

TOWN OF FREETOWN
2369 McGraw Marathon Rd
Marathon, NY 13803
February 11, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of Freetown, NY, was held on February 11th, 2026, at the Town Hall. Supervisor Dylan Barber called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Dylan Barber, Town Supervisor
William Contri, Councilperson
Julie Conklin, Councilperson
Daniel Tillotson, Councilperson

Recording Secretary: Shelli Cross, Town Clerk

Others Present: Heidi Alnutt, John Slocum, Natasha DeLee

The town board received and reviewed monthly reports from the Bookkeeper and Highway Department.

OPEN FLOOR: Discussion about who determines Official's term length and a question if it can be changed.

Old Business:

The Recycling trailer needs to be replaced; the lights on the current trailer are not working, and it has no fenders. Supervisor Barber acquired 3 quotes for the Board (see Motion 3 below).

The Highway Dept. garage door needs to be replaced. Supervisor Barber acquired 3 quotes for the Board (see Motion 4 below).

Supervisor Barber is still in negotiations with the Union Rep for Highway Employees. Continuing to work with Coughlin & Gerhart and there are no new updates at this time.

The Town has continued looking into a lawyer who can meet all its needs. The \$1200.00 retainer paid to Don Armstrong ensures our access to him when needed (see Motion 5 below).

Resident Bob Ross came to see if the board was willing to turn over the dead-end part of Tarbell Rd back to the town's landowners. Landowners want to put up a gate to reduce unnecessary traffic. Supervisor Barber would like to investigate and any possible legalities for doing this.

New Business:

The Code Enforcement officer gave us his Certification paperwork.

In January's Town meeting we voted to approve Heidi Alnutt as the fourth CouncilPerson. However, it was then discovered that with 4 voting members there must be 3 "Aye's" for the motion to pass and there was only 2. Therefore, the motion did not pass. Supervisor Dylan can vote and it was voted on again (see Motion 6 below).

Supervisor Dylan Barber received a call, from the State Cemetary association, stating they had not had any contact with anyone on their roster in almost 10 years, in regards to the maintenance for the Cemetary on Marathon-McGraw Rd. Supervisor Barber reached out to Randy Hopkins and Randy is still overseeing the maintenance at this time. However, there's a possibility it will be abandoned in the near future and, if so, the Town may take it over. So the question is, if the Town does take it over, what is the responsibility, etc.?

Apparently, we don't have to do anything if we don't want too. It was pointed out that there are other Towns that take over the care of cemeteries and whomever does so is paid. When Supervisor Barber asked the person from the State about our responsibility if it is abandoned and it was said "do what you can" because, if it is abandoned, it is no longer a State mandated cemetery. Additionally, if it is abandoned to us, there are funding options we can pursue for fixing it up, etc. But, there is a timeframe in which to do it after it is abandoned to the Town.

Last month Supervisor Dylan audited the books for the Town Justice, something that is required every year. The required questions were answered and documentation completed. There is a question as to whether the Town Justice must be a Town resident.

Motion 1: Made by William Contri to approve the amended December minutes and seconded by Councilperson Daniel Tillotson.

Motion 2: Made by Daniel Tillotson to approve the January 2026 meeting minutes and seconded by Councilperson Julie Conklin.

Motion 3: Made by Daniel Tillotson to approve the purchase a 5x10 dump trailer from CNY, for recycling, at \$6025.00 and seconded by Councilperson William Contri.

Motion 4: Made by Dylan Barber to approve purchasing and installing a new Garage door, for the Highway Department, at \$6200.00 and seconded by Councilperson William Contri.

Motion 5: Made by William Contri to approve continuing to retain Don Armstrong as the Town lawyer and seconded by Councilperson Daniel Tillotson.

Motion 6: Made by Dylan Barber to approve Heidi Alnutt as the fourth Councilperson and seconded by Councilperson Daniel Tillotson. All in favor Supervisor Dylan Barber, Councilperson Daniel Tillotson, and Councilperson Julie Conklin. Councilperson William Contri opposed.

Resolution 1: Made by Supervisor Barber to approve the State audit of Town Justice Robin Slocum and Court Clerk Deborah Gallagher, of the Town of Freetown, for the year of 2025 and seconded by Councilperson Daniel Tillotson.

Motion 7: Made by Supervisor Barber to approve paying the bills from the following accounts and seconded by Councilperson William Contri.

2026 Vouchers starting #19 - 32
(A) General: \$24,349.81

2026 Vouchers starting #9 - 18
(DA) Highway: \$18,584.38

Votes: Councilpersons: All in attendance in favor.

Shelli Cross,
The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm