

Town of Freedom
JLMSC Quarterly Meeting Minutes
September 12th, 2023

Present for the meeting were:

TA Stacy Bolduc

Fire Chief Cunio

ZB Gary Williams

Office Staff Lindsay Pettengill

Office Staff – Tax Office Sam Porter

Town Clerk – Libby Priebe

Deputy Town Clerk - Kari Eldridge

TS Cecelie Ekse

SO Douglas Welch

The meeting was called to order by SO Doug Welch at 12:05 pm, seconded by FC Cunio. Sign in sheet distributed, and roll call completed. No visitors present.

Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed. Having nothing to amend, June meeting minutes were approved. No new rules, regulations or correspondence concerning safety issues were received since the June meeting.

A discussion of unfinished business from the June meeting took place with a continued conversation regarding the towns contracted Tax assessor and the possibility of adding signage to his personally owned vehicle to identify it when on Town business. It was noted at the June meeting that some residents had mentioned in a Freedom related Facebook group seeing an unknown vehicle and person on their property via their “ring” cameras and voiced some concern. It turned out to be the Towns Tax Assessor. It was discussed that signage on the vehicle might help alleviate those concerns. FC Cunio mention that Gemini Sign makes magnetic signs, and with the approval of the Tax Assessor, the Town could possibly get some made he could put on his vehicle when on Town Business. It was also suggested that maybe a simple placard placed on the dash facing out of the windshield would suffice.

Additionally, continued on from several past meetings was the topic of training on the loader at the Transfer Station for employees working there. There has been some turnover in staff and this requirement for training is, and will be, ongoing.

Related to the loader at the TS, TS employee Cecelie Ekse noted that she believed the loader needs more air in the tires in order to move the used oil barrel around. ZO Williams suggested the loader may actually have calcium inside the tires and that caution should be taken, it was suggested to not just add air without clarifying that point first. It was suggested to contact the Highway Department for a path forward.

In other TS business, TS employee Ekse noted that there was now two discarded tires on TS property that needed to be dealt with. TS employee Ekse also noted that the TS had received some training by Casella helping to tighten up processes with recyclables there. Lastly TS Ekse discussed the handicap accessibility of the shack, noting for some elderly persons, going in and out of the shack could be easier and safer if a hand rail was installed next to the door. This would be looked into.

In the June 2023 meeting, TA Bolduc had mentioned NH Department of Labor Safety providing some additional guidelines around Control of Hazardous Energy systems (Lockout/Tagout) which would relate to the TS crushing equipment. At this meeting TA Bolduc updated the committee on that by indicating that she had secured some online training that would be coming soon. The only caveat would be the requirement for either a PC at the TS, or each employee would need to come to the Town Offices to complete.

A new topic was discussed regarding the loading ramp at the highway garage. It was noted that there is no barrier to the entrance of the ramp when not in use. This could possibly allow a vehicle to drive up the ramp and fall off the end resulting in injury. This would be looked into as well.

No new personal or property accidents or near misses were reported from any department.

All agenda items were discussed and a motion to adjourn was made by SO Welch and seconded by TA Bolduc. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.