



**TOWN OF FREETOWN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2017
COUNCIL ON AGING
227 CHACE ROAD, EAST FREETOWN, MA 02717**

- 6:00 P.M. **Call to Order** Selectman Paul G. Sadeck calls the meeting to order. Also present are Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco, Selectman Robert Jose and Town Administrator Jack Healey. The meeting is being recorded by Selectman Sadeck, Ali Golz and FREECAM.
- 6:05 P.M. Discussion with Superintendant Richard Medeiros and Finance Director Fred Baker regarding FY18 School Budget. Superintendent Medeiros would like to get out and speak to the Board members and answer any questions they may have. He says he knows the big issue is what the schools need and what the Towns can support. We know this will be a difficult challenge. The School Committee has not taken a vote on his budget yet. We will either be reducing services or not. Mr. Medeiros says he is vested in the community. The next budget meeting is February 4 and they would love to have a rep there from the town. They aren't looking for a huge increase. Everything is level services, plus they have added a librarian. This is early and they are always waiting for the state number. Selectman Sadeck wants to know what Mr. Medeiros's contract is. He states he has essentially a 5 year contract. Mr. Medeiros says our proposed SPEDD budget is \$8 million. We would try to keep them within the district but sometimes we need to send them outside the district. This year we had 21 students come in during the school year that we had to send out of district. We are going to create some programs to defray the costs. This will be a struggle but it is something we are going to look at. The health insurance increase is 9.2% this year. We have no capital projects this year. Selectman Sadeck says those projects were debt exclusions. Mr. Baker says we should reflect that in the formula then. Selectman Sadeck says we need to not hide that within the formula. If you take out the debt, it comes to 10.1% increase. Selectman Sadeck says his concern is we did this last year and the increase is unsustainable and you refused to let the communities in on the negotiations as representatives there. At the meetings last week you said that you want to have a general override and you said it several times. Selectman Sadeck says the Town can't do this and he thinks that taxpayers need to make sure they pay attention to this. Mr. Medeiros says the question was raised and that he at no time said that, but as far as the negotiations, you vote for the number. Mr. Medeiros says if you want to sustain the level of services that we are giving now that you need to give us what we are asking for now; however if you are going to give us reductions, that is what will be reduced. Selectman Sadeck just wants to make sure the taxpayers will understand what will happen if there is an override. Mr. Baker says there is a significant

difference to last year, this year we are just trying to keep what we have, except the librarian. Selectman Jose says he was at the meeting the other night as well and depending on what the governor sends down, it may change. He wants to know have they asked about vocational services? Mr. Medeiros says we can't mirror that. We would like to bring in School Choice. We have over 80 students go to Old Colony. We can be more aggressive and he is open to things. Selectman Jose says we have space, so why can't we look at other options? Mr. Baker says they are raising fees, like cafeteria, athletic fees etc. Mr. Medeiros says but we are now taxing the communities. Selectman Pacheco says but that money goes into E&D so you can take it out of E&D. The Cafeteria is difficult, Selectman Pacheco doesn't think you should go up on that. Mr. Medeiros says the poverty numbers is 30%, which is a large number. Selectman Sadeck says but the biggest cost is salaries.

Weekly Public Discussion

Consent Agenda:

Board of Selectmen: Action relative to:

- Ambulance Abatements for the month of June, July, August, September, and October 2015, as submitted by Chief Silvia. Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to approve Abatements in the amount totaling \$90,172.68 for June through October 2015. Passed unanimously.
- Annual Renewal of Class II Licenses for Beech Bluff Auto Sales, Nathan's Garage and Ray's Garage. Motion (Jose/Pacheco) to approve the above named licenses for renewal with the stipulations as stated. Passed unanimously.
- Sign Snow and Ice Deficit letter. Mr. Macomber says when the roads are icy, we have been out 12 times. When the officer's call and say it is getting icy, they go out. Mr. Macomber explains how much we have spent to date, for 24.1" of snow. Selectman Sadeck notes that isn't even using the contractors when you treat. Mr. Macomber says that the Highway Department does use 1-2 contractors in addition to the crew. Selectman Pacheco asks how many subcontracts do we have. Mr. Macomber says approximately 43 and that we have more contractors but we have a few more subdivisions. We do have new contractors but have lost a lot of old ones. He notes that a few years ago, we had the exact forecast as we are having this year. Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to sign. Passed unanimously
- Discuss Regional Finance Committee Meeting from January 17, 2017. Discussion above with Superintendent and Finance Director. This discussion was moved to be part of the discussion about the FY18 budget, at 6:05pm.
- Discuss Letter from School committee. Mr. Baker explains that as long as the town agrees with the letter, they let this go; if not, then this will need to go to a town meeting to vote. Mr. Baker said this doesn't add to anything. Selectman Sadeck says this make you have less E&D in your FY18 Budget. Motion (Jose/Sadeck) to allow this to go through, motion passes 2-0 with Selectman Pacheco abstaining. She explains she doesn't need to do this, as it is not necessary.

