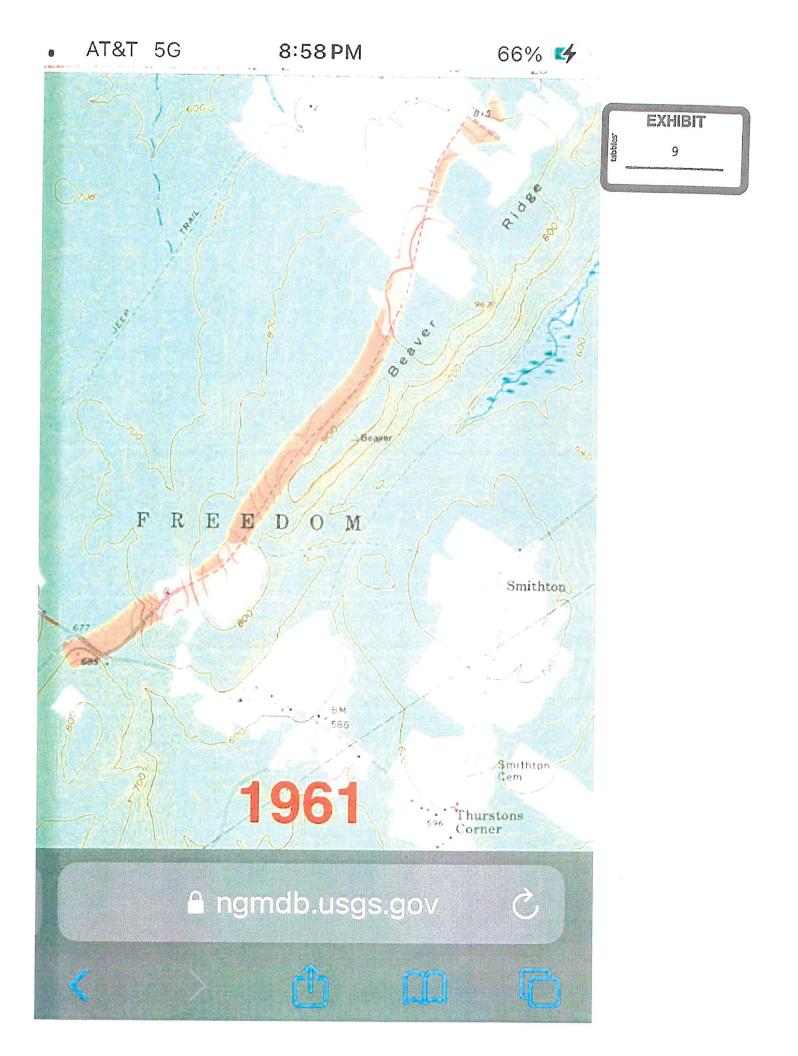


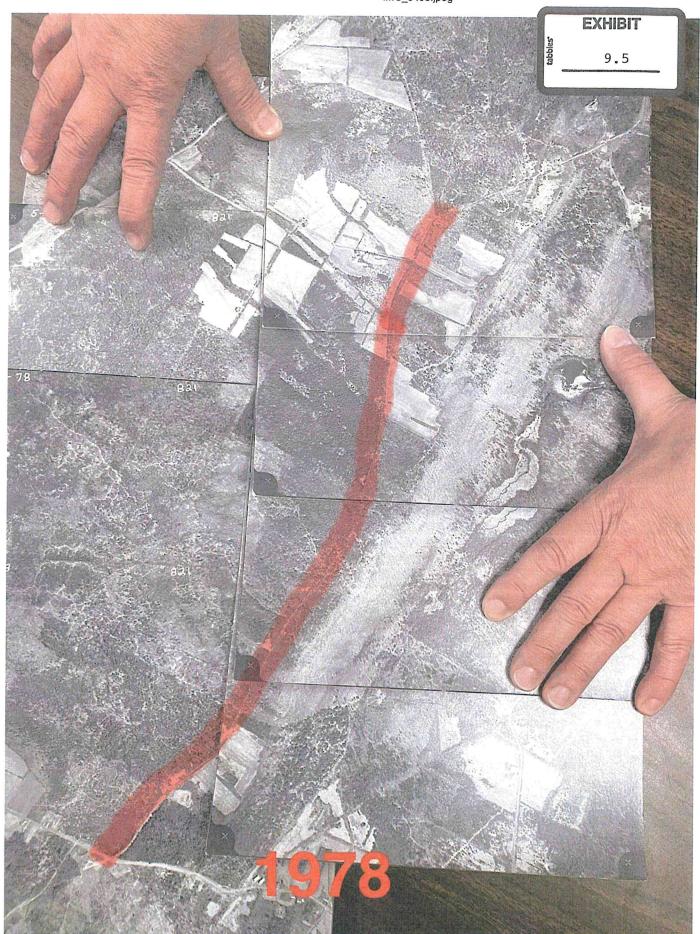
EXHIBIT 5

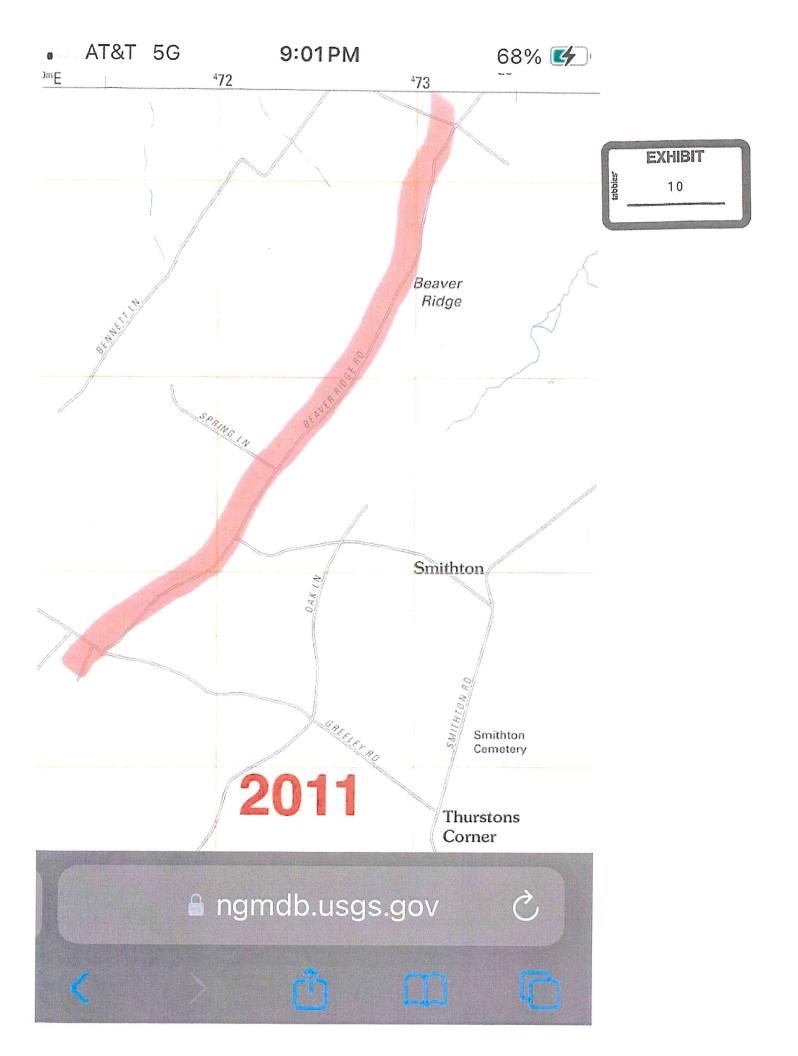


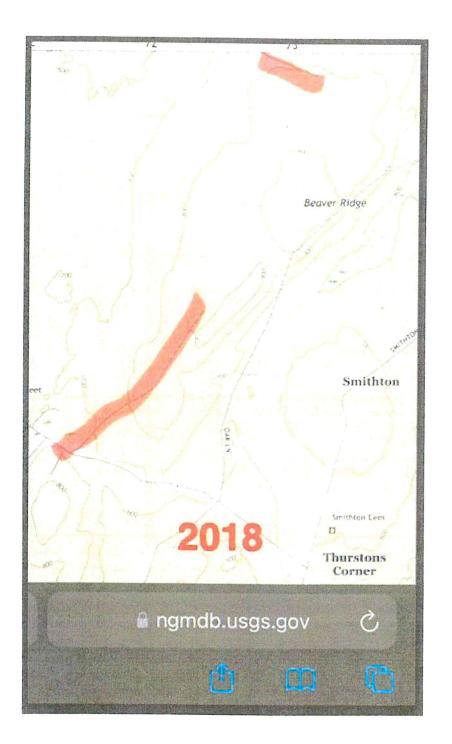










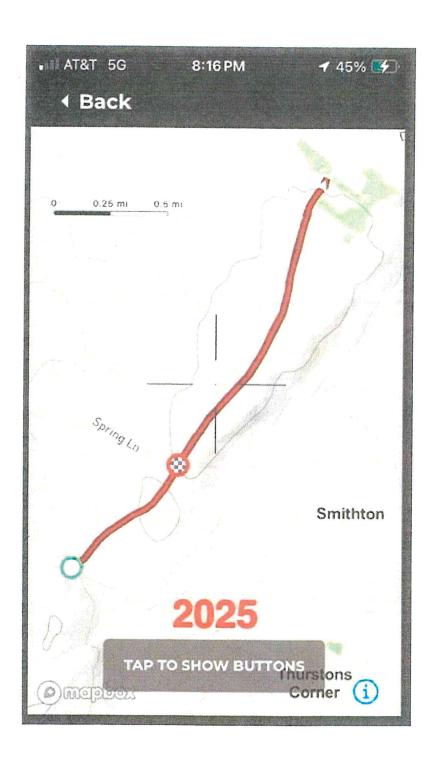




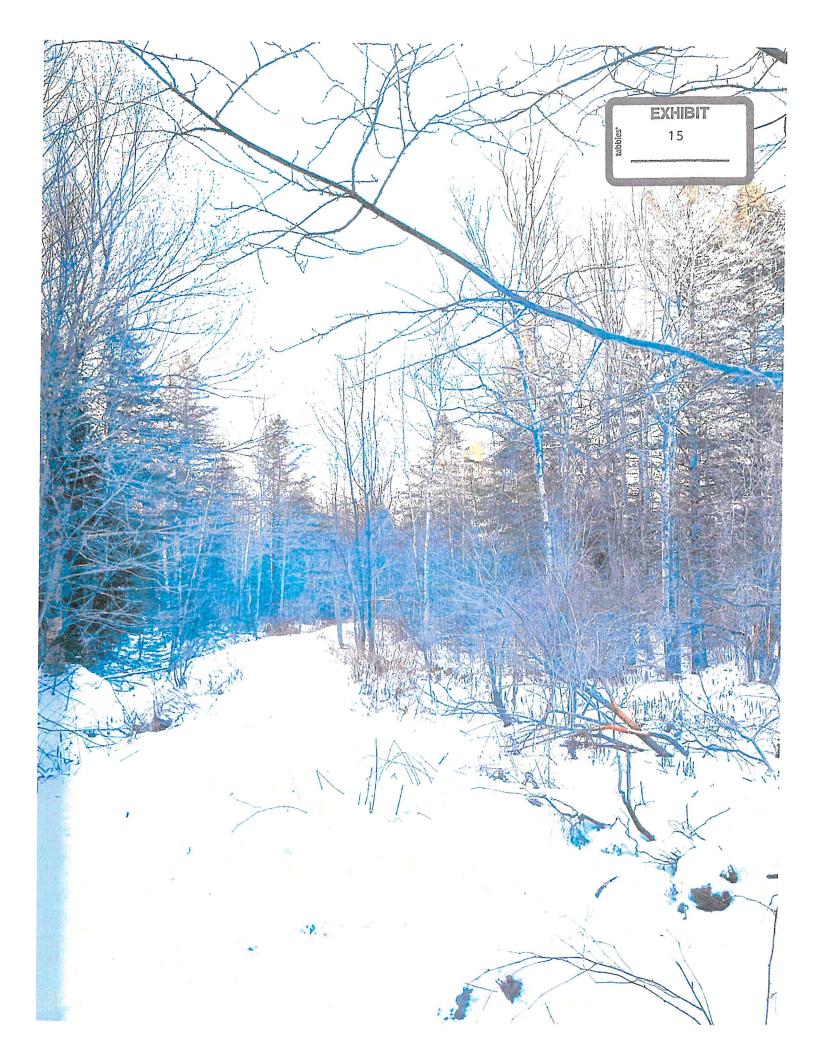
EXHIBIT

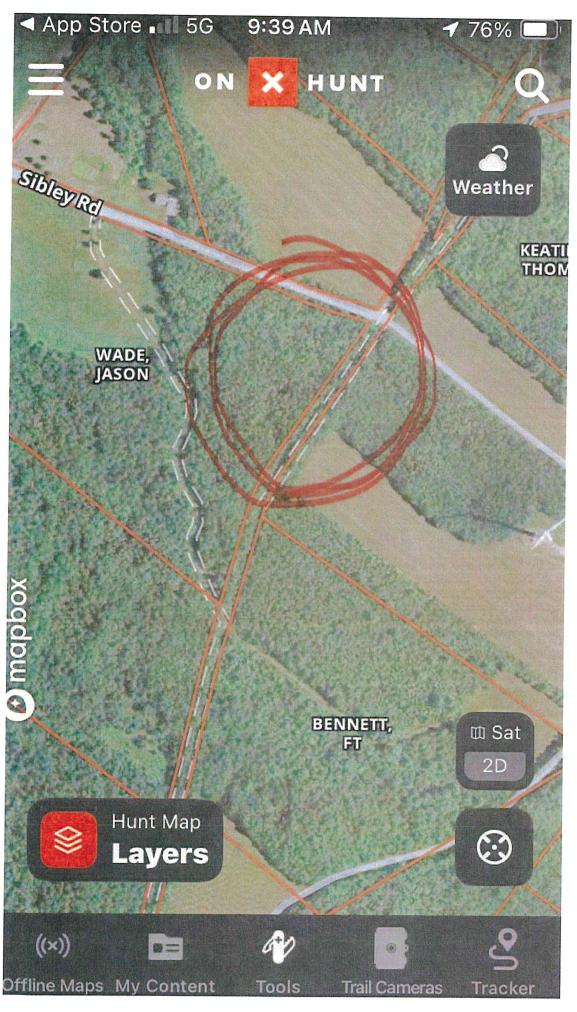
Siggs

12









Bloomstown

EXHIBIT 17

Art. 34. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following roads as town ways now and forever but opened as public ways:

(a) From Greeley's Corner to Improved road under Beaver Hill.

T.mberwood (b) From Sibley Four Corners, so called, to the R. Smith place.

DAVIS(c) From Arthur Aldrich place, south west, to Palermo and Freedom State Aid road.

Rollins (d) From George Wagner's old place, so-called, South to Palermo town line.

(e) From O. B. Ward's to discontinued road over Beaver Hill.

Art. 35. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$500.00 for power steering for F.W.D. Truck.

Art. 36. To transact any other business that may legally be brought before said meeting.

Art. 37. Motion to adjourn.

The Selectmen hereby give notice that they will be in session at the Grange Hall at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon on the day of said meeting for the purpose of correcting and revising the list of voters.

H. L. MITCHELL

R. F. WARD

L. E. EVANS

Selectmen of Freedom

Attest:

ISAIAH JACKSON, Constable of Freedom

Page 54

400	
	EXHIBIT
tabbies*	18

