



TOWN OF FREETOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 1, 2020 – 10:00am  
Meeting Will Be Held Virtually and Livestreamed At  
freetownMA.gov/FREECAM

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK  
2020 MAY -5 PM 3:18

*J. Brown*

**10:00am**      **Call to Order** Chairman Charles B. Sullivan calls the meeting to order at 10:02am. Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco and Selectman George L. Grunwald are present. This meeting is being held virtually; all participants are participating remotely. Also present: Town Administrator David DeManche, Board of Health Agent Derek Macedo, Executive Assistant Ali Golz and Administrative Assistant Timm McIntosh. This meeting is being recorded by Mr. McIntosh and being livestreamed on the Town's YouTube Channel.

**Board of Selectmen:**

1. Updates the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, and how they apply to Town operations and services.

To start, Mr. Macedo gives an update on the pandemic. According to Mr. Macedo's most recent numbers, we are up to 6,620 confirmed cases in the Commonwealth and 89 deaths. 306 of those cases are in Bristol County and 2 in Freetown. The Governor has extended the ban on non-essential businesses to May 4<sup>th</sup>. On the Public Health side, they have also eased up reporting restrictions, making follow-ups easier. Mr. DeManche says he is a part of a Managers Group with area Town Administrators, and conditions in some communities are exploding. He believes the worst two weeks are still ahead, and notes that Freetown is the exception to the rule at this point. He believes we need to prepare for our numbers to increase exponentially. Selectman Pacheco and Selectman Grunwald have no comments.

Mr. DeManche says he met with the Town's finance team to review our financial position. It doesn't appear that we are in terrible shape at this time. They discussed the details of a spending freeze, going line by line and identifying places we can produce savings. There will be a department head meeting tomorrow that will cover this as well. He speaks to the Town having the ability to extend the May 1<sup>st</sup> tax commitment if we need to or keeping it in place but having the Board waive interest. He says better than half of the Town's commitments come in through three banks, so if those banks collect as usual, it's a good thing, but there could be a lag. He would like to further address this at Monday's meeting.

The other necessary topics for today are executive session topics. With nothing else on the agenda and everyone present for the executive session, the Board proceeds with their 10:15am meeting at 10:10am.

**Executive Session:**

At 10:10am, motion (Pacheco/Grunwald) to enter into executive session, under the following exemptions, and not return to open session following. Roll call: Chairman Charles B. Sullivan, Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco, Selectman George L. Grunwald; all voted in the affirmative when polled.

- M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(a) (3) – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Freetown Police Association because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares.
- M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(a) (3) – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Freetown Fulltime Fire Fighters Association because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares.

Please note, Mr. Macedo will not be joining the Board in Executive Session, but Mrs. Golz will remain present. The executive session discussion is not livestreamed or recorded.

At 10:58am, motion (Pacheco/Grunwald) to adjourn. Roll call: Chairman Charles B. Sullivan, Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco, Selectman George L. Grunwald; all voted in the affirmative when polled.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timm McIntosh", written in a cursive style.

Timm McIntosh  
Administrative Assistant

The Board did not use any supplemental materials for the open portion of this meeting.