

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

**Board Members Present: R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks & Supervisor Randy Lester**

**Board Members Absent: Dustin Bliss, and John Hill**

**Other Officials: Highway Superintendent Jim Haggerty, Dog Control Officer Denise Willard, Planning Board Member Lyle Morgan, & Constable Robert Harrington**

**Others: 12**

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

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

**II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

Town Board Meeting Minutes from June 21, 2021

A motion was made by R. Nick Morgan to accept the Meeting minutes of June 21, 2021 as submitted. Motion seconded by Geoff Milks.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

Special Board Meeting Minutes from July 1, 2021

A motion was made by R. Nick Morgan to accept the Special Meeting minutes of July 1, 2021 as submitted. Motion seconded by Geoff Milks.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

**III. Letter From Councilman John Hill, Town Clerk was asked to read to the Board: Letter attached to the minutes.**

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A motion was made by Supervisor Randy Lester to close the Regular Board Meeting at 7:06. Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

A motion was made by Supervisor Randy Lester to open the Public Hearing on Local Law 2 of 2021 at 7:06. Seconded by Geoff Milks

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

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**IV. Local Law 2 of 2021**

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

**LOCAL LAW RELATING TO THE LICENSING, CONTROL, CONFINING AND LEASHING OF DOGS IN THE TOWN OF FREEDOM AND REPEALING LOCAL LAW 1-2001 ('DOG CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM'), 1-2007 (AMENDING LOCAL LAW 2001, "DOG CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM"), 1-2010 ("THE DOG LICENSING LAW". ALSO AMENDING LOCAL LAW 1-2001, "THE DOG CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM"), AND 1-2014 (AMENDING AND REDACTING LOCAL LAW 1-2010, "THE DOG LICENSING LAW". ALSO AMENDING LOCAL LAW 1-2001, "THE DOG CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM").**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**No Public Comments**

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**A motion was made by Supervisor Randy Lester to close the Public Hearing at 7:09 pm. Seconded by Geoff Milks.**

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

**A motion was made by Geoff Milks to open the Regular Board Meeting at 7:10 pm. Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.**

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

**A motion was made by Geoff Milks to PASS, Local Law 2 of 2021, LOCAL LAW RELATING TO THE LICENSING, CONTROL, CONFINING AND LEASHING OF DOGS IN THE TOWN OF FREEDOM AND REPEALING LOCAL LAW 1-2001 ('DOG CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM'), 1-2007 (AMENDING LOCAL LAW 2001, "DOG CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM"), 1-2010 ("THE DOG LICENSING LAW". ALSO AMENDING LOCAL LAW 1-2001, "THE DOG CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM"), AND 1-2014 (AMENDING AND REDACTING LOCAL LAW 1-2010, "THE DOG LICENSING LAW". ALSO AMENDING**

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

**LOCAL LAW 1-2001, "THE DOG CONTROL LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM"). Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.**

**Roll Call:** Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester  
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A motion was made by Geoff Milks to close the Regular Board Meeting at 7:11 pm.  
Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.

**Roll Call:** Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

A motion was made by Geoff Milks to open the Public Hearing on Local Law 3 of 2021 at 7:12 pm. Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.

**Roll Call:** Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

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**V. Local Law 3 of 2021**

**LOCAL LAW #3 OF 2021 THE JUNK LAW / JUNKYARD LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM.**

**Public Comments**

**No Public Comments**

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A motion was made by R. Nick Morgan to close the Public Hearing at 7:12 pm.  
Seconded by Geoff Milks.

**Roll Call:** Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

A motion was made by R. Nick Morgan to open the Regular Board Meeting at 7:13 pm. Seconded by Geoff Milks.

**Roll Call:** Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester  
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**Councilman Geoff Milks was looking for the page in the law there has ATV's and mowers, he just wants to make sure that business in town that do ATV businesses get exempt. Geoff stated that they know what they're doing, and they keep it clean. Supervisor Randy Lester asked Geoff if you wanted to research that a little bit more. Geoff Said he would look into it a little bit more.**

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

**A motion was made Geoff Milks by to TABLE Local Law 3 of 2021, LOCAL LAW #3 OF 2021 THE JUNK LAW / JUNKYARD LAW OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM. Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.**

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

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A motion was made by R. Nick Morgan to close the Regular Board Meeting at 7:16 pm.  
Seconded by Geoff Milks.