terminating sear the mouth of the Priend Elliott road. To open road of J.H. Fuller's petition 1875	Treadom	From B.J. Woods house to Packard's Comer	Leading from South Freedom over Beals Ridge to Freedom Village, commencing near Mrs. Mary Clements house, easterly to intersect the road leading from C.M. Plummers	Leading from Albion to Freedom Village.	Leading from Albion line to Freedom Village near William Glidden's house, near John Witham's house, also near feals	Bridge across Cando Stream	Road from Freedom to Thorndike Station	Road from Ford's Corner in Palermo to Freedom, then to Unity		The state of the s	From Sibley Comers to A biom found then	1. Dis-Quaker Hill to Andrews Hill 2. Loc-From Andrew's	from Sodom Comer to Clark's Corner	Road leading from Knox Corner to Fredom Village	Beaver Hill Roads and Johnson Road	13s Comercing Beave Will to Shinter's Far-	To Hutchin's Comer; at Turner residence southwesterly to new state highway; from the McDonald Cerner thru Daniel Walker place.	From Hutchins Cemetery to Proctor turn in Albion; At a three comers in Albion near V.H. Farris' resicence, easterly to Richard Smith residence in Freedom	Nathan Russiell property to Town of Albion by Joseph Irving farm	From O.B. Ward residence on Rte 137	From Harry Young residence
terminating To open roa	Highway in Freedom	From B.J. W.	Leading from Village, con easterly to in	Leading from	Leading from Alb Glidden's house, r	Bridge acros	Road from F	Road from F	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PERSON OF	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PERSON OF	From Sibley	I. Dis-Quaker Hill to An	from Sodom	Road leading	Beaver Hill 8	Frenk Mulbo	To Hutchin's new state high Walker place.	From Hutchir corners in All Richard Smith	Nathan Russe farm	From O.B. W.	From Harry Y
MATERIAL CONTRACTOR CO			ağır cirili kirili		9	er	4		65	72	105	107		119					63	87	90
