

**Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, September 8, 2025**

Present: Selectmen Les Babb, Alan Fall, Gary Williams, and Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Office. Babb called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Absent: Jamie Mullen, Alan Libby, Chief Cunio

Also present: Rich Ulrich, Kerri & Brandy Buttrick, Sue Hoople, Susan Marks, Paul Elie, Jeff Nicoll

Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, and Approval of Minutes

Department Head Update

Two weeks of Reporting

Fire- incidents included ten medical aids, one motor vehicle accident, two fire alarms, tree with wires down, one propane leak, five illegal burns, one smoke investigation, two police standby/assist, two outside fires. Two police standbys and two outside fires. Inspections are done except for forestry two and forestry three. Gear testing started today. The Tahoe and forestry vehicles inspections are scheduled for the end of the month. Water sources are low, and the dredging project is almost done. The refill rate looks good even with the drought conditions. The campfire and ban were lifted this morning and will continue to be monitored.

Seven signs have been posted in the town forest for no overnight camping.

Transfer Station- Alan Libby reported that the Labor Day Holiday brought 1,323 cars through the gate. Between April 12 and September 8 11,379 cars have passed through the gate. Alan has options for the Board to consider for the Casella contract.

Town Office- Stacy reported that the BS&A software trainer will be here for two days this week. She asked the board if they would like to do the public officials meeting. It was decided that the public officials' meeting will be held on October 20th. Stacy will let department heads and board chairs know the date. Scott has completed the winter road inspection reports which are now in the red folder for the board's signature.

The tax collector aims to issue tax bills by the end of October to avoid them being due at Christmas. Les asked if she understood that the school, county, and village precinct all needed to have their reporting in before the board could set the rate. Stacy said she spoke with Michelle Clark, and so far, everyone is moving forward.

Jeff Nicole came before the board to report that Green Mountain was conducting water quality testing in Danforth, where they discovered a cyanobacteria bloom that is expanding into the channel toward lower Danforth. Jeff asked how the board would like to communicate this information. Les asked if the State would communicate this information. Jeff said yes, but is not sure of the timing. It was decided that Jeff

would provide necessary verbiage to Stacy, who would then send it out and post it on the Town website.

Police-

One theft, one stalking, one criminal mischief, two vin verification, twenty eight- directed patrol, nine assist citizen, two welfare check, ten motor Vehicle stop, three alarm activations, two suspicious activity, nine follow ups, two noise complaints, two domestic animal related calls, two assist other agency, seven building checks, two lost or found property, one warrant entry and one arrest for 68 old male for exposing minors to harmful materials and computer service use prohibited. Friends of Danforth have been notified.

Highway – Not available

Public Comment

Brandy updated the board that he and Kerri have sold their house and will be leaving the area in October. The next Heritage meeting will be their last meeting. Brandy commented that in light of what Alan F's statement at the last meeting about the Heritage Committee's role in relaying information about the School House Hill project, he is concerned about the membership's ability to fulfill that request. He requested the board seek out new members to fill the void their leaving will cause. Brady also noted that Freedom was mentioned in the Preservation Alliance's monthly update. Les thanked both Brandy and Kerri for all their hard work on behalf of Freedom.

Susan Marks asked whether the board had a chance to read the letter from Ossipee Lake Alliance regarding Wabanaki's boat moorings and boat slips request. She questioned if the board would consider sending a letter in response to the mooring and dock request for Wabanaki. The letter was in the red folder for the board to read. Les responded that he had read the letter and thought the letter was good. Notably, the facts about other comparable lake properties, which need to be highlighted at the hearing, include that Totem Pole Park has 32 moorings for 456 condominium owners.

Susan Marks stated the request goes against the Town's Master Plan. Susan said you don't have to be at the hearing; it's letters that need to be submitted. Susan requested the board to write a letter. Anne Cunningham said the Planning Board approves the Master Plan, but the Selectboard is charged with keeping within the plan. Anne Cunningham was also hoping the board would comment on the concern of protecting the rural character and the water quality of the lake. Alan Fall is concerned about the precedent this application would set.

Jeff Nicoll said he would propose writing a letter to the FCC on behalf of both the FCC and the selectboard. Les responded that he thought it would be better to have two letters. The deadline for the letters is September 18th.

Les asked for David Smith's letter. Stacy said she has it and will forward it to Les. Anne will forward the Master Plan details to Stacy to give to Les.

Old/New Business-

Vince Vaccaro- Vince from Tri-Tech Events approached the board to discuss details and get approval for his race to be held on June 6, 2026. Calumet will be hosting the event.