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

A motion was made by Geoff Milks to open the Public Hearing on APPLICATION FOR JUNKYARD PERMIT at 7:16 pm. Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

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**V. APPLICATION FOR JUNKYARD PERMIT**

**Public Comments**

**No Comments**

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A motion was made by Geoff Milks to close the Public Hearing at 7:17 pm.  
Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

A motion was made by Geoff Milks to open the Regular Board Meeting at 7:17pm.  
Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

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**TOWN OF FREEDOM**

**RESOLUTION # 8-2021**

July 19, 2021

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

A Resolution Approving the use of the Blank Forms as follows –

Application for Junkyard Permit

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Freedom has adopted Local Law 3# -2021

**AND WHEREAS**, The Town Board has determined that it would be appropriate to approve forms for said Junk Yard Law separately,

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that the attached Application for Junkyard Permit, will be used until such a time that the Freedom Town Board amends or abolishes them.

Motion by:

Roll call:

Morgan:

Bliss:

Hill:

Milks:

Lester:

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: / /

**Geoff made a motion to table till the next meeting. Until Local law 3 of 2021 is passed this will have to be tabled at each meeting.**

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A motion was made by Geoff Milks to close the Regular Board Meeting at 7:19 pm.  
Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

A motion was made by Geoff Milks to open the Public Hearing on NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH JUNK STORAGE LAW at 7:20. Seconded by R.Nick Morgan.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

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**VI. NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH JUNK STORAGE LAW**

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

**Public Comments**

**Stephanie Milks asked who is going to be enforcing the notice to comply with junk storage law. Councilman Geoff Milks said it would be the Code Enforcement Officer. Councilman R. Nick Morgan said it's written in the law that's the code enforcement officer enforces this.**

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**A motion was made by Geoff Milks to close the Public Hearing at 7:21pm. Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.**

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

**A motion was made by R. Nick Morgan to open the Regular Board Meeting at 7:21 pm. Seconded by Geoff Milks.**

**Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester**

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**TOWN OF FREEDOM**

**RESOLUTION # 9-2021**

July 19, 2021

A Resolution Approving the use of the Blank Form as follows –

Notice to Comply with Junk Storage Law

**WHEREAS,** The Town of Freedom has adopted Local Law 3# -2021

**AND WHEREAS,** The Town Board has determined that it would be appropriate to approve forms for said Junk Yard Law separately,

**THEREFORE,** be it resolved, that the attached Notice to Comply with Junk Storage Law, will be used until such a time that the Freedom Town Board amends or abolishes them.

Motion by:

Roll call:

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

Morgan:

Bliss:

Hill:

Milks:

Lester:

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: / /

**This resolution will be tabled until the next meeting, this resolution will be tabled until Local Law 3 of 2021 is passed.**

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**VII. TOWN OF FREEDOM**

**RESOLUTION # 10-2021**

July 19, 2021

A Resolution transferring funds from Justice Grant Fund.

The Town Board of the Town of Freedom, in compliance with Resolution #6-2021 and pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 6-c, wishes to;

Transfer funds from:

Justice Grant Fund Account in the amount of \$11,051.00

To: A1110.4 (Justice Contractual) to cover part of the cost incurred during the installation of our new security system, as set forth in General Voucher #138 - 2021.

Motion by: Geoff Milks, Seconded by R. Nick Morgan

Roll call:

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

Morgan: Aye

Bliss: Absent

Hill: Absent

Milks: Aye

Lester: Aye

Clerk: *Mary M. Hall* Date: 07/19/2021

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**VIII. TOWN OF FREEDOM**

**RESOLUTION #11**

July 19, 2021

**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:

A202 General Savings Account in the amount of \$31,931.15

To:

A1620.4 (Building Contractual) to cover the remaining cost incurred for the purchase and installation of our new security system, as set forth on General Voucher # 138 - 2021.