Board of Health:

Personnel Board:

- Sign Change of Status form for Isabel Ferreira for Treasurer/Collector's Dept., as submitted by Temporary Treasurer/Collector Jessica Thomas, effective January 13, 2017. Motion (Jose/Sadeck) to approve. Passed unanimously.
- Sign Change of Status form for Timmothy McIntosh for Senior Clerk, as submitted by Town Administrator, effective February 16, 2017. Motion (Jose/Sadeck). Passed unanimously.
- Accept Paul Deneault's letter of resignation for the Building Committee. Motion (Sadeck/Jose) to accept Paul Deneault's letter of resignation. Passed unanimously.
- Discuss and Approve Zoning Board of Appeal Members to be Special Municipal Employees. Motion (Sadeck/Jose) to make ZBA members Special Municipal Employees. Passed unanimously.

New Business

- Dates for upcoming Board of Selectmen Meetings Monday February 6th, (Tuesday), February 8th February 21st.

Executive Session:

- At 6:50pm, Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to enter into executive session, under the following exemption, and to not return into open session. The Board will also act on approving all executive session minutes from 2016, which are listed on the following pages. Roll Call Chairman Paul Sadeck, Selectman Lisa Pacheco and Selectman Robert Jose. All voted in the affirmative when polled.
 - M.G.L. c. 30A, Sec. 21 (a) (1) – To discuss the physical condition of an employee.

At 6:57pm, motion (Pacheco/Jose) to adjourn. Roll Call Chairman Paul Sadeck, Selectman Lisa Pacheco and Selectman Robert Jose. All voted in the affirmative when polled.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ali Golz, Administrative Assistant

2016 Executive Session Minutes for Approval

- Certain or entire minutes of the following will not be released due to the matter being ongoing: 07/18/2016, 08/22/2016, 09/07/2016, 09/19/2016, 10/03/2016, 11/28/2016, 12/12/2016 and 12/14/2016
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 01/16/2016 pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Sec.21(a)(2) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and conduct bargaining session with the Police Union.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 01/25/2016 pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Sec.21(a)(2) in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel and to conduct contract negotiations with non union personnel, Interim Treasurer/Collector Jeffrey Cannon.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 02/22/2016 pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3)to discuss strategy with respect to possible litigation with the City of Fall River.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 03/01/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(1) to discuss complaints against an employee.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 03/29/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss litigation regarding an Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Diane Lawless on August 3, 2015.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 04/08/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to a settlement with the Massachusetts Attorney General and Approval of minutes pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A.Sec.21(a)(2) collective bargaining with the Police Department.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 06/07/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(2) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and conduct bargaining session with the Police Union.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 06/09/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A,Sec.21(a)(3)to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Highway/Clerical Union.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 06/20/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation with the City of Fall River.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 07/11/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A,Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation with the City of Fall River.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 07/18/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A,Sec.21(a)(4)to discuss the deployment of or strategy regarding security personnel and Approval of M.G.L.c.30A,Sec.21(a)(2) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Police Union and to conduct collective bargaining sessions with the Police Union.

- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 07/29/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(2) in preparation for negotiations with non union personnel and to conduct contract negotiations with non union personnel, Jessica Thomas.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 08/04/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Police Union.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 09/07/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(1) to discuss complaints against an employee; Approval pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining regarding the Highway/Clerical Union; Approval pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation with the City of Fall River.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 10/03/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21 (a)(1) to discuss the physical condition of an employee; Approval pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Fire Union; Approval pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(2) In preparation for negotiations with non union personnel and to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, Jessica Thomas, Temporary Treasurer.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 11/14/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Highway/Clerical Union.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 12/07/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec. (a)(4) to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devises, or strategies.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 12/12/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.(a)(2) In preparation for negotiations with non union personnel and to conduct contract negotiations with non union personnel, Jessica Thomas, Temporary Treasurer/Collector; Approval pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.(a)(4) to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devises, or strategies with respect thereto.
- Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 12/14/2016 pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, Sec.(a)(4) to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto.