



TOWN OF FREETOWN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
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MINUTES OF MEETING OF TUESDAY APRIL 22, 2014

COUNCIL ON AGING  
227 CHACE ROAD, EAST FREETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

**6:00 P.M.** — **Call to Order** Selectman Lisa Pacheco those present are Selectmen Paul Sadeck, Selectmen Lee Baumgartner and Town Administrator Richard Brown. The meeting is being recorded by MCCAM and Selectman Sadeck.

**Weekly Public Discussion period** Tim Bruno and Robert Barboza are here and present a proposal for the COA for a vehicle. The budget was a 2005 PT cruiser. 12 month 12,000 miles warranty. Selectman Pacheco says she didn't know this was going to be happening until today. COA Director Barbara Lafleur said she just sent a letter in today to Ali when the Van was ready. The money was put into a line item and when she went to the Town Accountant she told her how much she had. Selectman Pacheco said this is to replace a vehicle correct. Director Lafleur states yes it is and Rt 44 has worked with us to get the replacement of the vehicle within the budget. Selectman Pacheco thanks them on behalf of the board. This doesn't need a vote the money was already in the budget. Selectman Pacheco asks if our mechanics have looked at it. Director Lafluer said that she test drove this. Selectman Baumgartner said Mr. Bruno said they would be going through the vehicle entirely.

#### Consent Agenda

#### Board of Selectmen: Action relative to:

- Sign contract with Environmental Partners Group for On-Call Engineering Services for the Water and Sewer Commission. Mr. Brown stated this is an agreement for the Water/Sewer to call for on call services when needed under the direction of the water/sewer. Selectman Pacheco said this would be coming under the Enterprise Fund. Selectman Sadeck said the enterprise fund is coming from the water customers and asks if we go out for bid. Mr. Brown said this is an exempt bid. Selectman Sadeck said why we wouldn't go out for bid anyway. Selectman Pacheco said we do have a similar contract that replaces the canisters. Mr. Brown said we have used them previously for the Storm water process. Selectman Pacheco said they have been good to us. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to sign. Passed unanimously.
- East Freetown Congregation Church is requesting approval from the Board to use the Council on Aging for their Annual BBQ on July 19, 2014. Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco) to approve the use of the COA. Passed unanimously.

- Letter from representatives of EKDK Nominee Trustees regarding their intent to remove 1.61 acres of land on Flagg Swamp Road from Chapter 61, and the Town's right of first refusal. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to allow this to proceed as recommended by the Town Administrator. It is their intent to convert this to residential.

#### **Board of Health:**

- Selectman Pacheco says now is the time with Spring coming that we need to stay on top of the Mosquitoes. Selectman Baumgartner states we get emails from DPH regarding the Mosquitoes. Because the pollen is late this year we will stay on top of this. People can request that their properties be sprayed. Also the Pond Levels we have been monitoring this. We have also looked at ways to measure this and also the drain areas become swamp areas. The Highway Dept cleaned it out and that was the only other place it was going to drain. We will stay on top of it.

#### **Personnel Board:**

- Discuss a letter received from Christopher Mather regarding the vacant seat on the Finance Committee. Selectman Sadeck reads the letter aloud that Mr. Mather send to the Board. He also attached his resume. Selectman Sadeck sent this off to the Chair of the Finance Committee and Brad Paiva told him that Mr. Mather was going to come in and see if he was interested in the Finance Committee. We will hold off on this until later. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to appoint Christopher Mather. Passed unanimously.
- Accept Letter of Resignation from Gary Guinen, Zoning Board of Appeals, effective May 31, 2014. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to accept with regret and send a letter of appreciation. Selectman Sadeck reads his resignation letter aloud and we tried to convince him to stay before and he did and now we can't. Passed unanimously.
- Reappoint Donat LeBlanc, Veteran's Agent. Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco). Selectman Pacheco states what a wonderful job he has done. Selectman Sadeck finds it amazing how many individuals' lives he has changed. Passed unanimously.
- Reappoint Lisa Podeilsky, Animal Control Officer/Inspector of Animals. Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco). Selectman Sadeck says she has done a fabulous job. Passed unanimously.
- Reappoint Elizabeth Dennehy Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco) to appoint Elizabeth Dennehy and Joanne Thomas Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to Cultural Council. Passed unanimously.
- Approve Change of Status for John Pye for Council on Aging Van Driver, as submitted by Council on Aging Director Barbara LaFleur, effective January 14, 2014. Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco) to approve. Passed unanimously.

