

**Town of Freedom Select Board Minutes  
January 18, 2022**

**Present:** Elaine Higgins, Ron Price, Steve Bennett, Cindy Abbott, Dyann Anderson, Travis Price, Joe Freeman and Amanda Jamison.

Ron Price called the meeting to order at 5:56pm.

**Motion** by Steve: To amend January 10, 2022 minutes to read “We budgeted to take \$25,000 from Post Office fund but we didn’t spend it.” Elaine 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

**Motion** by Elaine: To accept minutes as amended from January 10, 2022 Select Board meeting and place on file. Unanimous.

**FVFD:** No report

**Public Works:** Travis Price reported the new seat came for the plow truck and the camera arrived. Working on installing both of those tomorrow. Steve Bennett reported MMA now covers Travis Price’s tools at \$54.00 per year with the first-year fee waived.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Dyann Anderson reported the first Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$4,325.67 and the second Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$844.02 and the A/P Warrant in the amount of \$3,286.75. The ending checkbook balance is \$440,562.14. Dyann reported that she is having trouble with Trio and the Payroll deductions. Dyann advises that it would be better to have an outside company run Payroll for the Town. There are on going issues with Trio. Ron said the problems with Trio are different but continue. He would like to get someone from Trio to help Dyann.

**Motion** by Elaine: To allow Dyann to look into getting a Payroll Company. Steve 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

Cindy Abbott said to make sure the town can still create Payroll reports from Trio if the town is no longer using that option in Trio. Cindy will get itemized bill from Trio to find out exactly what the Town is paying Trio for the Payroll portion of the program. Cindy also said that she is having trouble updating Trio on her computer. Steve said Trio support should be added to budget. Cindy said she’ll call Trio about her computer.

**Motion** by Elaine: To call Trio and set up a day with Dyann to review the Trio program for both Dyann and Cindy. Unanimous.

Elaine will call Brenda tomorrow to find out when she can come to help.

Dyann showed Select Board detailed General Ledger report that breaks down what is in general fund. Elaine would like to know amount in all accounts, so these could be subtracted out and Select Board would know what money is available. Unity Area Regional Recycling Center bill for 2022 is \$7,302.17. Ron is looking into the health insurance payments. Steve will bring quote from health insurance company.

**Motion** by Ron: To accept Treasurer’s report. Steve 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

**Motion** by Steve: To give the Freedom Community Historical Society a check equal to fund balance left over in old historical society fund and Freedom Community Historical Society totaling \$4,197.72. Elaine 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

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**Town Clerk/Tax Collector:** Cindy Abbott reviewed new districts for Freedom from the Secretary of State: Congressional District 2, State Senate District 11, State House District 63, County Commissioner District 3. Cindy called dog owners that have not relicensed their dogs and those that she didn't have a phone number, mailed a letter. Dogs need to be licensed by January 31<sup>st</sup> to avoid \$25 late fee.

**Citizen's Issues:** none

**Correspondence:** Unity Area Regional Recycling Center bill for 2022.

**Motion** by Ron: To table the bill until after Town Meeting. Unanimous.

### **Town Boards and Committees:**

**Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC):** Members of committee created a survey for townspeople to complete. Once finalized will be available on the website and Town Office to complete survey. Members of the committee met with Colleen Hanlon-Smith from Daybreak Growers Alliance about Skidgel Lot space and interest in building a food distribution building on lot. Discussion continued about keeping in mind and planning for space to accommodate Public Works needs into the future. Ultimately this decision rests with the townspeople.

**Budget Committee:** Next meeting Tuesday, January 25, 2022

**Recreation Committee:** Cindy reported on Rada Cutlery Fundraiser taking place to support Rec. Committee.

**Motion** by Ron: To put this fundraiser on the website. Unanimous.

The committee will hold a raffle for the Winter Fest on February 19<sup>th</sup>. The committee needs the Town Office lobby for food and a warming center for Winter Fest.

**Motion** by Ron: To grant Recreation Committee request to use Town Office lobby with masking optional. Steve 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

**Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Coalition:** Elaine has committee report prepared for Town Report.

### **Town Official Reports:**

**General Assistance:** One application received

**Old Business:** Ron will follow up with company that conducted survey of Bagley Lot. Questions remain that need clarifying. Ron talked with owner of trailer on High Street about moving trailer. If nothing done by next week, Ron said Select Board will need to decide on action.

**Motion** by Steve: To go into Executive Session at 8:38pm for Legal Consultation 1 MRSA 405(6)E and Personnel Matters 1 MRSA 405(6)A. Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

Board came out of Executive Session at 8:45pm, no decision made.

**New Business:** none

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

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Jamison