Jamie supported the date and gave a brief overview of the events that the police department covers and stated that anyone who wants to hold a 5K will need to come before the board to discuss the details and get permission. Jamie went on to explain that doing all these events puts a strain on resources, especially around holidays.

Les asked that the June 6th race be posted one week before so residents can plan an alternative route.

Masonic Lodge/ Office Renovation Update-

Alan Fall proposed that the board put Rooster Productions' (Jason Earle) letter on the Town's Website. The pages name for the website was discussed. Stacy wanted to rename the Office Renovation tab. It was decided to create a new tab and call it "The School House Hill Project". Les would like it to be more accessible. Stacy will talk to Lindsay to see what will work.

Casella Waste Systems Contract

Alan Libby discussed with the board options for the Casella Waste Systems contract that is due to expire at the end of October. Alan L. explained he has an excellent working relationship with Casella Waste Systems. With Bethlehem closing down, they have been looking for alternative places to haul to. Mount Carberry Landfill in Berlin has offered to take our trash for \$75.00 a ton. Currently, we are paying \$105.00. Casella will haul it for their hauling fee, but Mt. Carberry does not take recyclables. Casella will continue to take the recyclables. The question for the Board is whether the town can extend Casella's contract for three years. The town owns the containers. If we went with Waste Management we would have to rent them. Additionally, the hauling charges and contamination fees are higher. The public does not understand that we pay contamination fees. When someone puts a tire in a trash bag and then throws it in household trash, we are charged a contamination fee. Alan asked how long Carberry is willing to make a contract for.

It was decided that a public hearing would be held on September 22, 2025, at 6:30 pm to gather public input to extend the Casella Waste Management contract. The posting will go into the paper on Thursday. Les asked that a fact sheet with prices be provided. The costs should include recyclables, per haul, and per ton. The state will be instituting a \$3.50 fee per ton surcharge that will be reimbursable at the end of the year. This information will be in the packet for the hearing.

Gary said the zoning car has been in the garage for three weeks. Alan Fall will talk to Brian Brownell to see if he can fit the car in.

Alan F. made a motion to approve August 25, 2025, minutes, motion seconded by Gary; Motion passed unanimously.

Les made a motion to enter non-public at 7:45 pm. under RSA 91-A:3, II (L) Legal, seconded by Alan; Roll call vote:

Babb-Yes

Fall- Yes

Willaims- Yes

Alan made the motion to reconvene the public session, p.m. motion seconded by Gary; Motion carried.

The Board reconvened the public session at 8:00 pm.

Shall the minutes be publicly disclosed: NO

If no of the following motion is required:

Motion made by Seconded by

Pending litigation.

Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the board or

Render the proposed action ineffective.

Pertain to terrorism.

Alan F. made a motion to contact Chris Steveson to inform him the board wants to approve the extension for the IRS audit that was requested by the IRS, Motion seconded by Gary; Motion passed unanimously.

Stacy said she would like to start going through the non-publics to see what can be made public. She has a right to know that nonpublic minutes may need to be opened.

Payroll Manifest – week ending –	9/03/2025	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending	9/05/2025	Approved
Meeting Minutes	8/25/2025	Approved

Correspondence

Notice to Abutters	Reviewed
Wabanaki Campground Shoreland Impact Notice	Reviewed
Benefit Concert for the Freedom Food Pantry	Reviewed
Mark Mckinley Facilities Update	Reviewed
Vachon Clukay Control Deficiency Worksheet	Reviewed
IRS Extension Request	Reviewed
Intent to Cut	Approved
Winter Road Inspection Reports	Reviewed
Ossipee Lake Alliance Letter to the State Re: Wabanaki Public Hearing	Reviewed
Northern NH Human Services Budget Request	Reviewed
Carroll County Commissioners Agenda	Reviewed
Live Bill Tracker	Reviewed
Anne Cunningham Letter	Reviewed
Matt Serge email RE: Letter for Wabanaki Public Hearing	Reviewed
Wabanaki Moring Application	Reviewed
Drummond Woodsum Letter Re: 150 Scarboro Rd	Reviewed
Rooster Productions letter dated 8/31/25	Reviewed

Abatement for PID 60-1-YWH11
Abatement for PID 60-1-YMA07
Abatement for PID 60-1-YWI06
Abatement for PID 60-1-YLA34
Abatement for PID 60-1-P09
Abatement for PID 60-1-P01
Abatement for PID 60-1-YZE08

Approved
Approved
Approved
Approved
Approved
Approved
Approved

Being no further input, Fall made a motion to adjourn. Williams seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.
Adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Alan G. Fall

Gary R. Williams