66/9	6775	6/326	6/241	6/288	6/286	6/411	7/284	7/385	8/126	8/173	8/247	87253	100000	8/303		87,148	8/468	8/490	9/193	9/263	97264
Denied Closed	Dismissed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Dismissed	Dismissed	Dismissed	Dismissed	Repairs Ordered	Repairs Ordered		Repairs Ordered	Discontinued	Settled by agreement	Repairs Ordered	Petition Granted	Petition Granted
#17CARP	#18CARP	#18CARP	#18CARP	#19CARP	#19CARP	#20CARP	#22CARP	#23 CARP	#24CARP	#24CARP	#25 CARP	#25 CARP	#25 CARP	#25 CARP	#25 CARP	\$26.CARP	#26 CARP	#26 CARP	#27 CARP	#28CARP	#28CARP
Discontinuance Open road	Discontinuance	Alteration	Alteration	Bounds	A	Repairs	Repairs	Designation	Repairs	Alteration	Repairs	Discontinuance & location	Repairs	Repairs	Renairs	Repairs	Discontinuance	Discontinuance	Repairs	Winter closure	Winter closure
Peter W. Ayer & als Alfred Warren & als	Selectmen of Freedom	J.C. Harding & als	N.B. Gowin & als	Selectmen of Freedom	William Glidden & als	J.D. Lamson & als	J.B. Wiggin & als	Selectmen of Freedom	J.W. Deane & als	Fred K. Bradstreet & als	Reuben Sibley & als	J.H. Jackson & als	James Foshay & als	L.V. Penny & als	John Jackson Stals	FAW. Pennsy	Selectmen of Freedom	Selectmen of Freedom	Joseph Irving & als	Selectmen of Freedom	Selectmen of Freedom
AUGUST DECEMBER	APRIL	APRIL	APRIL	AUGUST	AUGUST	APRIL	DECEMBER	APRIL	APRIL	AUGUST	AUGUST	AUGUST	APRIL	SEPTEMBER	AUGLIST	MOUST	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER		NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER
1877	6/8	0002	1882	1883	1003		1898				1920	THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN			1028	1661	1932	1933		-	1948
Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	reedom	Breedom	Freedom	Freedom	Freedom	rreedom	Freedum

