

Town of Freedom
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 17, 2020

Board Members Present: Dustin Bliss, John Hill, and Supervisor Randy Lester
Absent: Geoff Milks

Other Officials: Cattaraugus County Legislator Joe Boberg, Cattaraugus County director of Real Property Tax Services Daniel Martonis, Assessor Kate Harrington, Town Justice Mary Zink, Court Clerk Gill Koerner, and Constable Rob Harrington.

Others: 11

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 Minutes from July 20, 2020

A motion was made by John Hill to accept the Meeting minutes of July 20, 2020 as submitted. Motion seconded by Dustin Bliss.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 Dustin Bliss, John Hill, and Supervisor Randy Lester

III. Assessor Kate Harrington, and Dan Martonis: Dan Martonis started with introducing the Assessor family, he also gave his background. He stated that the County Assessing started years ago. They have 13 towns in the county. He said that one of the things they want to keep, are all towns at 100%. The Town of Freedom is at 94%, the last revaluation was 2012. He stated if you don't do revaluations the equalization rate will continue to plummet every year. He wants to get more Towns on board so that everyone pays their fair share and is equal at 100%. What does 100% mean that is the value of your property is what you should be able to get for it on the open market. That is what assessing is, just trying to figure out how much your house is worth, and what you are going to sell it through a realtor. They do this based on sales throughout the Town and look at similar towns. They do not assess homes if you maintain them, example a new roof, adding flower beds, new windows or siding. They just assess to say if you sell your home this year, then this is what you could potentially get. Dan also wanted to make sure the public knows they can get a hold of them Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The tax payers can call, also they have email. Dan handed out a “Data Collection-Corrections” sheet to the board. (Attached to the minutes.) Dan explained how they get the data for the revalue, one thing they do is a lot of work in house. The data collector will go parcel by parcel using aerial photography, to see how many buildings there supposed to be that the previous assessor had on the assessment roll. Example if they see two buildings on the assessment roll but they see three on the aerial photography, then they go road side to see if they can get any information. Then they go back to the office and add the building to the property. Then they send out data information to the owners. So far 50 people in the Town of Freedom have gotten data information letters. The

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letters explain the inventory they have in the letters, also they have land brake outs. They have land schedules for the farmers, it will say your primary acres where taxed at this amount, your secondary, residual, tillable, pasture, wetland, etc. They all have different dollar amounts; they want to make sure that farms are properly cut up. Dan went on to explain the Data Collection-Correction sheet. He stated in the Town of Freedom they found three houses that where not on the assessment roll last year, that had been built but they were not on. Kate explain they are keeping more detail notes now. Dan stated this is step one, do the data collection. Then they do the evaluation side of it, then everyone will get a letter stating this will be your new assessment for the next year. They will give times for the citizen to come and meet with the assessors. Then after the citizen and assessor meet, the assessor will send out another letter explaining what the assessment will be. If the citizen still not happy they can go to the Board of Assessment Review. Then the Board of Assessment Review will make the determination. If the citizen does not like what the Board of Assessment Review they can go to small claims assessment review, or court. They always look at realtor.com to have a good idea what a property would be valued at. Dan stated if you don't do revalues the State of New York comes up with the equalization rate. Dan stated that it will fall every year. If the Town does not do a revalues for so many years the State comes in and does a survey. He said that the State will more than likely come into the Town of Freedom and do that within the next few years. The Town has to go up with what the State says because they are mandated by New York State Law to come up with a equalization rate. The State looks at a wider area, and they may look at what a ranch homes sell for in Allegany compared to what a ranch house sells for in Freedom. The Assessors want to look at the sales in the neighborhood. The Assessor would like to keep the Town at 100%, there may be jumps here or there this year, but every other year the Town would not have the big jumps. Dan said that last month the letter that went to the Town Board with the resolution that the Board needs to pass so the State can pay them \$5.00 a parcel to do a revalue. The Town has 1,400 parcels so that's about \$7,000 for the State to pay the Town. The Town will make money off of the revalue, they will not have to pay money to do a revalue, and you get all the taxpayers paying their fair share of the taxes. Dan also explained that sometimes people think revalues is to collect more tax money. He stated whatever the Town budget, County budget or School budget is, that's how much the entities need to pay to operate. That has nothing to do with the tax value of your property. Rick Lange asked who is doing the aerial photography? Dan said the State flies the whole State every 5-6 years and they do quadrants, they do straight down and angle shots. Rick ask if that searchable on the internet. Dan said yes it is on the real property website. Councilman John Hill stated he sees that they are correcting sheds, he stated that recently New York State and the Town of Freedom have said if the shed is less than 144 square feet, you don't need a building permit. John would like to know do they assess sheds that are smaller than that? Dan said they do assess the sheds, but they don't worry about anything less than 10x12. Kate added what they look at is what does it contribute to the value of the property, if you look at two house the same but one property has a shed on it, and one does not, will the sale price be different, they try to get the asses value to what they would sell it for. Dan said they are told to collect that data but for example they won't value above ground pools because one might be really nice and one might be detriment to the property. He said even with solar panels, there is no sales coming in saying its being sold for more money, so they will collect the data that they have solar panels but will not add value to it for now until they see homes being sold with solar panels. John said, the way he understands it is it's a total package, meaning if the pool is not in the best shape, but they have a