Motion by: R. Nick Morgan, Seconded by Geoff Milks

Roll call:

Morgan: Aye

Bliss: Absent

Hill: Absent



Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

Milks: Aye

Lester: Aye

Clerk: M. M. Old Date: 07/19/2021

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**IX. Old Business:**

1. **Town Green:** Supervisor Randy Lester said that last month before the last board meeting, Councilman R. Nick Morgan and Geoff Milks came and looked at the Town Green. Randy asked if there were any comments. Geoff Said it's not a really big piece of property, he does not think the town's changing anything on it, he is not worried about chasing down pins. Randy said this has been kicked down the road for decades, it's about time the town does something. Randy said the motorhome has been removed, now there is a car sitting on the Town Green with no plates on it. Randy stated that Councilman Dustin Bliss said that the back of the town green gets narrower. Randy measured and it is 45 feet in the back. Randy said that his property is on one side, and Carley's property is on the other side. Geoff asked what you have in mind. Randy said we either have to send them a letter or we employ an attorney to send them a letter, or again we go down and measure the town green. The Green goes very close to the Tucker house. Randy, explain that two different times, the Town of Freedom has given a 15 foot right away, one of those goes back many years. The other one was for the house that was behind Tuckers, that was owned by the Dawsons and they had a 15 foot right away. Mrs. Tucker told Randy she believed that they had a 15 foot right away, but there is no record at the town of that. Dog Control Officer Denise Willard stated that she had heard that Mr. Tucker had maintained the Town Green. Randy said that he had mowed the lawn but that doesn't mean that they own it. Nick said it's a difficult piece of land and without a survey to legally justify steps, which is difficult on that land. Nick said he doesn't know what first step they would be able to take. Randy said that the town did hire a surveyor two or three years ago, two men came in for a couple days surveying, the last time that he spoke to the owner of the survey company and that goes back a year, the gentleman indicated it was sitting on his desk to review it and that there were problems. The company had a bill of \$2000 in time already, after that conversation Randy tried calling him at least 10 more times, left a message, and the gentleman never returned his call. The Green was never surveyed. David Wild had a hotel at the rear of the Green, and he gave it to the town, and that seems to be where it's at. Then it went to court in 1944, and in 1947 Cattaraugus County Court awarded a piece of land in the Green measuring 110 feet long and 70 feet wide. Nick said we could send a letter or send the council down to get the car removed, but other than that the town can't take any legal action about the property lines until we have a survey. Randy thought is the town hires an attorney to send them a letter but he's not sure what that's going to do. Denise said a surveyor would get all the pins and figure out what's leftover. Geoff said is such an odd piece of property that he has a hard time wanting to have the town invest a ton money finding pins. Randy suggested that the Town offer the Tuckers a 15 foot right away, it would have to be signed off. Geoff so that

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

might be a conversation that we have the Town Attorney at the next meeting to discuss what the options are. Sue Lester asked doesn't this fall under parks and recreations committee. Councilman John Hill and Nick are a part of the committee. Nick said he's going to talk to John, and they will go from there. Geoff will talk to the Town Attorney and see if he has a surveyor that he is worked with in the past, and they can go from there.

**2. Internet, and Office 365:** Councilman R. Nick Morgan has a quote regarding Office 365, he has a quote from Prizm, this outline setting up 365 for the town using our current Internet domain and the cost for the setup is outlined on the quote, the commercial product for 365 premium, with 12 light senses, is \$150 for a monthly fee. That is the price for a municipality. Nick said that would get the core individuals, the Town Clerk, the Town Board, Highway Department, Building Inspector, and Bookkeeper. Nick also said that they can adjust that number as they need to. Nick went on to say for the wiring project to fix the Internet, he got three separate quotes, he got one from Bear Communications, one from Prizm, anyone from Boces. The cheapest one is Prizm at this point, by \$1000. Nick recommends going with them, that would upgrade the wiring and the equipment to connect out to the internet, also give us more protection for the firewall.