on J. M. Benney me and correspon

EXHIBIT

19

MAINE

EXHIBIT

20

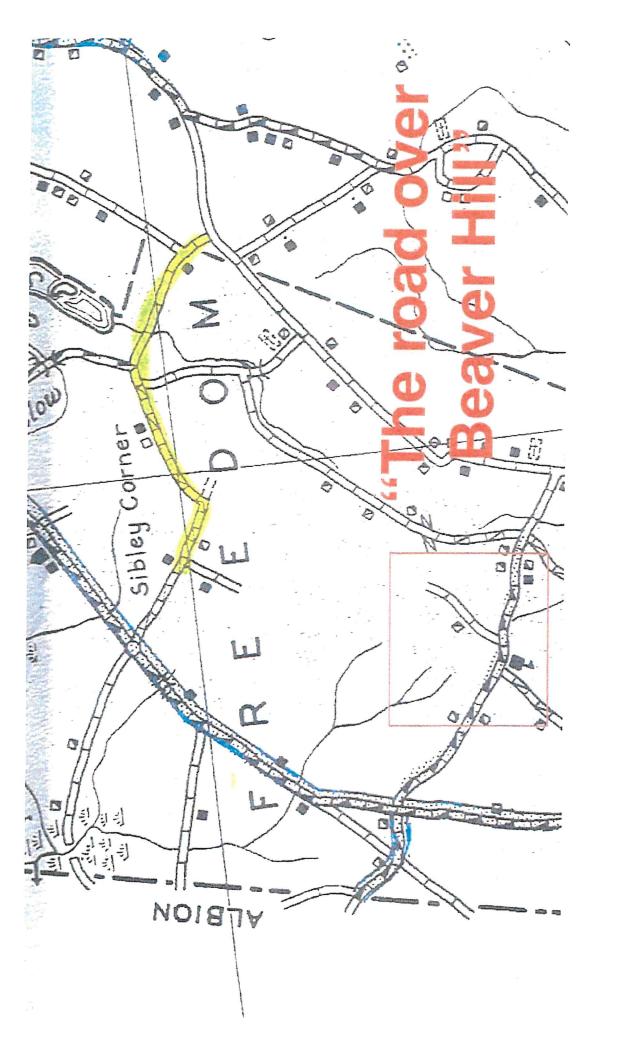
TRAFFIC FLOW MAPS

Www.M. Clark



STATE-WIDE HIGHWAY FLABBLIDG STRAIT

UNITED STATES PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION



1/24/25 EXHIBIT 1500 21

To whom it may concern;

As for as I KNOW, the "Over the Beaver Road" was washed out in 1993 from a barricane, and never repaired. That ended the "need" for a pass through ROW. Part of the road was shifted outo Bewett property, outside of the original road, and for Bennett use.

To open the original Row for motorized vehicles would require extensive work to properly control exosion, with cost. Parts of the original road have become drainage for the surrounding area and would require several feet of material to bring to grade and maintained.

Sincerely;

Richard K. Martin St Ruhard K. Martin Sr

Previous owner of property boodering the over the beauer road and a resident of the Town of Freedom for over so years

EXHIBIT appropriations for 1944 2.2 Highways and Bridges 800,00 Inow bills 2000.00 Town Officers bells. 800,00 250.00 chools 3660,00 Achool lunch program 100,00 Maintenance 3nd Colasa Roads 472.00 " Special Resolve " 100-00 sace. Conting of buring bushes 700.00 Tax ble, exty withers did 100.00 Immance on Schoolhouses 75.00 150.00 Sin court on Tages 1843 262,29 is vaternente 1943 7020 aluly! Fully Heatth Mursin 35,00 Lighway Testrol 530,00 For Maine Publicity Bureau 400,00 25.00 " white Blester Runt. 13 200,00 Total. 10429.49 otate of Mand, bouty of Waldo, Joson of Frendon March. 13, 1944, 10:07 20 mg Flys this day personally appraised before we following oath & 4, 7. M. Flye, do swear, that I will support remittetion of the mute States and that so long as I shall continue a citizen thereof, It help me God. Heid M. Flye do wear, that will authority descharge to the best of my abilities He duties incumbent on me as Bullothlu for during Jour Westing according to the (Ligned) Find V. Flye Liqued) Rechie V- Knight, Justin the Reace . Tod.