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really nice shed, it balances out. If the neighbor has a pole barn, and it's better they would put more value on the pole barn than the shed. Dan said its similar to something like that. They look at the quality one might be in better shape than another, they put condition codes up. They collect on the data and the condition and grade it to give it a value. If they don't have good data coming in, then they will have bad data going out and that is the assessment. That's when they rely on the people to let them know if their condition grades are good. John asked, how do the Assessors know if people have finish basements? They look at sales online and if they see the realtor had a picture of a finish basement then that is when they find out, unless the owner gives them the information. They also collect the information with building permits, if for some reason they needed a building permit to open up a wall, then they get the information from the Code Enforcement Officer. Ron Preivity asked if a shed is build that has a pole in the ground, verses a shed that's on a skid, are they assessed the same? Dan said that people say the skid is a moveable shed, they consider it to be moveable if it moved off the property for more than 6 months of the year. Basically, it will be assessed even if it is moveable. Constable Rob Harrington said the 21 barns and number of houses that the assessors found, he would like to know if all these people are taking out permits? Isn't the Assessors job to get the permits for all these places. Dan said exactly a part of the Assessors job, they work with the Building Code Enforcer, to let them knows if there is a new building or addition. Kate said sometimes there is miss communication with the Building Code Enforce Officer, they have seen that in towns. Also, in a lot of towns for ag buildings, no building permit is required, so that's why they find a lot of barns. Ron Preivity asked is there a time frame when a person needs to get a occupancy permit? Dan stated what they do is taxable status day March 1st, what is on that property March 1st that's what going to get assessed for the following year. Rick Lange asked where is all the Assessor info? Dan stated the Assessor info is software package that the Assessor use and most of what's there can be found online at the Cattco.org website. Councilman Dustin Bliss asked Dan if he was at the meeting because the Town did not pass the resolution at the last meeting. Dan said yes, and he knew there was some questions about it, and he wanted to come and talk about any of the concerns the Board may have. If the Board wants to sign it then they will continue to do what they are doing, if they don't want to sign then they stop collecting data. The resolution is just so that they can go back to the State and say Freedom is ready, and the State will pay \$5.00 a parcel once they are done with the revalue. Dustin asked how much does the revalue cost? Dan said it can cost anywhere from \$20,000-\$300,000. If the Town went with a company, it could be cost \$100,000. Kate explain that the Town would not be paying anything for the revalue, they are doing this for the Towns for free. Dustin stated that a revalue in this Town goes rather poorly, he understands that in a revalue that 1/3 is underpaying, 1/3 overpaying, and 1/3 that are right on. Dustin stated he's never heard of anyone saying their taxes went down in a revalue. Dan said that they have color coded maps that tell when properties go down in a revalue. Dustin stated he be interested in seeing them. Kate stated sometimes the property values are distributed so unequally, for an example in one town, they had many property owners who assessment went up but their property taxes went down. Dustin wanted to know why is the resolution coming from Gary Drake, Regional Director, Western Region. Dan said its coming from the State because they need the resolution in order for them to be able to pay the Town \$5.00 a parcel. Dustin asked property values are not use for Town Taxes but are used for County and School. Dustin said so if the Town levy taxes don't change, he asked Dan to explain to everyone at the meeting, how an increase property value in the Town here will not implicate the Town for higher County and

