

Town of Freedom
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 11, 2019

Board Members Present: Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon
and Supervisor Randy Lester
Absent: Jolene Esposito

Other Officials Present: Justice Gary Chamberlain, Planning Board Member
DeVere Bliss

Others: 16

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Randy Lester.

- I. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Led by Supervisor Randy Lester**

- II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

Town Board Meeting –January 14, 2019

A motion was made by Ann Marie Dixon to accept the Meeting Minutes as submitted.
Seconded by Randy Lester.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 Ron Ashworth, Ann Marie Dixon, and Supervisor Randy Lester
Abstain-1 John Hill

III. Executive Session

A) Executive Session regarding Legal issues.

A motion was made by Ann Marie Dixon to close out the regular
Board Meeting at 7:04. Seconded by Ron Ashworth.

Roll Call: Ayes- 4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon,
and Supervisor Randy Lester

A motion was made to enter into executive session by Ann Marie
Dixon at 7:04 pm, motion seconded by Ron Ashworth.

Roll call: Ayes-4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon
and Supervisor Randy Lester

A motion was made by Ron Ashworth to re-open the board
meeting at 7:15 pm, motion was seconded by John Hill.

Roll call: Ayes- 4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon,
and Supervisor Randy Lester

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Supervisor Randy Lester made a motion to schedule a work session for March 14, 2019 at 7pm to discuss the Invenenergy Host Agreement and Road Agreement.
Seconded by Ann Marie Dixon.

Roll Call: Ayes-4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon,
and Supervisor Randy Lester

IV. TOWN OF FREEDOM

RESOLUTION # 4-2019

February 11, 2019

A Resolution of Approval

Whereas, Randy Lester, Town Supervisor has completed the annual checklist for review of the Justice Court Records,

And whereas, he seeks the Board's approval,

Therefore be it resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Freedom does hereby approve the annual check list as submitted.

Motion by: Ann Marie Dixon, Seconded by Ron Ashworth

Roll call:

Ashworth: Aye

Hill: Aye

Dixon: Aye

Lester: Abstain

Clerk: M. J. M. Call Date: 02/11/19

RESOLUTION #5-2019

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Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials.

See Attached

A motion was made by Ann Marie Dixon to accept Resolution #5-2019 as submitted. Motion seconded by Ron Ashworth.

Roll Call: Ayes-4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon and Supervisor Randy Lester

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A.) Councilwomen Ann Marie Dixon asked Ann McDonnell Miller to come and speak to the board about Grant work for the park building. Ann McDonnell Miller said for the Town this would be a small renovation. They should ask Senator Kathy Young to give a grant to cover amount. To ask Kathy Young the Board would first have to find out what needs to be done, then to work up cost estimate and a description. Ann Marie Dixon would like the board to consider getting heat in the building so events can be held all year, a little kitchen for events, and to update the bathroom. Ann Marie is asking for the Boards input. Supervisor Randy Lester said if this is what we are going to use lets apply for the grant. Ann Marie Dixon replied with is what we have so we should upgrade the building to make the park building more usable. Councilmen John Hill asked how far do we up grade this building? The building its self is a pole barn. The bathroom up grade John has no problem with. He also stated the building would have to be handicap assessable. Ann Marie Dixon asked Ann McDonnell Miller how much on average would this grant provide? Ann said she has seen \$40,000 to \$120,000 also there is no cost share match. Ann Marie Dixon explained she talked to Bookkeeper Jessica Dart about this. She had mentioned to Jessica if the Town would have the money if they had the work done by someone. Jessica told Ann Marie Dixon that there is money in the building renovation fund to pay someone to do the work. Ann Marie Dixon said just in case we go with this grant and it's not enough to cover all the work. Ann McDonnell Miller said there would have to be money up front to cover the drawing. She also said that there is not a guarantee on getting the grant but being they have not asked before it's in the Towns favor. It will cost the Town about \$850.00 to pay Ann McDonnell Miller to write this grant. The Deadline to get this grant wrote up is the early spring, by the end of March. Planning Board member DeVere Bliss was asked if he knew of an engineer to come and look at the building, and to draw up a plan. DeVere stated that the engineer would have to meet with the Town Board and the Planning Board to know what the building

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would be used for. Ann Marie Dixon Asked DeVere if he could contact the engineer.