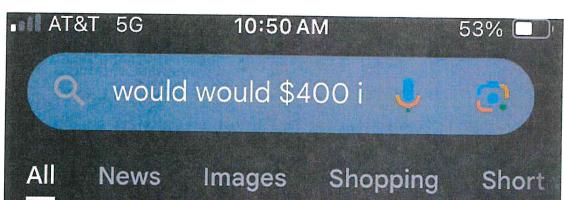


EXHIBIT 22.5

\$400 in 1944 is equivalent in purchasing power to about \$7,172.84 today, an increase of \$6,772.84 over 81 years. The dollar had an average inflation rate of 3.63% per year between 1944 and today, producing a cumulative price increase of 1,693.21%.

https://www.in2013dollars.com

\$400 in 1944 → 2025 - Inflation Calculator

About featured snippets
Feedback

🖴 Q would would \$400 in 1944 be worth tod

1948

TOWN OF FREEDOM, MAINE

Office of the Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor

November 6, 1948.

Petition of Select-

No. 87

men of the Town of

road from 0.B. Ward

Freedom to close

residence during months of Jan, Feb.

County Commissioners

Waldo County

Dear Sir:

Commissioners, to have the road leading from O. B. Ward residence in a North Mar. Apr. & Dec. East direction to the old Davis place, s0-called, a distance of approximately We, the Selectmen of the Town of Freedom, petition your Honorable one half mile (\$).

There are no houses between the two places. It is unacessary to keep uary, Pebruary, March and April, or any part of such months, and praying said Commissioners, after notice and hearing on such petition, to decide whether said road broke out and open for travel during the months of December, Jansuch road shall be kept open or closed during such period or part thereof, and for how many years not to exceed ten, such closing order, if made, as prayed for, shall be operative,

Yours truly,

/s/ I. J. JACKSON

/s/ H. L. MITCHELL

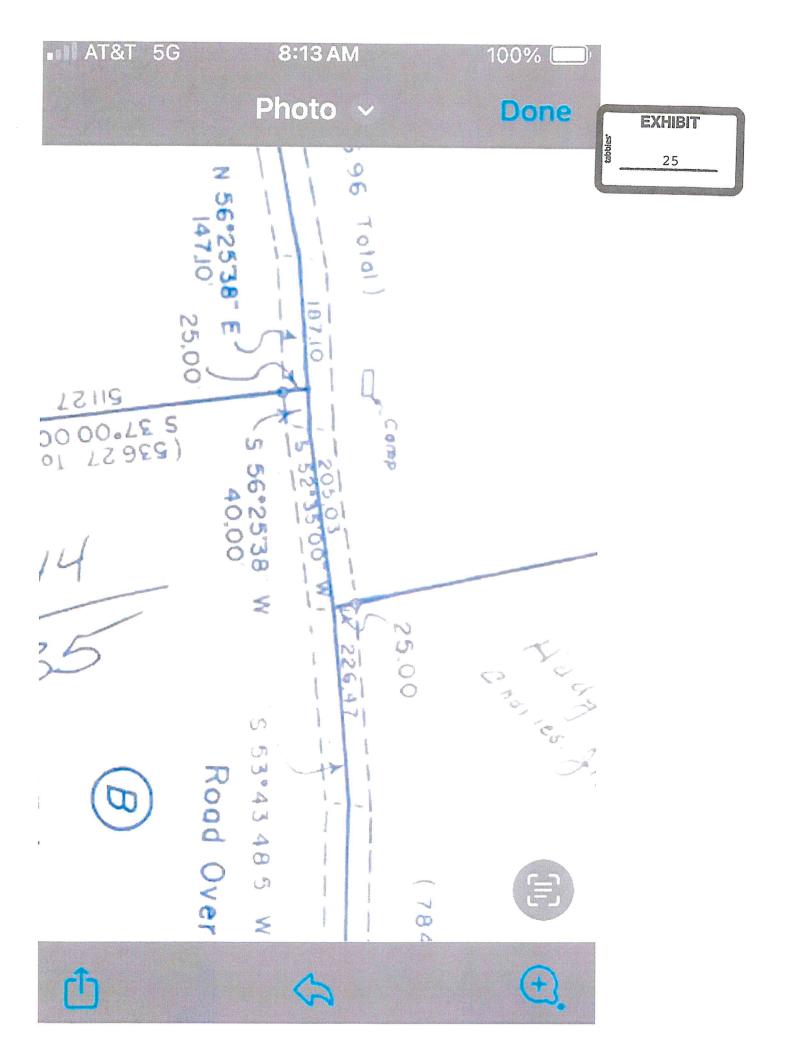
/s/ P. S. CROSS

of Preedom

Selectmen

enement and regions.

EXHIBIT LOG - LAND CORPORA 24 TOWN OF FREEDOM WALDO COUNTY, MAINE DATE MARCH 23 1990 SCALE 17 200 FEET PLAN OF LOTS LOCATED IN THE 1H .. LOG - LAND CORPORATION Sheet 2 0 (9) 40.82 Acres (4) · • 41.44 Acres (b) Road Over BEAVER HILL SO - Celled) 232.34 41.81 Acres <u>-53</u> 7.921 4 O 50.84 Acres 28 2521 (A) E The state of the s T & BRAKE SURVEY, INC.



Erollie Ward/Beaver Ridge Road

Islly Ann & Charles Hadyniak 118 Washington Ave. Partaret, N. J. 07008 EXHIBIT 26

n reply to your letter, I will try to answer your questions, concerning the status of this road.

¿uestion 1: This road was discontinued from Ollie's residence East to junction of road leading to under Beaver Hill Road, which is just down over the hill from the last house on the road. The rest of the road that continues East by your property; could be considered an abandoned road. I believe you would have a right to control this road by a gate and permission only signs. Supercollers among this roads over the hill.

ruestion 2: The procedure for towns to accept a road for maintenance is; Road must be at least eighteen feet wide, including shoulders, eighteen inches of gravel upon a solid sub. base, also culverts and ditchesto make proper drainage. This would have to be okayed by the Selectmen and Planning Board. Then it would be inserted in an article at Town Meeting, to accept

ly thoughts at this time: All towns are in an aconomy orunch, and i leel that voters would refrain from accepting any new liability at this ime. However, I feel that maybe in the luture, as more people build, in there abandoned and closed roads, the County Commissioners will demand the towns to reopen these roads to the public.

the name "Plat Landers" for out of stat people got started by some one with big mouth and not much respect for themselves. I believe the most of our itizens sometimes refeer to out of staters as "Flat Landers" but do not ean any disrespect.

have served in Town Government for fifty plus years and have had some ut of staters on various committeesfor the town, and they are highly espected. I think the people of Freedom and Waldo County will be respectual and you can make many friends. Hope this letter introduces some of he Towns problems that we are now going through.