**A motion was made by R. Nick Morgan to except the Prizm quotes for Office 365 and the wiring project based on quotes 1788, 1780. Seconded by Geoff Milks.**

**Roll Call:** Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

**3. Park Fence:** Councilman Dustin Bliss was unable to come to the board meeting and he would have the quotes, it was tabled to the next board meeting. Highway Superintendent Jim Haggerty said the fence outback behind the building can be taken down as well. Jim says it does nothing, it serves no purpose.

**4. Laws about Horse Manure on the road:** Supervisor Randy Lester recalls reading a law that was sent by the Town Attorney and the law was 20 years old, and it was from someplace up in the Adirondacks. Councilman Geoff Milks said he has minimal concerns about the Amish horse mess, he knows it's there but we are in the country. Councilman R. Nick Morgan stated we should save this for a full board discussion. Randy said if we do this, we could bring out litigation from the Amish. Geoff said who's going to enforce this.

**5. American Rescue Plan Act:** Supervisor Randy Lester said that they had received notification that the Town of Freedom would be getting money. Town Clerk Mindy Holland said that the ARPA payment of \$232,588.00 of which half will be paid this summer and half in the summer of 2022. Randy said there are some restrictions, he's

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

been looking for some literature in regard to what it is. Councilman R. Nick Morgan said it's very minimal.

**X. New Business:**

1. **Dog Census:** Town Clerk Mindy Holland stated that the town was supposed to do one last year but due to the pandemic Ag & Market had asked that we wait to do one. The town needs to do one this year.
  
2. **Highway Superintendent Jim Haggerty would like to bid on a new truck:** Jim says that it takes a year and a half to get a new one, it'll be next November before they can get it on the road, so he needs a bid one now, this would keep up on the three-to-four-year plan. Councilman Geoff Milks told Jim to go ahead and get the bids. Geoff Said it looked like with the Loader plan it worked out. Jim said that we should discuss the loader, the town can upgrade that. The town has a three-year deal but they can upgrade it this year for \$12,000 if they wait it'll be another \$12,000 a year. Jim said he would see if they'll do another three-year deal. Councilman R. Nick Morgan said for Jim to check with Bookkeeper Jessica Dart. Supervisor Randy Lester said that the funds are there. Randy also asked if any of the board members had any objection, Jim is getting bids.

**XI. Public Comment:**

**Jessica & Patty Felschow:** They are interested in opening a winery, she understands that the town is a dry for on premise own consumption town. She was wondering what the difference is between a winery and the tavern and what they would have to do to go about that. Supervisor Randy Lester said he didn't know. Jessica stated that they would like to open one in this town. She asked are we allowed to have one in the area and do they have to amend the rules on alcohol consumption. Councilman R. Nick Morgan stated that there was one on the ballot for Turkey Run, that had to be done in November election. Nick said he wasn't a board member at that time he's not sure if that opened it up for everyone else, or they just did for Turkey Run. Randy stated that just was for Turkey Run. Randy said he doesn't know if there's a distinguishment between that and wine only. They ask if they know how to go about finding out, if there is a difference. The State said they'd have to come to the Town Board, to see if the town would allow it or not. They would have to sell food and they can have on premise consumption, wet sales. Someone asked if it would be similar to the one in Arcade. They said no. Nick asked if Town Attorney Eric Firkel could look into this further. Councilman Geoff Milks said that the town would have to do a little bit of digging, they don't have an answer this evening. Randy said that

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

there is another one over on Savage Rd. Jessica stated that they are in Erie County and they aren't dry for consumption. The Town of Freedom is though unless it's at the racetrack or a special sporting event. Jessica said the other legal process of getting the license she has that, she just needs to know she can open a building on her property to have the public come sample, purchase, and they need to have food. Randy asks if they've gotten any word from the State and if they're OK with this. Jessica said yes, the State has okayed everything it's just down to whether the Town of Freedom will allow them to put up a building, and do sampling. Jessica said this would be a special on-premise consumption at a tavern. She said the difference between a tavern is that they would have liquor and beer, with a pool table, and dart table. They could have wine and sell food. They are also making everything out of produce that was grown on the property.