Also Ann McDonnell Miller discussed about the New York State Archives grant to scan records. She said that there will be 74,000 paged of Court and Town records to be scanned The Grant decision will be made anywhere from September through December 1st. If we are funded the grant will cover the scanning of record. A clerk would be hired to prepare them, then to proof the records when they come back. Then a company will upload to the Towns computer to be assessable. The State will help to destroy paper records using the right forms and documents.

B) Invenergy held their open house on January 30, 2019 in spite of the weather. They will be a 2nd open house in the spring. Supervisor Randy Lester said about 30 people came out throughout the evening.

B) Armstrong Broadband status-

www.armstrongny.com 607-359-2211

Supervisor Randy Lester sat in on a phone conference. They completed looking at all the utility poles and taking pictures of them about 110,000 from Addison to Salamanca. They are looking at going in around September, October. If anyone is interested in coverage in their area they can go on the website type in your address and it will tell you if you are in the area they provide. Armstrong has also said they will expand the distance, so if you are within 1,000 feet of the end of the line. Councilmen John Hill informed everyone that Southern Tier Wireless have installed a Tower on Pigeon Hill Rd, so more people can get wireless service through them as well.

C) Freedom Future ideas-

Community Center

Village Green Memorial

Community Lawn Sale

Complete Park- Supervisor Randy Lester explains finishing the playground, putting up the swings and taking down old stuff on the playground.

Bring Back Fun Days

Commercial Solar Parks

Marijuana Farming- Councilman John Hill said if New York State legalizes this it will be a lucrative spot.

Supervisor Randy Lester told everyone if anyone is interested in being on a committee to please give your name to Town Clerk Mindy Holland so we can get started on plans together.

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D) Opening Bids for a 2019 Ten Wheeler. Councilmen Ron Ashworth and Councilmen John Hill opened bids earlier in the day. Ron Ashworth explained even though at the last board meeting they would not open the bids till March 14th meeting the Town can get bids under the Onondaga State Bid, therefore we don't have to wait for March to open them. We also are opening them to get the truck in and fitted in a timely fashion before next winter season. Highway Superintendent Jim Haggerty went on line and got a copy of the specs. Both truck and plow equipment bids were at the meeting. Ron Ashworth said there was 5 Bids placed for trucks, they all have automatic transmission. The Town got the same thing in the last truck and that is a Volvo. The bids were...

- 1.) Kenworth (Northeast) for \$135,010.00.
- 2.) Buffalo Truck Center (Volvo) for \$131,512.78
- 3.) International of Buffalo for \$135,114.60
- 4.) Tracy Road Equipment (Western Star) for \$130,266.00 they could not make delivery date.
- 5.) Hunter Peterbuilt for \$135,762.00

When Ron Ashworth and John Hill talked to Jim Haggerty about the Volvo he said it does not turn as sharp as the other trucks. The Town already owns 2 Kenworths. So the Kenworth would be the best buy for the Town. John Hill said the Volvo would be cheaper but based on what the highway guys said it does not have the sharp turn. They would have a better chance hitting mail boxes. Also turning sharp right hand turns as well, the Volvo does not do as good. John Hill also explains the cost difference over 10 years is less than \$1,000.00 a year, that how long the Town keeps the trucks. They feel the Kenworth will be a better resale value then the Volvo.

Plow Equipment there was 4 bids still with State bid.

- 1.) Tenco for \$107,776.00
- 2.) Viking for \$96,981
- 3.) Valley Fab for \$98,376.50
- 4.) Marquart for \$103,904.00

John Hill explained the box they got last year from Valley Fab is a stainless steel box on an old frame and the problem is that the tailgate on the Valley Box is not reinforced like the old carbon steel was. So the Town is hesitant to go back to Valley. Highway Superintendent Jim Haggerty said that the Town of Yorkshire got one from Viking and they were low specs and same thickness of steel on all their boxes.