These are my thoughts:

y thoughts are coming from the mouth of a n eighty two year old man,
ho is completing forty seven years a selectman, sixty years as a registered
aine guide and over fifty years as Road Commissioner or acting Commissioner
or the selectmen, School Director and various other town committees.
hese roads were discontinued in the fifthes. I stated at the time that as
he town grows these roads will be reopened, again, I wish you and your son
he bast of luck on Beaver Ridge, size would like to say that our natives
re friendly caring people.

Sincerely Yours.
Harold Mitchell
Selectman
Town of Freedom

5/21/96

Ms. Sallyann Hadyniak 218 Washington Avenue Carteret, New Jersey 07008



EXHIBIT 27

Dear Ms. Hadyniak,

I was very pleased to hear from you regarding the discontinued portion of road to the land you purchased. The road still remains under the selectmen's control. I am very sure that you will be pleased with the work that Clayton Larrabee will do for you.

I will be looking forward to meeting you this summer.

Sincerely,

Harold (Red) Mitchell

Selectman

Town of Freedom

Town Letterhead



August 26, 1997

Mrs. Becky Seel
Maine Municipal Association
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Mrs. Seel:

The Town of Freedom and the residents of that portion of Ollie Ward Road (now known as Beaver Ridge Road due to the 911 designation, hereinafter referred to as "Beaver Ridge Road") after Ollie Ward place would like to submit the following question for your review and determination:

"Given the facts below, who owns Beaver Ridge Road after Ollie Ward's place?"

These are the facts as agreed upon by the Town of Freedom and the residents of Beaver Ridge Road after Ollie Ward's place:

- Until March 3, 1956, the Town of Freedom maintained the entire length of Beaver Ridge Road.
- On March 3, 1956, the Town of Freedom voted to discontinue Beaver Ridge Road from Ollie Ward's place.
- Since March 3, 1956, the Town of Freedom has had no involvement with Beaver Ridge Road after Ollie Ward's place.
- According to Statute 23 MRSA Section 3029:

It shall be prima facie evidence that a Town or County way established prior to January 1, 1946 and not kept passable for the use of motor vehicles at the expense of the municipality or county for a period of 30 or more consecutive years next prior to January 1, 1976, has been discontinued by abandonment.

Beaver Ridge Road was established prior to January 1, 1946.

The Town of Freedom acknowledges that they have not kept the section of Beaver Ridge Road past Ollie Ward's place passable for 30 or more years, beginning March 3, 1956.

As more than 30 years have passed since March 3, 1956, the section of Beaver Ridge Road after Ollie Ward's place is now arguably abandoned.

According to Statute 23 MRSA Section 3026:

... If any town way was discontinued under the pre-1965 version of section 3004, no public easement would remain unless the vote approved by the legislative body expressly retained an easement. Caselaw dictated that ownership of the land reverted to the abutters to the centerline, in the absence of the showing of a greater interest. [Caselaw omitted from quote]

 There was no vote by the legislative body retaining an easement, nor was there a showing of greater interest.

Therefore, pursuant to statutes and the caselaw, the ownership of the land arguably reverted to the landowners on either side of the centerline, us of March 3, 1986.

We appreciate your time on our behalf and look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Mitchell First Selectman

Everett Lingley Second Selectman

Heidi Bruger Third Selectman

Charles and Sallyann Hadyniak Residents of Beaver Ridge Road after Ollie Ward's Place

Charles and Lynn Hadyniak
Residents of Beaver Ridge Road after Ollie Ward's Place

Walter and Rebecca Woods Residents of Beaver Ridge Road after Ollie Ward's Place

MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

Legal Services
60 Community Drive
Augusta, Maine 04330-9486

EXHIBIT 29

Telephone (207) 623-8428

WILLIAM W. LIVENGOOD REBECCA WARREN SEEL RICHARD P. FLEWELLING ELLERBE P. COLE JOSEPH J. WATHEN

September 5, 1997

Heidi N. Brugger, Third Selectman Town of Freedom 15 Deer Hill Road Freedom, ME 04941

Re: Beaver Ridge Road

Dear Ms. Brugger:

Your letter of September 3rd asks about the legal status of Beaver Ridge Road. You said that that portion from the Ollie Ward property to the upper end was discontinued by vote of the 1956 annual town meeting. This would have resulted in a reversion of all public interest in the road to the respective abutting property owners to the center of the way unless otherwise stated in the order of discontinuance (see R.S. ch. 96, § 33 (1954)). (The 1956 town meeting records should be checked to make sure that this is not the case.) If the order of discontinuance did not at a cotherwise, this portion of Beaver Ridge Road would indeed be private property and subject to posting by its owner(s). Whether one abutter may erect a "Private Road" sign on another's land, however, is a private civil matter to be resolved between the parties and is of no legitimate interest to the Town. Accordingly, I would decline to advise the parties on this particular issue.

Incidentally, 30 years of non-maintenance ("abandonment") constitutes an alternative to formal discontinuance and would have no effect on an already discontinued way (see 23 M.R.S.A. § 3028).

I hope this answers your question. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Yours truly,

Richard P. Flewelling, Esq.

Clerk's Certification for Town Meeting March 11 & 12, 2011

Article 13. To see what sum the town will vote compensate the monthly Recycling.

Budget Committee recommends: \$3,000 year.

EXHIBIT

30

Article 14. Non-binding article-- For general information purposes only.

To see if the town will vote to authorize an action by the select board to Discontinue (can't use abandon, as requested) a portion of the Beaver Ridge Road, pursuant to 23 MSRA Chapter 3028, beginning at its intersection with the Sibley Road., thence traveling in a westerly

Direction to its intersection with another formerly discontinued road leading from the Beaver Hill Road to Oak Lane, a distance of approximately 8,000 feet. This discontinuance (abandonment can't be used) will be conditioned upon a public hearing to be held by the Select board, and upon an agreement signed by all the abutters giving a recreational easement to the public.

