

Freetown Board of Assessors
Minutes of Monday, September 12, 2022
Virtual Meeting – Zoom.us

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Present: Jeff Field and Mike Motta were present via Zoom; Paul Sadeck was present at the Town Hall.

Absent: None.

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. In conformance with these orders, all votes taken during this meeting were by roll call. The meeting was recorded by Mr. Sadeck.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Sadeck, seconded by Mr. Field, to enter into executive session to comply with the provisions of any general or special law; specifically, to discuss real estate abatement and exemption applications which are not open to public inspection, and to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's litigating position, namely Marie's Way Solar 1, LLC vs. Board of Assessors of the Town of Freetown, Braley Road Solar 4, LLC vs. Board of Assessors of the Town of Freetown, Bullock Freetown Solar 1 vs. Board of Assessors of the Town of Freetown, Sunraise Investments, LLC vs. Board of Assessors of the Town of Freetown, NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy vs. Board of Assessors of the Town of Freetown, and NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy vs. Board of Assessors of the Town of Freetown; and to return to open session afterward. When polled, the members voted as follows: Field – Aye, Motta – Aye, Sadeck – Aye.

Results of Executive Session

There were no decisions rendered to report.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Field, seconded by Mr. Sadeck, to approve the minutes of the meeting held July 25, 2022, both the open and executive sessions, but not to release the minutes of the Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- ♦ The counter and shelves were scheduled to arrive in late September, but scheduling difficulties have pushed the project off for approximately one month.
- ♦ The warrant for the fall town meeting should be finalized on September 22nd, and we will know after that date whether the floating clerk funding will be included. This floating clerk would be combined with our part-time clerk to form a full-time clerk.

New Business

- ♦ The Town is moving forward with online permitting for the Building and Health departments. On consensus, the Board of Assessors will be added to the list to implement online-only Form of List and other similar submissions.

- ♦ Brief discussion was held on recent changes to Chapter 61A, regarding the coexistence of agricultural uses with solar panels. Although this law has been passed, the actual application of the law is still in its nascent stages.

Any Other Business Properly Before the Board

Mr. Sadeck reported on a conversation he had had with Carlos Lopes, chairman of the Personnel Board, about making the Map Room available for the Planning Technician to work out of when not otherwise in use. The Assistant Assessor reported he had had a similar conversation with Deb Pettey, Town Administrator, but that this was a long-term plan if other arrangements are not secured at the fall town meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mr. Sadeck, seconded by Mr. Motta, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Assistant Assessor