



TOWN OF FREETOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Tuesday, April 2, 2019, 6:00pm  
Council on Aging – 227 Chace Road, East Freetown

RECEIVED  
FREETOWN TOWN CLERK  
2019 APR 17 PM 1:32  
*J A Brown*

**6:00 P.M.**      **Call to Order** Selectman Charles B. Sullivan calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco and newly elected Selectman George L. Grunwald are present. Also present: Town Administrator David DeManche and Administrative Assistant Timm McIntosh. The meeting is being recorded by FREECAM. The Board signs the weekly warrants.

Re-Organization of the Board of Selectmen

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Grunwald) to make Selectman Sullivan the Chairman of the Board of Selectman and Selectman Grunwald the Chairman of the Board of Health, passed unanimously.

VOTE: Motion (Sullivan/Pacheco) to make Selectman Pacheco the Chairman of the Personnel Board, passed unanimously.

**Board of Selectmen**

1. Discuss and call Special Town Meeting for June 2019. The office reached out to inquire about the availability of Apponequet for the Town meeting night, but unfortunately it is unavailable for that night, meaning the options are another date or having it at Freetown Elementary. Selectman Pacheco doesn't see anything controversial that would need an increased capacity, plus finding availability at Apponequet would be tricky with graduation events.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Grunwald) to keep our Annual Town Meeting at 7:30pm on the first Monday in June, as stated in the by-laws, with a Special Town Meeting at 7pm, passed unanimously.

2. Announce collective bargaining agreement with Freetown Police Association. Selectman Sullivan announces that the Freetown Police Association and the Town of Freetown have come to an agreement on a new collective bargaining agreement. Selectman Pacheco says an article will be placed on the Special Town Meeting warrant, Mr. DeManche says a placeholder is already in place.
3. Discuss and act on Amendment No. 1 to Contract for Architectural Design Services between the Town of Freetown and Compass Group Architecture, LLC. The total value of the contract has not changed at all but some categories within the contract came out to different

amounts, so this amendment distributes the funds a bit differently. Selectman Pacheco, Chairman of the Police Sub-Committee, explains that this was voted on by the Committee.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Sullivan) to approve, motion carries 2-0 with Selectman Grunwald abstaining.

4. Discuss and act on Clarkies Memorial Enduro event, to be held May 26, 2019. Applicant Raffi Pederson of Pilgram Sands Racing is present. Selectman Sullivan asks for an overview of the event. Mr. Pederson says this is an annual event, for the last 35 or so years. It originates at 81 High Street, at Clarkie's Farm, and primarily utilizes Freetown State Forest. A license for use of the Forest is granted every year. They have a volunteer work agreement with the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The event is a timed event, in one continuous loop, with street-registered motorbikes, all licensed and insured. The event also intends to use portions of High Street, Slab Bridge Road and Bell Rock Road. Mr. Pederson meets with the Chief of Police every year, and is granted the permit application the last two years, but was referred to the Board by the Chief this year.

Selectman Sullivan has an issue with this event. As it is using several miles of Town roads to race motorcycles, he has a major problem with the potential liability for the Town. He's spoken to a number of people who indicated that they would sue the Town if there was an accident involving a racer from this event. The racers may be insured, but the Town is at a liability. Selectman Sullivan says the State Forest is a State Forest issue, but the Town roadways are a different issue. Mr. Pederson says the event is not a race, but a timed event, with riders penalized if they go too fast; Selectman Sullivan says the event is a race.

Selectman Pacheco asks if the event is using the same course as in years past; Mr. Pederson says the event is always using 4-6 miles of Town roads. Mr. Pederson says he's spoken to Chief Abbott and he said he'd be here to speak on his behalf, but Chief Abbott is not present. Selectman Pacheco says she thinks she needs more time and more information on this. Selectman Grunwald asks if the roads would be shut down. Mr. Pederson says no, and explains that riders would be spaced out in groups of 4, so the road would not need to be closed down. Selectman Pacheco asks if there have been any mishaps with riders; Mr. Pederson says not on the paved roads, but the nature of trail riding allows for falls in the Forest. He says the riders have no incentive to not obey and respect the rules of roads.