**Marsha North:** She would like to know what is going on with the host community agreement, in order to get the higher payment. She said right now the town is still at \$3800.00. In order to get the higher paid payment of all the other towns, 5,950, the town has a substitute the other towns host payment terms, for the host payment terms of this agreement. If the town decides to substitute the host payment terms, and most substitutes all other towns host payment terms. Then the town has to properly notify the company of the substitution. Marsha asked why isn't there anything going on with this, why is this not being done, why are we not going after the higher payment. Councilman Geoff Milks said it's a reasonable question. Supervisor Randy Lester said that we had a clause in our original agreement, if any town had a higher amount. Marsha said this is right in the original agreement that's where she was reading it from. Geoff so that's what she is looking for, is for the Town to use that clause and why haven't we yet. Geoff has a fair amount of numbers worked up what the different ones would add up to, he's more than willing to bring him in front of the board next meeting, if anybody is willing to move on it. Geoff said so far, it's been kicked down the road. Marsha asks why aren't we ready to move on this, why are we waiting. Councilman R. Nick Morgan stated that previous discussion was that we have an opportunity to wait, we don't have to have it done immediately, he stated that we have until construction starts or their operational. Geoff stated it was operations. Marsha wants to know what is the purpose of waiting. Nick said that things change, we don't want to jump the gun too much. he said that the board is aware of it, and that they have to act on it. Marsha asked what do you mean by things are changing, if there are changes then this has to change for other towns participating in this also. Randy said it could be, he's not an attorney so he doesn't know. Geoff if Town Attorney Eric Ferkel is able to attend the next meeting, the town can have some discussion on the host community agreement. Geoff would like the Town Attorney's comments on this. Randy asked Scott Johnson from in Invenergy to have their attorney attend the next meeting as well.

**Denise Willard :** Denise stated to Marsha North regarding the five towns, it's not five towns anymore because Invenergy helped Arcade, so the Town of Freedom can't adopt

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

Arcade's host community agreement. Denise stated as for her concern she has concerns about some things that have been going on in the town. One of them being the talent representative seemingly discriminatory actions, regarding the Amish. She asked what has the Amish ever done to you, first it was about them dragging up and down the road, yes but they were pulling might damage the road, but you act like their vehicles are the only vehicles on the road they can damage the road and you know that's not true. Second it was mentioned to what they may or may not pay in taxes, what are you worried about what other people around you may or may not pay in taxes or just the Amish. Then at the end of your seemingly vengeful list you're worried about horse poop in the road. Denise said really is the horse poop harming anything, it is not illegal for a horse to poop in the road, do you know what does illegal littering, is it illegal. She said I would think you're more concerned litter, the pop cans, the beer cans, the liquor bottles and other trash and garbage alongside the roadways. Horse poop cannot kill your cows, but chopped up beer/pop cans can. Denise said she is very thankful to see the Amish when they go up her road, they get out of the buggy and pick up beer cans and bottles and everything else. Denise also has concerns as a Dog Control Officer, she would like to know who I'm supposed to turn to other than the State Police when doing her job, and she feels threatened. She doesn't have a panic button to push, and apparently, she's not important enough to listen to. She has asked about a Deputy Dog Control Officer before, but it was as if she didn't say a word. It does make her wonder if the town is trying to put her life in danger, by not addressing the assistance for her. She's been told by Animal Control Officer Justa Goodell who has been doing this for over 30 years not to go out alone to serve appearance tickets. Denise said she tends to believe and trust her, and feel she should take her advice. If what happened here on July 1st isn't proof as to what can happen even when a resident is just sent a warning ticket, I don't know what to say. Denise feels she should be able to voice her concerns other than just public comments. Denise would also like to know who it is that the so-called professional behavior pertains to, is it everyone that works or is involved with the town or just certain people. I would think that doing something illegal would be considered unprofessional. I would think that blatantly lying would be considered unprofessional. I would think that spreading rumors would be considered unprofessional. I would think that using profanity would be considered unprofessional. She also would like to issue a little reminder it is illegal to tamper with public records, and if the person is found doing so, they can be charged with a class D felony.