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School taxes. Dan stated it's a moving machine and a lot of different Town in the County are fluctuating. He stated just because their value went up, it might not mean you are paying more in the county taxes. They put out a tax impact on this as well, to let the tax payer know that if this is the value last year this is what you would have paid on your tax bill. Dan stated it also has to do with the full market value as well, right now the town is at 94%, if your assessed at 100,000 your actual full market value is a 106,000. That's how much they are saying your property worth. So if the Assessors come in and say a house is worth 105,000, last year you were at 100,000, your actually at 106,000 because its full market value, your value went down by a 1,000, there for you pay less in taxes. Ron Previty asked Kate how she got involved in this. Kate stated that the Assessor office works alongside with the State, the New York State office of Real Property Taxes Services. Ron asked when the Town Board signs the paper and they turn it back in then that triggers the Assessors to come see us. Kate stated no. Legislator Joe Boberg wanted Dan and Kate to come and explain, it's not about County or State control, it's a plan the Town decided to pay, they will do the revalue for free, and they will get \$5.00 a parcel from this. He stated it's a good deal for the Town. Dan explained that they have three things going on. They partnered with the Town as the assessor, they can just sit back and do maintains. Or they can bring the Town up to full value, that's what they are doing right now with the revalue, on top of that they have to pass the resolution to get \$5.00 a parcel, if the board does not pass it they just won't get the \$5.00. They still can do the revalue; it has nothing to do with the State. The State will have more control over assessed values when you are not doing updates. John Hill stated if the Town does the revalue and we get up to 100%, then at the County level they see a lot more of what we are doing, the State level will be turning to the County level, as opposed to saying we need to raise these guys up another 6% or 8%. John said from where he stands we do the revalue and get the \$5.00 per parcel he's fine with, also the Town is saving \$90,000 that the Board does not have to tax the Town to do a revalue, and we are getting E rates to 100%. John said yes, some people will be paying more, some paying less and some paying the same. Dustin Bliss asked do we have to do a revaluation at some point? Dan stated well you do not have to do a revalue, but your E rate will keep dropping year after year. Dustin stated what bothers him is that to a certain point your discouraging people from investing in their property, he feels that every time someone spends say \$10,000.00 on their property, they know their taxes will go up say \$500.00. Dan stated you will always have the value of improvements on, when a person builds then they will put the improvements on. Dan said when they get to 100% it's much more manageable. John Hill stated that he's for it, because basically if a resident moved in a house a month ago, or someone that's been there for years, it levels it out. Supervisor Randy Lester asked for this to be tabled till the September meeting. Town Clerk Mindy Holland stated she will send an email to the Board Members with the information that was given to them at the July meeting.

- III. **Court Clerk Gill Koerner-JCAP:** Gill explained that every year the State allows the Town Courts an opportunity to apply for Justice Court Assistance Grant. She felt that it be a good idea to apply for the grant to help with some updates at the Town Hall, she stated she does not know how much longer these grants will be available. There is no cost to the Town for applying, she is submitting an electronic application. They will get notified in March if they are awarded the money, and how much they are awarded, then depending on how much they are awarded, they would go forward with. This year she would like to apply for the whole \$30,000.00. She gave a list of

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what it be used for at the Town Hall, as stated in the resolution below. She explained why each item is something that is needed, some items need to be updated. There may be some items that don't pertain to the justice that cannot be quoted under the JCAP grant that would be for the Town Hall and be additionally \$3,000.00. The total for estimates that would cover all the updates is \$34,000.00, once they get the grant they will come back to the Town Board and they will decide what projects they want to go forward with based on funding that they receive. Gill is asking for the Town Board to pass the resolution to authorize Gill to apply for the grant.