A motion was made by John Hill to get a Kenworth Truck using the Viking Box and that the delivery will be December 1st or penalties will apply for late delivery. Seconded by Ron Ashworth

Roll Call: Ayes-3 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, and Supervisor Randy Lester

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No- 1 Ann Marie Dixon

John Hill made a motion that \$1,000 a day penalties would apply, if not delivered by December 1st. Seconded by Ron Ashworth.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 Ron Ashworth, John Hill and Supervisor Randy Lester
No-1 Ann Marie Dixon

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A) Freedom Demographic (American Community Service)
Please see attachment- Supervisor Randy Lester explained.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

1.) Jeff Newland- How much is the Town of Freedom going to get per tower from Invenergy? Supervisor Randy Lester answered that no deal has been made. Jeff said so what Valessa said \$450,000 she was getting from the top of her head. Supervisor Randy Lester said no that was a projective based on figures with 2% annual increase. Jeff asked if Randy thinks this is accurate. Supervisor Randy Lester replied he thinks its close, he also said this is subject to host agreement and the Town agreeing on figures. Jeff said the Arcade Herald stated that Arcade is getting 14 windmills and they are getting \$320,000 and that's a price difference. He would like to know why a price difference between two Towns. Supervisor Randy Lester said that there are two things, the Host agreement and the amount of money they get from energy. Jeff stated there seems to be a price difference. The other concern Jeff has is some people say that the payment going to last for only 20 years and others say 40 years. Supervisor Randy Lester said the Host Agreement is based on a 20 years then they renegotiate. Also it's not free after 20 years.

2.) Denise Willard- Asked Councilwomen Ann Marie Dixon about the last month's meeting when she reviewed Law 1-2019 on windmills before she voted on it? Ann Marie Dixon answered when she first voted on it. It was the same wind law. Denise asked how did she know that before the vote? Ann Marie Dixon said when we first voted on it. Denise wanted to know how come other members of the board did not know about it. Ann Marie Dixon said to her knowledge she thought they did. Stephanie Milks said she thinks Denise is wondering how did you know it was the same information because Randy state later in the meeting that 1-2019 was the same as 1-2018? Supervisor Randy Lester answered I was doing that for the benefit of the public not the board. Geoff Milks asked so the board had a chance to read this before the meeting? Ann Marie Dixon replied there was no change it was something that the Town had to do for the third time. Stephanie said that she felt the public should have had a chance to review 1-2019 before the vote. Stephanie also felt she wanted to see if there was changed because there was not a public hearing. Supervisor Randy Lester said he did not believe there had to be one according to our attorney. Stephanie asked who is our attorney? Supervisor Randy Lester answered Jim McAuley. Stephanie said he advised you to change the name of a law and you didn't inform the public. Supervisor Randy Lester said that is what his advises was

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and we did exactly what his advise was. Geoff Milks asked why the name change? Supervisor Randy Lester said there was no name change just a number change from the advice of the attorney, because we are were voting on it in 2019. Stephanie Milks asked when it was submitted to the State. Supervisor Randy Lester said Jim McAuley sent it to the State. Town Clerk Mindy Holland said it was filed with the State on January 22, 2019 if anyone would like a copy to F.O.I.L her and she will give you one.

Dan Meyers- Did you have a vote on the Windmill Law Suddenly or did everyone know about it before? Dan asked Councilmen Ron Ashworth if he knew about it. Ron answered yes he knew. Dan Asked Councilwomen Ann Marie Dixon she said yes. Dan asked Councilmen John Hill if he knew he said no he did not. Dan said that Councilwomen Jolene Esposito did not know either. Ann Marie Dixon and Supervisor Randy Lester answered that she has not been at the meetings. Dan is wondering how come John Hill did not know about it. Supervisor Randy Lester answered he did not feel it was necessary and he's against the Windmills.

