Town of Freedom
Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, November 10, 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:
Also present: Scott Brooks, Alan Libby, Rich Lafarriar, Rob Cunio, Rich & Jen Ulrich, Jayne Britton, Sue Hoople, Roberta MaCarthy, **Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, and Approval of Minutes**

Alan made a motion for Les to sign the Health Trust Contract for 2026. Motion seconded by Gary; motion carried.

Les made a motion to withdraw $2,069.40 from the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund to cover repair expenses for Forestry One. Motion seconded by Alan; motion carried.

Stacy reminded department heads that Open Enrollment is Wednesday at the Town Hall for employees. Health Trust will be there to answer questions and educate staff about their plan.

Gary made a motion to approve the minutes and non-public minutes of October 27, 2025, with one correction to update the food pantry number from $60,000 to $6,000, Alan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gary reported that Frank Lalumiere emailed him to request to make a correction to the 10/27 minutes. The correction should state that *the grant funds will cover 60% of a grant project cost and the Town will cover the remaining 40% by performing the work. These NH Watershed Assistance Grants allow 60% of a project to be funded through grant funds and require the grant recipient to provide matching funds through volunteer or other sources. The work performed by the Town on the project will be used to cover the 40% matching requirement.*

<u>Department Head Update</u>

<u>Two weeks of Reporting</u>

Fire- Rob reported three medicals, one fire alarm.

Transfer Station- Alan Libby reported that cardboard will now be broken down to 2x3 so the compactor does not need to be changed out as often and allow for more tonnage in the container.

Police- Rich reported there has been an increase in vehicle arrests but nothing major. Sunday's snow is a reminder of what is coming.

Highway- Scott reported that the Highway crew is ready for winter. Burnham Road will be closed for

installing a box culvert from Wednesday the 12th through Friday the 21st. The school has been notified.

Budget Review

Transfer Station- Alan L. stated that the biggest change to his budget is increasing the C&D line. The number has not reflected the actual cost for several years. The Sanitation engineering line increased to reflect groundwater sampling required by the State. This testing is done three times a year.

Alan F. wants to get another quote but suggested using the Verdantas number for the budget.

Fire- Rob said his budget increased due to inspections and vehicle maintenance. Mutual Aid went up $1,000. Radios systems have been updated and there is more updating to be done. Computer support will reflect a quarter of the whole bill for the public safety building.

Emergency Management- No change

Ambulance- the number is $122,928.00 reflects three months of the old rate and nine months of the new rate.

New/ Old Business

Heritage Update- Alan F. reported that he has preliminary floor plans and layouts to review and Anne Cunningham will spearhead community outreach to let the community know the Schoolhouse Project progress. Strategies will be discussed at the Heritage meeting Thursday night.

Fireworks Update- Les talked to the Ossipee Town Administrator about the fireworks and Matt informed him because July 4th is the 250-year anniversary, there is a premium paid for the fireworks, and fireworks companies will not do a show under $25,000. Ossipee is requesting $10,000 from Freedom. Les supports Ossipee's request of $10,000. It was discussed that it should be a warrant article funded by fund balance. All three selectmen support the request.

Public Comment-

Susan Hoople commented the October 6th meeting minutes and stated that two or three critical facts that were omitted. She would like to come with a packet for the board to review with her and would like to know the process of amending the minutes. Les said she could ask for an amendment and if the board approves it, it would be added to the minutes but you can't change the minutes. Sue said she will present her amendment and keep the recording.
Other comments mentioned:

- She wants the town to check with the town attorney about keeping recordings regarding Wabanaki
- She questioned if the Selectboard read a November 1 email inquiring about the utility ditch and looking for plan and permits for installing the underground cable. Unidentified pictures were attached of the underground cables. She is questioning if the land that encompasses the underground utility easement should be deducted from the usable acreage for computing the septic flow. She called on Alan Fall for his expertise in this matter and Les's knowledge about the

bathhouse and septic system one because he was the Zoning Officer.

- She also questioned whether there was ever an answer to the Ossipee Lake Alliance letter dated October 20th or acknowledgement.
- She questioned is it the fiduciary responsibility of the Selectmen to enforce the zoning regulations and have it be transparent to the public who are concerned about the lake.

Les said this is a legal case and there will be no public comment. Sue responded if the board has seen a report that Ossipee Lake Alliance had done by TND Engineering. She also commented on the nitrate violation and the frequency of Wabanaki having to test. She asked when there would be a discussion on Wabanaki. Les responded that the discussions are now done in non-public under RSA 91-A:3II(l).

Jayne Britton came before the board to discuss giving her notice. She said this is a personal decision. She would like to stay until the middle of January. She would like the board to consider if the position should be an appointed or elected position. Les confirmed that Jayne has made a difference in looking out for the town's best interests.

Alan made a motion to enter non-public at 7:40 pm. under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Employee, seconded by Gary;
Roll call vote:
Babb-Yes
Fall- Yes
Willaims- Yes

Les made the motion to reconvene the public session, 7:46 p.m. motion seconded by Alan; Motion carried.
The Board reconvened the public session at 7:46 pm.
Shall the minutes be publicly disclosed: NO
If no of the following motion is required:
Motion made by Seconded by
_____ Pending litigation.
_____ x_ Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the board or
_____ Render the proposed action ineffective.
_____ Pertain to terrorism.

Alan made a motion to enter non-public at 7:46 pm. under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Employee, seconded by Gary;
Roll call vote:
Babb-Yes
Fall- Yes
Willaims- Yes

Les made the motion to reconvene the public session, 8:10 p.m. motion seconded by Alan; Motion carried.
The Board reconvened the public session at 8:10 pm.
Shall the minutes be publicly disclosed: NO
If no of the following motion is required:
Motion made by Seconded by
__X____ 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.

Payroll Manifest – week ending –	11/5/2025	Approved
Accounts Payable Manifest – week ending	11/07/2025	Approved
Meeting Minutes	10/27/2025	Approved

Correspondence

G.W Brooks Invoice to be signed off on by Selectboard	Reviewed
2025 Municipal Assessment	Reviewed
Health Trust Benefits Renewal Package	Reviewed
Notice of Intent to Cut Map 3 Lot 26-1,26-2	Reviewed
Fence Builders Estimate	Reviewed
Overwatch Foundation Grant	Reviewed
School House Town Office Layout Options	Reviewed
Fidium Proposal	Reviewed
Public Office Conflicts of Interest	Reviewed
Frank Lalumiere email	Reviewed
Ossipee Lake Dam Authority	Reviewed
Freedom Senior Resource Coordinator	Reviewed
Facilities email	Reviewed

Being no further input, Fall made a motion to adjourn. Williams seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Bolduc, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

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Leslie R. Babb Alan G. Fall Gary R. Williams