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Resolution #26 of 2020

August 17, 2020

JUSTICE COURT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (JCAP) GRANT

The Court Clerk would like to apply for the JCAP grant. The items she is requesting are handicap door openers, new camera system, keyless entry system, handicap accessible drop box, desk for court office, and a transaction window for court office.

2020 JCAP GRANT RESOLUTION

Motion by Dustin Bliss and seconded by John Hill to authorize the following resolution regarding the 2020 JCAP grant.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the New York State (NYS) Unified Court System established the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) in 1999 to provide State assistance to Town and Village Courts, and

WHEREAS, the NYS Unified Court System is accepting applications for the 2020 JCAP grant, and

WHEREAS, the maximum JCAP award is \$30,000 per municipality, and

WHEREAS, the grant may be used for a variety of purposes, including, but not limited to, new or updated automation, office and security equipment, furniture, and courtroom renovations, and

WHEREAS, the deadline for application is October 8, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the Freedom Town Board understands that any funds awarded pursuant to an application shall be used only in accordance with all rules and regulations governing the JCAP, and

WHEREAS, the Freedom Town Board also understands that any goods and/or services purchased with any JCAP funds shall be obtained in accordance with acceptable procurement practices established by the Town of Freedom including competitive bidding, and

WHEREAS, the Freedom Town Board acknowledges that no funds awarded pursuant to an application shall be used to compensate justices or non-judicial staff or to reduce or otherwise supplant funding provided by the Town to its justice court, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Freedom Town Board hereby authorizes court personnel to make application; and

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the court personnel be authorized to apply up to the maximum amount available for the items listed below,

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- Handicap door openers
- New camera system
- keyless entry system
- Handicap accessible drop box
- Desk for court office
- Transaction window for court office

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Freedom Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign the 2020 JCAP application or any documents relating to the submission of the grant application.

The motion was passed upon the following vote:

VOTE

Dustin Bliss: Aye

John Hill: Aye

Geoff Milks: Absent

Supervisor Randy Lester: Aye

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF Cattaraugus) SS:
Town of Freedom)

I Mindy Holland, Town Clerk for the Town of Freedom, Cattaraugus County, State of New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of resolution or motion with the original resolution or motion now on file in the office and which was passed by the Freedom Town Board on August 17, 2020 a majority of all the members elected to the Board voted in favor thereof, and that the same is correct and true of such original resolution or motion and of the whole thereof.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Town of Freedom on August 17, 2020.

Freedom Town Clerk

SEAL

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V. Resolution 24 of 2020: Adopting Local Law 2-2020 “Town of Freedom Wind Energy Facilities Law”;

A motion was made by Supervisor Randy Lester to adopted Local Law 2 of 2020. Seconded by Dustin Bliss.

Roll Call:

Dustin Bliss: Aye

John Hill: Aye

Geoff Milks: Absent

Randy Lester: Aye

VI. Resolution #27 -2020

TOWN OF FREEDOM

RESOLUTION #27-2020

August 17, 2020

A Resolution Transferring Funds

The Town Board of the Town of Freedom, pursuant to Town Law Section 112, Paragraph 1 wishes to:

Transfer funds from:

A201 General Fund in the amount of \$1563.00

To:

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A1680.2 (Central Data Processing) to cover the costs incurred on the purchase of a replacement copier/scanner/fax. This amount will be reflected in general voucher # 161 of 2020.