Marcia North- She has looked into new home builds in the Town of Sheldon from Wyoming County Real Property from 2000-2008, 9 years before they did there wind project. They had 40 new builds. In 2009-2018 there was only 15 new builds. That's a 63% decrease on property development. She said people are not building new homes near wind turbines. She also has information about 60 people in a law suit against Invenergy in the Town of Orangeville because of loss of quality of life and property values. She stated that the Town Board has the opportunity to protect every resident in this Town if they would put in a property protection plan into the agreement. She said property values are affected and values go down. She said that they talk about everyone has a right to make money off their property who has turbines / lease holders on their property. Why don't every single resident in this town have the same right also. Marcia also asked why is it okay for some to take a hit when you can protect everyone with a property protection plan. Supervisor Randy Lester answered its hard to administer that. Stephanie Milks said that the Town of Sardinia can help out with that, they have one for Waist Management. Stephanie also sent a copy to Jim McAuley the Towns Attorney.

Marcia also has a flicker study that has been done for residence with excessive flicker. There was 78 hours 56 mins for 254 days a year. That comes to 1 hour 17 minutes per day of flicker.

Stephanie Milks – asked for the January 14 minutes, she liked it if specified that the Public hearing was held on March 26, 2018 for the Wind Law. Also for Local Law 1-2018 be specified that it was passed on August 20, 2018, and that Local Law 1-2019 was passed on January 14, 2019. Town Clerk Mindy Holland responded with the minutes they are the clerks minutes. When we submit them they are how we wrote them, we don't change them once the Board approves them. The Town Clerk is writing the history for the Town. However Mindy Holland can add the items listed above to this month's minutes.

Councilmen John Hill asked Marcia North for the study of flicker is that worst case scenario or estimated, because of cloudy days. Marcia said this is an estimation from Invenergy on a study they did.

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Donnis Morgan- Was there a study done by Invenergy? Supervisor Randy Lester answered they are doing lots of studies on Birds, Bats ect...

VII. REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS:

- A) Assessors –
- B) Building Committee –
- C) Building Inspector – Report Submitted.
- D) Highway Superintendent – Report Submitted
- E) Clerk/Collector – Report Submitted
- F) Constable –
- G) DCO –Report Submitted to Supervisor
- H) Highway Committee –
- I) Justices –
- J) Parks & Recreation –
- K) Planning Board –Meeting 2/14/2019
- L) Supervisor –Report Submitted
- M) Other Town Officials –

A motion was made by Ron Ashworth for Highway Superintendent to pursue finding a cost on the 2009 Peterbuild to trade to see what its worth is. Seconded by John Hill

Roll Call: Ayes-4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon
and Supervisor Randy Lester

A motion to accept the reports & communications as submitted was made by Ron Ashworth. Seconded by John Hill

Roll call: Ayes-4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon
and Supervisor Randy Lester

VIII. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

General 40 to # 64, Amt. \$8,818.23 Yrly Amt.\$76,860.07.

Motion made by Ron Ashworth to accept the General vouchers as submitted
Seconded by John Hill.

Roll call: Ayes-4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon,
and Supervisor Randy Lester

Highway 15 to 27, Amt.\$13,297.22, Yrly Amt.\$52,901.52.

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Motion made by Ron Ashworth to accept the Highway vouchers as submitted.
Seconded by John Hill.

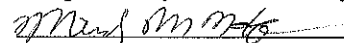
Roll call: Ayes-4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill Ann Marie Dixon
and Supervisor Randy Lester

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

John Hill made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 pm. Seconded by Ron Ashworth.

Roll call: Ayes -4 Ron Ashworth, John Hill, Ann Marie Dixon
and Supervisor Randy Lester