Selectman Sullivan reviews the insurance supplied by Mr. Pederson. He believes Mr. Pederson has misrepresented the length of the event. His understanding is that this event was just in the State Forest, but he's opposed to using Town roads. Selectman Pacheco would like to talk to the Police Chief and our insurance carrier, to make sure everything is ok

before deciding on anything. Selectman Grunwald would also like to hear from the Police Chief. This will be revisited at the meeting on April 16th.

5. Discuss and act on Tuesday Club of Assonet's request to use the Village Bandstand for the Strawberry Festival, to be held June 16, 2019

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Grunwald) to approve the Tuesday Club's request for the Village Bandstand, passed unanimously.

6. Discuss and approve Second Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement with MassDevelopment, as submitted by Town Administrator David DeManche. Mr. DeManche says this is the extension of the Freetown screw grant that he has spoken of previously. The extension runs until 2021. Selectman Grunwald says this sounds like a large project, and he would like to put this off until he has more information. Mr. DeManche says this has been worked on for six months, that he doesn't believe it even needs Board approval, but he's willing to wait if the Board wishes to. Selectman Pacheco reminds Selectman Grunwald that there are a number of items that are in-progress that don't simply stop because there is a new Board member. Selectman Grunwald asks if there are deadlines involved. Mr. DeManche explains if this extension isn't signed, the deadline is already past, and the Town will need to repay the grant immediately. Selectman Grunwald wants to know what we are voting on tonight. Mr. DeManche explains this extends the grant, which would allow the project to be completed, so we wouldn't need to repay the funds right away.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Grunwald) to approve the second amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement, passed unanimously.

7. Discuss and act on Chapter 90 project requests for High Street, Friend Street and Copicut Road, as submitted by Highway Surveyor Charles Macomber. These are chip sealing projects for the three roads, at \$62,471.60 for High Street, \$36,722.20 for Friend Street and \$62,160.00 for Copicut Road. Selectman Sullivan asks if there are plans to fix the water issue on the hill on High Street. Mr. Macomber says Mr. Noyes has looked at it, but we don't know exactly how to tackle it just yet. Options for fixing it are somewhat limited due to gas lines and septic systems in the area. In terms of Chapter 90 funding, these projects will be utilizing most of last year's money, leaving around \$30,000 to be added to the \$400,000 from this year.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Grunwald) to approve the Chapter 90 funds in the amounts of \$62,471.60 for High Street, \$36,722.20 for Friend Street and \$62,160.00 for Copicut Road, motion carries 2-0 for High Street, with

Selectman Sullivan abstaining, and unanimously for Friend Street and Copicut Road.

8. Approve minutes of March 18<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> meetings of the Board of Selectmen

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Sullivan) to approve, motion carries 2-0 with Selectman Grunwald abstaining.

9. Review and vote on Police Station invoices. This agenda item passed over, as the invoices are not yet ready.

10. Town Administrator's Report

- At the invitation of Tim Keough, Mr. DeManche was able to tour the AmeriCann facility. He says the facility is pretty impressive. The Board has also been invited to tour the facility; Selectman Pacheco asks Mr. DeManche to set that up.
- Mr. DeManche and Selectman Grunwald, as then-Finance Committee chair, met with the Superintendent of Old Colony, and went over a few issues that have come up recently. Mr. DeManche will be sharing information on that and will be putting discussions on future meetings.

**Personnel Board:**

11. Review/Discuss appointments of Board of Selectmen members. Selectman Pacheco goes through the appointments (please see attached). After passing Selectmen Jose's appointments to the Chairman of the Board and to Selectman Grunwald, two vacancies remain: Regional School Negotiating Committee and the Board's rep to the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA). Selectman Sullivan notes we are in the middle of school contracts, so the former isn't of utmost importance right now. Selectman Grunwald does not understand what these appointments are. The vacancies will be revisited.

12. Appoint new Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to Priority Development Committee, Public Records Clerk – Board of Selectmen and Task Force By-Law, effective April 3, 2019

VOTE: Motion (Sullivan/Grunwald) to appoint Selectman Sullivan as noted, passed unanimously.

13. Appoint incoming Selectman to EMA – Public Safety, Local Emergency Planning Committee and Soil Conservation Board, effective April 3, 2019. This agenda item was handled as part of item #11.