Motion by: John Hill, Seconded by Dustin Bliss

Roll call:

Bliss: Aye

Hill: Aye

Milks: Absent

Lester: Aye

Clerk: _____ Date: 08/17/2020

VII. Ron Previty: Ron explained that a while back he came to the Town Board and asked them what someone has to do to get a license in the Auto Wrecking Business. When he spoke of that he spoke of the Transfer Station explaining what they do with loaded boxes. Sense that time Ron has received a call from Cattaraugus County, Mark Shaw who runs the County Transfer Station. He told Ron about a law, that the Town Board was given a copy in their meeting packets. He stated that this is a from 1990, there is a section that says a transfer station like what he does needs to be okayed by the Town Board recognizing that he has a the transfer station in the Town of Freedom. Councilman Dustin Bliss stated he has no problem with what Ron is asking for. He said if the DEC of the State of New York is fine with what Ron has, then he does not think the Town Board has a place to supersede that.

Dustin Bliss made a motion to approve, and recognize that Ron Previty, and L&R Transfer station is operated in the Town of Freedom. Seconded by John Hill

Roll Call: Ayes- Dustin Bliss, John Hill, and Supervisor Randy Lester

VIII: Old Business:

1. **Park:** Supervisor Randy Lester told the Board that the last water bill they got from the Village of Arcade the park and post office had used 12,000 gallons of water. Randy said when they went to turn the water on, the water fountain leaked very bad behind

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the building by the playground. The problem is there is only one-line coming in. Randy had the plumber come and make different shut off for this water fountain. After they turned the water back on the water fountain out behind the building still leaks and the one behind the post office also leaks. Councilman John Hill stated that the one behind the post office is not even operational. He had pressed the button earlier in the day and got no water out, but there was water coming out of the bottom. Randy also stated that both water fountains are broke, and they are working on getting parts for them. Also, the men's bathroom in the park shelter is broke. No water coming into the men's room. Randy said the plumber thinks it plugged up some place because it's both the toilet and the sink. The plumber will be back to look at that. Town Clerk Mindy Holland stated that Bookkeeper Jessica Dart said whatever the problem is to get it fixed.

Fence: Councilman John Hill was asked by Councilman Geoff Milks to take a look at the fence around the park. John stated down by the post office the fence is bad. John's question is he likes the fence that is between the playground and the property's above that because that drops way down. Also, it stops a basketball from going into the neighbor's yard. The fence that's behind the church, he stated the main reason why it's there is to keep people from parking there to come to the park. Councilman Dustin Bliss explained for the fence by the road it was discussed at the last meeting and it's good to have for summer rec to keep kids from running out in the road. As for the fence between the building and the playground that's a waste. John agreed it's a waste. John can see why they have the fence between the ball diamond and the playground, to keep separated so people can use both at the same time. John thinks they should evaluate the L shape behind the park building. He does not see any purpose for it. The one next to the basketball court is looking in good shape and should stay. John is wondering what the Town wants to do as far as the fence behind the church. Geoff got a price on materials to replace stuff, it be about \$4,000.00. If they got someone to fix it, the price would be roughly be \$8,000.00 to repair the fence that we have. John's other thought is to take the fence down between the Town park and the church, leave the poles and use a chain between on the polos. Dave Stiles stated he rather not see the chain because if a ball player runs into it, he has seen them get hurt. It was asked what they are doing now, running into the fence and Dave said yes, it's better. John asked do we want to replace the fence or do we want to take it down. John feels we should get more information on this. Supervisor Randy Lester asked that maybe at the next Board Meeting that will be held at the park again, if the Board members could get there early at 6:30 and take a walk and look into it. John had no problem with that.