**Rick Lange :** Rick stated he wasn't planning on speaking tonight but he heard something he would like to discuss. He stated that Mindy was reading Councilman John Hill's letter, and he mentioned the meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Rick stated he didn't know anything about this meeting. Rick said the reason for that and it's ironic because he had words with John about this some months back. The board decided to change the legal notification to the Olean Times Herald, from the Arcade Herald. Rick said he had mentioned to John at the time and John got really mad at him, but he cannot get the only Olean Times Herald, they will not deliver to him. Rick is not going to pay for his subscription he does not want

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

it. He has a subscription to the Arcade Herald, which is 7 miles away, versus the miles away for Olean. Rick asked the board if they would reconsider, and he stated he knows that they don't have everybody there this evening, especially John, but reconsider to put the legal notices back in the Arcade Harold. Rick said if you can't and you still want to keep them it's illegal paper for the Town of Freedom, just submit the articles to the Herald, they will print them. Rick said that's all he asked to reconsider that decision which didn't make no sense to me then and still doesn't. Rick said he would have liked to know about the meeting; he is asking the board to reconsider where to put the legal notices when the whole board is here.

**Gary Chamberlain:** Gary said he's still having dog problems, with dogs running loose. He said that he has filed his third complaint on the 13th of July, and he's just kind of wondering what's going on with them, there's been anything done at all with these dogs. Town Clerk Mindy Holland stated that Dog Control Officer Denise Willard had just gotten the complaint this morning. Mindy was out of town last week, and she did not get the complaint form until this morning. Denise stated it once again was filed incorrectly. Gary asked what's improper with it. Denise said you have to file it either with the dog control officer, or the constable. Gary stated this is the first he's heard of it. Denise said it's in the law.

**Highway Superintendent Jim Haggerty:** Stated regarding the horse issue, he was the one that brought it up but he does not have an issue with the Amish. He has an issue with the horse manure, he has an issue with everybody that complains when one shovel full falls off Nate Whiteheads manure spreader. Jim said then he gets four phone calls to scrape up cow manure. Jim's point is if we're going to yell at the farmers, then they are included. Jim said he gets calls all the time about manure falling off the manure spreader, they usually clean it may not be right that minute because they're busy. Councilman R. Nick Morgan said the sample law that we have was for all horses. Jim stated he agrees it's wrong it shouldn't be all horses. Councilman Geoff Milks asked if Jim has to pursuit to for farmers to clean up their mess or is he generally just feeling the complaints. Jim said he has before but now they pretty much take care of it. Jim will get 6 phone calls, then he will call the farmer and the farmers states that they'll take care of it when they are done.

**Councilman Geoff Milks** said that Dog Control Officer Denise Willard had brought up who could assist her when she's going out. Geoff thinks it's a scenario to send her out there by herself on certain calls, if she has concerns. Geoff and Councilman R. Nick Morgan both thought that the Constable, if it fits in his duties should be the one to call. Constable Rob Harrington said he has assisted Denise, he said he does not have a problem doing that. Denise stated that this concern wasn't a call where she had to issue an appearance ticket, she had a guy show up here at the town hall and threaten to take her home. Denise tried to talk about it, she has his speech on tap and was not allowed to share the entire tape before she was cut off by the Town Supervisor. Denise also stated that the gentleman stood right in the boardroom and lied, and it's on the tape recording, that the

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

sheriff told him that she was using her job because he's getting turbines. Supervisor Randy Lester said if you need assistance give Rob a call. Rob said if Denise ever need my assistance, he will help Denise. Rob, also stated that there are some instances that he will need to clear it with the Supervisor. Randy said he doesn't think that will be an issue.

**Councilman R. Nick Morgan** ask if they would like to discuss the junk law amending the exclusions for business purposes. Nick is looking at page 13 under exclusions. Add in session K. for operable machinery for purpose of business sale and repair. Supervisor Randy Lester stated he would like to take some time to review it, he'd also like to have Councilman Dustin Bliss and Councilman John Hill at the meeting. Councilman Geoff Milks asked Nick how you would like this put into the law. Nick said operable machinery, garden machinery, yard machinery, apparatuses, on premises for the purpose of business sales and repair.