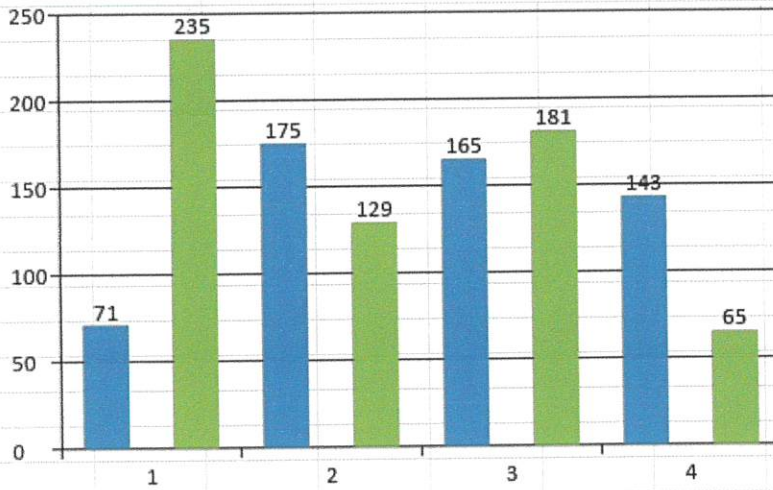
Respectfully Submitted by


Freedom Town Clerk

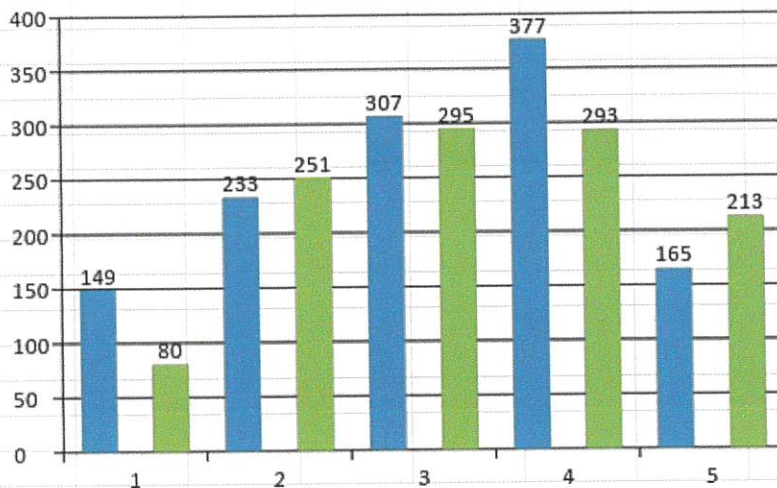
2/16/19

Freedom Demographics (American Community Ser

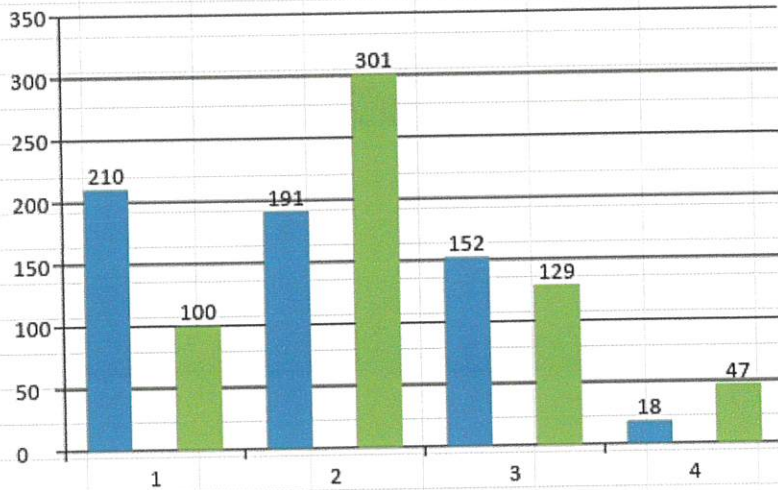
Age	2010	2017	
Under 5	71	235	
5 to 9	175	129	
10 to 14	165	181	
15 to 19	143	65	
Totals	554	610	56



Age	2010	2017	
20 to 24	149	80	
25 to 34	233	251	
35 to 44	307	295	
45 to 54	377	293	
55 to 59	165	213	
Totals	1231	1132	-99



Age	2010	2017	
60 to 64	210	100	
65 to 74	191	301	
75 to 84	152	129	
85+	18	47	
Total	571	577	* 6



	2010	2017	
TOTAL	2356	2319	-37

Income Per Household

Medium (Middle)	51,324	51,571
Mean (Average)	54,868	58,810

# of Households	946	887	-59
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