2. **Town Green:** Supervisor Randy Lester introduced a member of the Senior Citizens, Susan Lester, who spoke on behalf of the Senior Citizens. She wanted to address the Town Green. She stated that at the July meeting approximately 20 minutes was spent debating the function, the use, the need, the cost. She wanted to bring up a year ago at a Town Board

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Meeting the Freedom Seniors requested that the stump be left intact. The Seniors Citizens took on the project to beautify it with flowers. This request was granted and the seniors have followed through. There are also others such as a local historian, a recent board member, and other town folks that have had ideas of preserving some of Freedom's history. Some people do want to preserve this what use to be called the Town Commons. Susan said there seems to be no need to go on further with much discussion. The Board's position this time, should contact the Tucker family, and inform them that they are encroaching on Town property, and if there is a legal right away agreement then that needs to be acquired, shared, and noted. It is the belief that all efforts have been done to bring the parcel up to date for the Town records. The cost for the Town Green is so minimal, Susan feels it's ridiculous to debate it. Could the Board just see fit to let those that want to do something and be involved, not to be pushed aside and unrecognized. Any further ideas regarding the Town Green will be presented and okayed by the Town Board. Sue said no, as it was indicated the Town Green does not bring the Town money, but maybe it could bring some pride. The Board enthusiasm being the way it is, is appreciated but unwanted regarding this small piece of land. To use the previous name of this being called the "Sweet Spot", one would think we need this in an otherwise sour tone our Town has been having as of late. The Freedom Seniors ask to be left to continue, their pursuit of this small garden, stomp project of flowers, flags, that they are in the process of developing. Susan stated thank you in advance from the Freedom Seniors.

Supervisor Randy Lester said regarding the Town Green, he showed all the documents he has to date. In further research, in 1983 there was a quick claim granted easement to the Dawson family for a 15 foot right away, going back to 1945, when various families had that right of way. The Dawson house was on a separate lot behind the Tucker house. The original court order of 1945 is the court granted the Town of Freedom a lot 70ft x 110ft. Randy has searched for surveys there is only one survey associated with it, it was done in the year 2000 by a Mr. Lindbergh. Randy gave the Board members a map and highlighted the Town Green on it. Randy asked if more than himself be involved in this, being that he owns the property next door to the Town Green. Randy also stated he feels it's clear that the motor home that sits next to the Town Green is on the Town property and he also stated that the Town Green goes into the neighboring property. Councilman Dustin Bliss said the issue from past meetings is how much it would cost the Town to maintain the property. Randy stated its minimal just to cut the grass. Dustin stated there was discussing about removing a tree. The amount that was given was \$800.00. Randy said he has asked for Board members to look at the tree to decide if it should be taken down. About two months ago half of the tree broke off and the remainder is over the sidewalk and the road. It is a concern that the tree may not be healthy and possible be a danger if the rest should fall. Question was asked if the tree is on the State right of way. It was answered that the State has a 63 ft. right of way from the center of the road on to the property. Ron Previty said maybe the Town should appoint someone to look into this to see what it would take to take the tree down. Denise Willard agreed, if it's in the State right of way and posing a danger, she suggested looking into who is in charge of the maintenance for the area. Randy will ask Highway Superintendent Jim Haggerty to look into who it is. Ron Previty stated he would help pay with the removal of the Tree and the stump if it's on the Town's property. Councilman John Hill stated if we can get the tree taken care of he does not see anyone having any objections with the Freedom Seniors going and beautifying the Town Green. John is also asking Randy as Town Supervisor to come to an

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agreement with the neighbors of the Town Green so they can maintain the whole area. John is not concerned with that area being cut with grass, and he feels if his inkling is correct they would try to beautify is with almost zero grass cutting. Randy does not feel it's appropriate for him to go to his next-door neighbor that he does not have any real relationship with and tell them to move the motor home. After much discussion of the Town Green Dustin asked what the point of this discussion. Randy stated he suggest someone else beside himself, the joining land owner come to the Town Green and take a look at this, measure and give some concurrence on it.

3. **Clean up Days Times: 7:00 am to 3:00 pm both Septembers 25, & 26.**
 - a. **Advertising-** Highway Superintendent will have fall signs make for this year and for future use seeing that there will be a clean-up day in the fall as well. Town Clerk Mindy Holland asked the Board where they like the ad's places for the clean-up days. The Pennysaver and Arcade Herald will have the ads.
4. **Schedule a Public Hearing for Snow removal local law 1-1998.** They will set the public hearing date in September to have the public hearing at the October meeting.