Abandonment=Full

क्षेत्रका काममानाविद्यारितारितारिकारिकारिकार्विकार्विकार्विकारिकार्विकार्विकार्विकार्विकार्विकार्विकार्विकार्वि

Konselij - Abresie limika Biningas - Ibisa

कार्य महायोजन क्रमा । वात्रकारा १९ वर्ग न वर्ग वर्ग वर्ग वर्ग वर्ग

The art of thinnestons and violence. Very 12 South

Article 15. To see if the Town will authorize the purchase of a new pumper/tanker truck, for the fire department. Up to \$75,000 to be taken from the fire department capital improvement account, for down payment, with the remaining balance to be financed. The estimated cost of the pumper/tanker \$250,000

Budget Committee recommends: No recommendation

fiction the authority and all the least in a labeled

- Article 16. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow balance due on tanker.
- Article 17. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to take \$11,000 from General Fund to pay discounts.

Budget recommends:YES

学过去的 中 中国

- Therefore, there was no public easement expressly retained in the disputed portion of Beaver Ridge Road and the legal requirements of abandonment were met as early as
- 32. In 2011, I spearheaded an effort to make the disputed portion of Beaver Ridge Road formally declared abandoned, but would have left a "foot traffic" only easement. I thought the road had much value as a recreational trail across the axis of town.

33. In the annual from meeting that year map of osed warrant article passed as 1956 when the Selectmen subsequently failed to follow-up on it.

34. In 2021, I supported the Hadyniaks effort to get the Select Board - on which I served at However, this effort was itself abandoned following Tyler Hadyniak's recusal from the that time - to formally declare the disputed portion of Beaver Ridge Road abandoned.

municipality abandons a town way under common law, "all rights to the way pass[] to the owners of the land that abut[s] the center line of the way." Martin, 631 A.2d at 1241. The Plaintiffs allege that "the general public has not used the . . . Road . . . for at least the

past twenty years, and in fact . . . for at least the past 80 years," (Compl. ¶ 14(b).) Such

allegation of nonuse supports their claim that the Road was abandoned pursuant to common law in 1986.