14. Appoint the following to the Tax Increment Financing Board, effective May 1, 2019: Sheila Scaduto (Board of Assessors), Keven Desmarais (Planning Board), new Board of Selectmen

Chairman (Board of Selectmen), Jessica Thomas (Treasurer) and David DeManche (Town Administrator)

VOTE: Motion (Sullivan/Grunwald) to approve, passed unanimously.

15. Appoint Jeffrey Chandler as Conditional Building Commissioner, effective April 1, 2019. This is a housekeeping issue, making Mr. Chandler's appointment continuous.

VOTE: Motion (Sullivan/Grunwald) to appoint Mr. Chandler, effective April 1st, 2019, through April 3rd, 2019, passed unanimously.

16. Approve Change of Status Report for Ethan Bullock, Call Firefighter/EMT, effective April 1, 2019. Selectman Pacheco notes this is a young man that has grown up in the Town.

VOTE: Motion (Sullivan/Grunwald) to approve, passed unanimously.

17. Re-Appoint Robert Kleveckas as Veterans' Agent Director & Veterans' Graves Officer, effective May 1, 2019.

VOTE: Motion (Sullivan/Grunwald) to approve, passed unanimously.

18. Accept letter of resignation from Erin Kinnane, Senior Clerk, and sign change of status form, effective April 10, 2019. Selectman Pacheco reads the letter from Ms. Kinnane.

VOTE: Motion (Sullivan/Grunwald) to accept Ms. Kinnane's resignation and sign the change of status, passed unanimously.

Selectman Sullivan wants to revisit the change of status forms. Selectman Pacheco agrees and says she will work on that.

#### **New Business:**

19. Dates for upcoming Board of Selectmen Meetings: Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Grunwald says he will not be present at the Board's May 6th meeting.
20. Any other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before this meeting to properly come before the Board

Selectman Pacheco would like to look at time limits on future meetings of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Sullivan would like to add an extra meeting to work through and finish the budgets; Selectman Pacheco says that is fine with her, and just let her know when it is.

Selectman Pacheco welcomes Selectman Grunwald to the Board. Selectman Grunwald thanks the voters for letting him serve.

At 6:44pm, motion (Pacheco/Grunwald) to adjourn, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Timm McIntosh  
Administrative Assistant

List of documents/exhibits used in this meeting, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 22(a)

- Letter from Administrative Assistant re: scheduling of Annual & Special Town Meeting
- Calendar of recommended dates for 2019 Special/Annual Town Meeting Preparation
- Draft Amendment No. 1 to Contract for Architectural Design Services for New Freetown Police Station Project between the Town of Freetown and Compass Group Architecture.
- Draft event notification form for The Mix Tape event, to be held on April 14, 2019
- Letter from The Tuesday Club of Assonet re: use of the Village Bandstand for 2019 Strawberry Festival
- Draft Second Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Freetown and the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency.
- Draft Chapter 90 Project Request for High Street, Friend Street and Copicut Road
- Draft minutes for March 18<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Selectmen
- List of appointments of members of the Board of Selectmen
- Draft change of status report for E. Bullock & E. Kinnane
- Draft appointment slip for C. Sullivan, G. Grunwald, TIF Board appointees, J. Chandler & R. Klevecka

### **Appointments of Members of the Board of Selectmen**

After the appointments to be made later on in this meeting, the three Board members are appointed to the following, as members of the Board of Selectmen:

#### **Selectman Sullivan:**

- EMA – Public Safety
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Priority Development Committee
- Bristol County Advisory Board (Board of Selectmen Delegate)
- Regional School Finance Committee
- Soil Conservation Board

#### **Selectman Pacheco:**

- Commuter Rail Task Force – Delegate
- EMA – Public Safety
- Health Insurance Advisory Committee
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Sexual Harassment Officer
- Soil Conservation Board
- Taxation Relief Committee

#### **Incoming Selectman:**

- EMA – Public Safety
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Soil Conservation Board

#### **Appointments that follow the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen:**

- Tax Increment Financing Board (follows Chair)
- Public Records Clerk – Board of Selectmen
- Task Force By-Law

#### **Vacant Appointments:**

- Regional School Negotiating Committee
- Southeastern Regional Transit Authority