IX: New Business

1. **Discussion of Comprehensive Plan:** Supervisor Randy Lester put a copy in the Board's meeting packet, this is a law from 1990 that the Board had made to look ahead to the future, Randy would like to resurrect it. Randy would like to discuss this at the next board meeting.
2. **Demographics:** Supervisor Randy Lester put this in the packets (please see attached). Councilman John Hill stated that some neighboring property to him has had some new families move in and they have children. He's happy to know longer have a vacant house next to him. He also stated he was not sure how the Town did it, but the Brasky property has been cleaned up and its only been 20 years.
- 3.
4. **Patty Kline has resigned as Deputy Town Clerk.**
5. Town Clerk Mindy Holland would like to pass a law to allow Bookkeeper Jessica Dart to be able to be her Deputy: Mindy asked the board if at the next Board meeting she could bring forward a law to be passed to allow an out of Town person be a Deputy Town Clerk. Also, if at the next meeting with the law present, she is asking to set the Public Hearing for October. Councilman Dustin Bliss would like to start the process at the next Town Board meeting.
6. Highway Superintendent Jim Haggerty is asking if he can accept bids on a new loader to update the loader. Board had no problems with that.

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X. Public Comments:

Rick Lange asked what the different definition between a Town Park and the Town Green? Councilman John Hill answered the Town Green is a piece of property owned by the Town. Rick Lange stated so the Town owns both, but they have a different description.

Doug Moran is asking for the bridge on Eagle Street to get some attention, it's getting in rough shape. Legislator Joe Boberg stated he would discuss it at a county meeting he will be having on Wednesday.

Councilman John Hill stated he has an issue with Hughes Road, from Eagle Street up, is being destroyed by trucks from Centerville, and Farmersville. They come up Hughes Road instead of taking all of Eagle Street because of the bridge. Councilman Dustin Bliss asked is there weigh restrictions on the bridge on Eagle Street. Denise Willard stated that it's a R rated bridge on Eagle Street. John does not think they can go down Eagle Street with a load, but they are coming up Hughes Road instead. Ron Previtly said they had to buy permits; he is asking if they have a permit to go on roads in the Town of Freedom. Supervisor Randy Lester asked can we restrict them? John stated to restrict them they have to put weight limits on the roads. John wanted to point out its getting really nasty on the end of the road.

XI. Reports & Communications:

- A) Assessors-Report Submitted
- B) Building Committee-
- C) Building Inspector-Report Submitted
- D) Highway Superintendent- Report Submitted
- E) Clerk/Collect- Report Submitted

-Note the Town Offices will be closed September 5 and September 7, 2020 for Labor Day weekend.

- F) Constable-
- G) DCO-
- H) Highway Committee
- I) Insurance Committee-
- J) Justices-
- K) Planning Board- Report Submitted
- L) Park & Recreations-
- M) Supervisor- Report Submitted
- N) Other Town Officials-

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

Roll Call: Ayes-3 Dustin Bliss, John Hill and Supervisor Randy Lester

XII. Approval of Vouchers:

General #153 to #170, Amt. \$7,445.49, Yrly Amt. \$160,723.30.

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Motion made by Dustin Bliss to accept the General vouchers as written. Seconded by John Hill.

Roll Call: Ayes -3 Dustin Bliss, John Hill and Supervisor Randy Lester

Highway # 83 to # 92, Amt. \$17,954.80, Yrly Amt. \$326,138.39.

Motion made by Dustin Bliss to accept the Highway vouchers as written. Seconded by John Hill.

Roll Call: Ayes -3 Dustin Bliss, John Hill and Supervisor Randy Lester

XIII. Adjournment: Dustin Bliss made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:54pm. Seconded by John Hill.

Roll Call: Ayes -3 Dustin Bliss, John Hill and Supervisor Randy Lester

Respectfully Submitted by,

Mindy M. Holland
Freedom Town Clerk
08/23/2020