**XII. REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS :**

- A) Assessors – Report Submitted
- B) Building Committee –
- C) Building Inspector –
- D) Highway Superintendent –Report Submitted.
- E) Clerk/Collector – Report Submitted.
- F) Constable –
- G) DCO – Report Submitted,
  - Please see complaint that was submitted this morning to the Clerk.
  - Dog Control Officer Denise Willard told the board about 2 dogs that had gotten away from their families on two different occasions, they both got reunited with their families.
- H) Highway Committee –
- I) Insurance Committee-
- J) Justices –
- K) Planning Board- Report Submitted from June
- L) Parks & Recreation-
- M) Supervisor – Report Submitted.
- N) Other Town Officials –

A motion to accept the reports & communications as submitted was made by R. Nick Morgan. Seconded by Geoff Milks.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

**Councilman R. Nick Morgan** asked with the proposed milk plant, cheese plant, in Farmersville, Franklinville area, he would like the town to send a

Town of Freedom  
Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021

letter to the County IBA to include that the county roads be rebuilt as a part of that project. Nick said with a lot of milk coming from Wyoming County, he does not think that the trucks will head to 16 all the time, they may be using Maple Grove Rd, and Marble Springs Rd, and if the roads were rebuilt that would be favorable for the Town of Freedom. Nick would like Supervisor Randy Lester to send a letter. Randy stated that there is a lot of other trucks, tractors, and farm machinery on there as well. Nick said therefore the town should send a letter to the county trying to get them to do something with the roads as part of this multibillion-dollar project.

**XIII. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:**

General #138 to # 154, Amt. \$ 35,714.21, Yrly Amt. \$183,227.66.

Motion made by Geoff Milks to accept the General vouchers as written.  
Seconded by R. Nick Morgan.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

Highway # 73 to # 86, Amt. \$34,605.70, Yrly Amt. \$.147,035.69

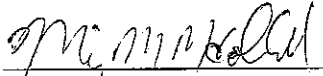
Motion made by R. Nick Morgan to accept the Highway vouchers as written.  
Seconded by Geoff Milks.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT:** Supervisor Randy Lester made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm. Seconded by Geoff Milks.

Roll Call: Ayes-3 R. Nick Morgan, Geoff Milks, & Supervisor Randy Lester

Respectfully Submitted By,

  
Town Clerk Mindy Holland  
7/26/2021



## **Freedom Board Members and Residence**

I would normally say this myself. But, I am celebrating my anniversary with my bride today. It grieves me what I am about to say. I was appalled that the state police had to be called by our town clerk at the special board meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup> while board was in executive session. If you can't control your temper, don't come to the meeting. I take my job to seriously to become the laughing stock of the Tri-county area.

Secondly, executive session is executive session. It is not supposed to leave the room. If it does, why not have the clerk come in and take notes.

Thirdly, Nick and I made a tough decision that may have gone against our personal desires but was the best decision for the entire town. If you needed an attorney, would you choose one that would quit on you and not show up at two different meetings that the board could interview you or someone that showed up to both meetings and frankly said where he stood though it was not all you desired. We choose the later. I would like to say this is the end of the saga, but it is not.

The next day, I was told I was a turncoat, I had accepted a bribe from Invenergy and/or pro turbine land owners, and a coward along with making several mistakes fighting the wind turbines. I have been fighting against wind turbines in the Town of Freedom for 14 years. At least twice as long as any other current town official. I tried to get a wind law passed in November of 2016 but was out maneuvered by another town board member. Dustin and Randy were both at that meeting. I will never stop fighting against wind turbines. I must also remind everyone that the town laws have always said the ALL-electric lines related to wind turbines would be underground back to 2007.

My personal faith in Jesus Christ as my Savior, along with my oath as a Professional Engineer, and my oath as a town councilman means I will, to the best of my ability, do my job. Honestly, Decently, and in order. Can you imagine having your son say to you on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, "I heard that you hired an Invenergy attorney to represent the town." This was devastating to me on so many levels. I will step down if the majority of the board wants me to resign. I will not diminish my faith in Jesus Christ or my integrity for any man.

Respectfully,

John S. Hill