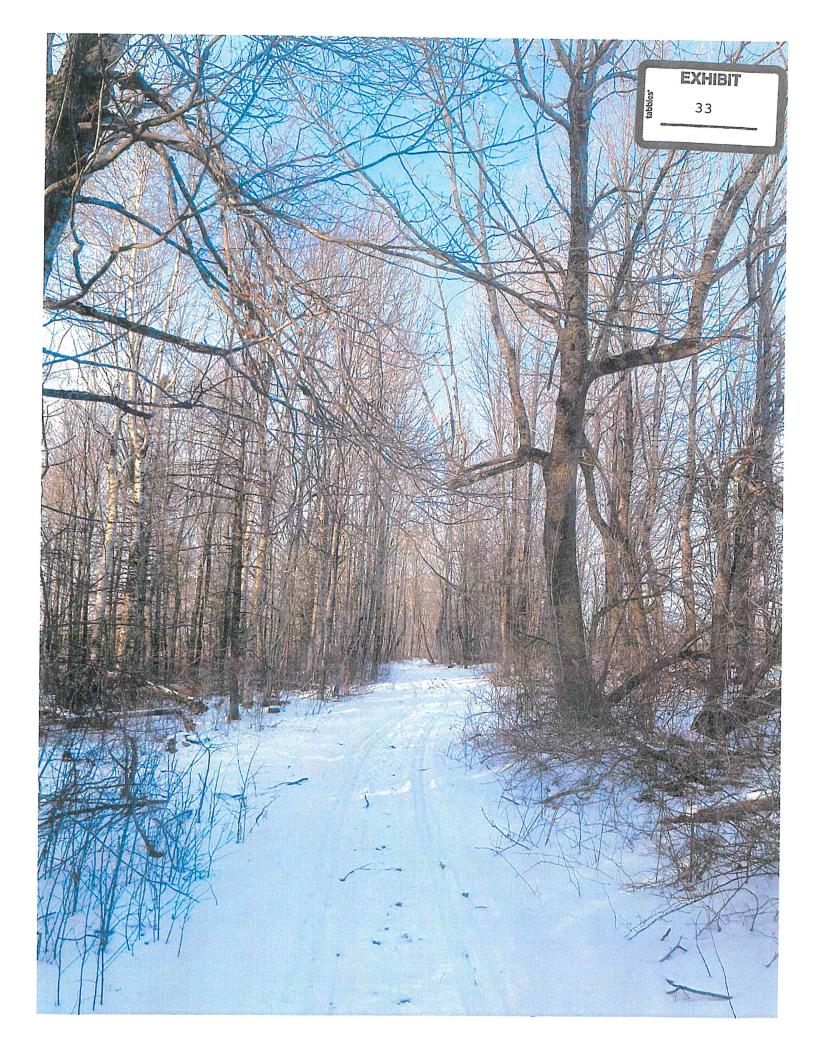
support a claim of common law

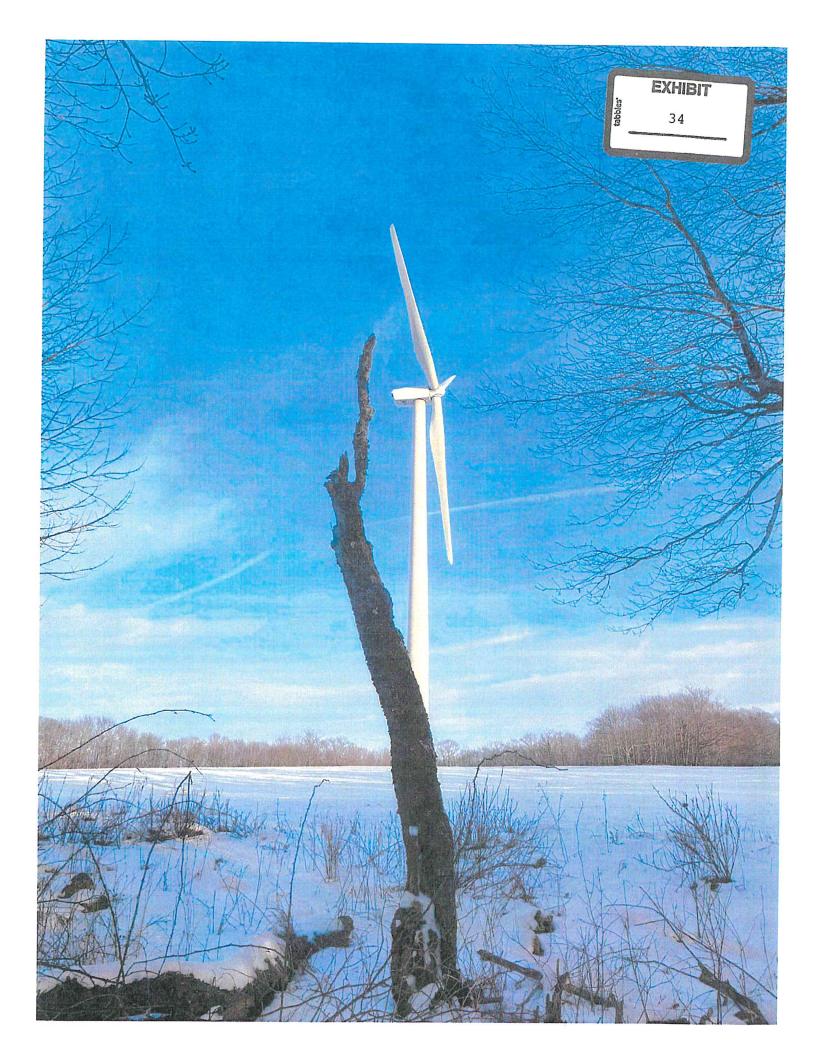
abandonment due to the municipality's "intentional and voluntary desertion" of the Road.

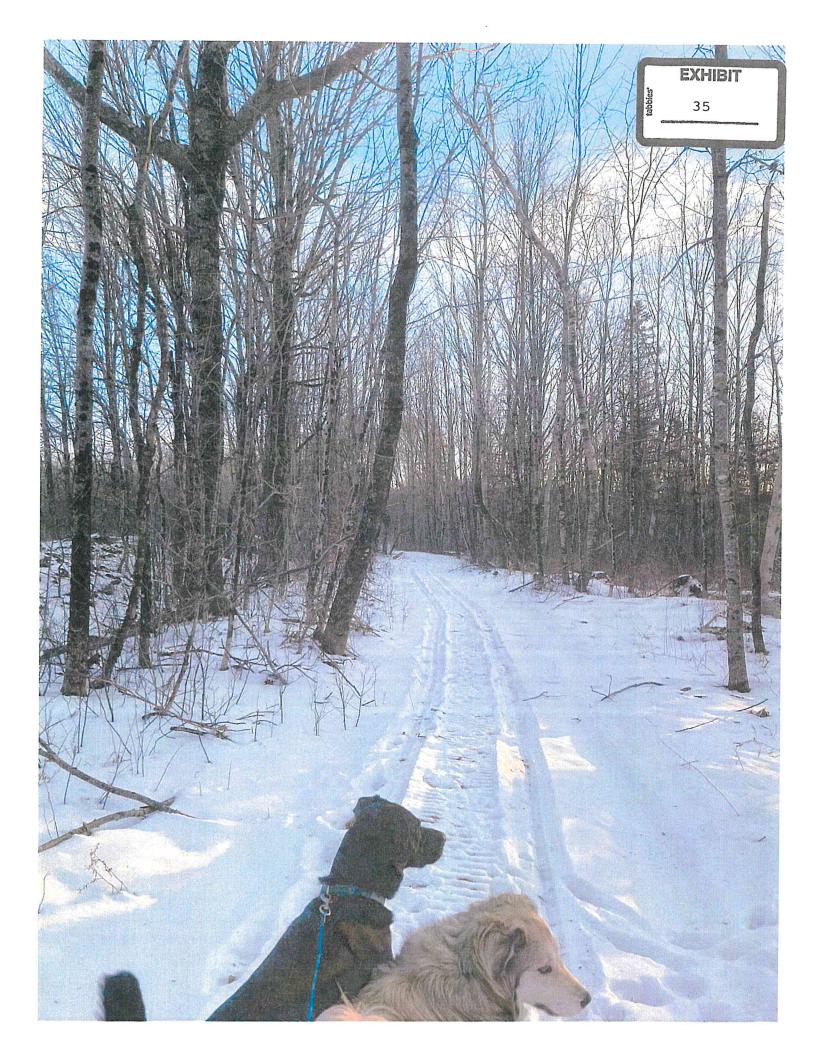
Therefore, the complaint is legally sufficient because it alleges facts that would entitle the

Plaintiffs to relief as to their remiest for indoment declaring that the Road has been abandoned









The complaint alleges facts that would entitle the Plaintiff's to relief as to their request for judgment declaring the Ruad abandoned pursuant to statute. However, the absence of facts asserting that the manicipality disclaimed its interest in a public easement at the time of abandonment indicates that the Road may still be subject to a public easement, and therefore the Plaintiff's complaint does not support their request for a judgment declaring that the Read is now their private property. Regardless, pursuant to the liberal standard under which the Court must evaluate a Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss, the complaint is legally sufficient in that it presents a justiciable controversy and therefore the Court DENIES the Town's motion to dismiss as to the Plaintiff's statutory abandonment claim.

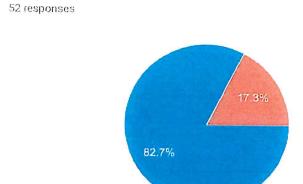




- 1. The disputed portion of Beaver Ridge Road is the red line seen in the enclosed Petitioners' Exhibit 1.
- 2. Since January 25, 2025, there have been no less than four incidents involving members of the public using the disputed portion of Beaver Ridge Road in a manner which could be deemed a public nuisance, and/or would be subject to criminal investigation but for the pendency of Petitioners' request for declaratory judgment.

Beaver Hill/Ridge Road Use Survey 8/19/2024

Have you ever used any portion of Beaver Hill/Ridge Rd past the paved section, up to the windmills, extending over to where it becomes Deer Hill Rd?





Yes
No

How do you use the road? Check all that apply. 45 responses