#### **New Business**

- Dates for upcoming Board of Selectmen Meetings: Monday April 28<sup>th</sup>, Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>, Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>, Monday June 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Town Meeting, Monday June 16<sup>th</sup>, Monday June 30<sup>th</sup>, Monday July 14<sup>th</sup>, Monday July 28<sup>th</sup>.
- This Saturday is the FYAA is the Opening day at 10AM
- Town Administrator responds to the FinCom questions regarding the cost of the truck for maintenance. Mr. Brown says the Town can get a new truck for \$16,995. Mr. Paiva says then maybe the COA can use it. Selectman Pacheco says this is a Town vehicle. Mr. Paiva asks about funds for vehicles. Selectman Pacheco says there are no funds in any account now. Mr. Alderson asks about the old truck the Colorado. Mr. Macomber says when we were looking for a used truck they have profit attached to it however when we buy from an MHQ their profit is the add ons so it is cheaper to buy new. Mr. Alderson asks why it needs to be Ford why not GMC. Finance Committee approves the new truck.
- Budget Meeting Finance Committee to go over the Library, Town Administrator's budgets as well as Capital budgets.
- Library 611 - increases by \$765. That meets the director standards.
- Capital for Library - Vincent Kyne gave us the estimate and said it would be approximately between \$8721 and \$12,845.00 to replace all the windows.
- Selectmen 125 – Mr. Brown says the Cell phone communication is the increase. Office supplies postage and the same. Mr. Alderson asks if these are new phone, Yes Mr. Brown states the Selectman never had cell phones before. Mr. Brown said it has data for email. Mr. Wilkins asks for dues and membership. Mr. Brown said we never put the MMA in the correct place in the past.
- Town Administrator 125 – The correction is for the Floater increased by \$17,000.00 approximately.
- FinCom 131 – no questions.
- Audit this will be reduced by \$20,000 as a contract was just awarded states Mr. Brown..
- Town Counsel - 151 we will leave this as is Mr. Brown states.
- IT 155 – increased from \$21,800 to \$31,800. This includes the cost to bring IT in more as well as the website. Selectman Pacheco says at some point she wants a 5 years plan. Selectman Pacheco asks who needs updates. Chief Silvia says this will affect Fire, Police, Highway and Town Hall. Selectman Pacheco says next year this needs to be clear. We need to know how much it is going to cost.
- Property Insurance 193 – Mr. Brown says we always run tight on this. Hold on this.
- EMA – Selectman Pacheco asks what we have used the money for this year – Mr. Brown says not much at all. Selectman Pacheco says do we need this much in there then.

- FRLS same as last year \$9,054,088.
- Bristol Aggie – Mr. Brown based on last October enrollment \$30,906.00 18 students.
- Old Colony – \$1,552,229 90 kids why is it lower than last year. Mr. Brown said they budgeted more children than last year. Hold on this for Monday.
- Capital Equipment – Conversation ensues about leases. Chief Abbott speaks about the cruisers, he says this is the plan that we have used for the past 10 years. He is also looking for some containers also for storage. There is no place to put the evidence we get. Selectman Pacheco says how about the Old School house. The Chief will look into that. We will take the \$7,000 off. Selectman Sadeck says the leases are Highway 2 –Fire 2 and Police -4 \$343,696 and the whole IT needs to be done. Hold this for next week.

#### Old Business:

- Action taken on debt owed by town employee – Mr. Brown said the letter that was sent Certified and we will find another way to contact him. Police Chief will help with that.
- Status of police grievance – We are waiting for the signatures.
- Rochester/Acushnet/Freetown missing town bound – Selectman Baumgartner said we need to find a couple more. Selectman Pacheco said reach out to John Ashley.
- Freetown Elementary lease agreement – Selectman Pacheco said she knows Lakeville signed theirs so can we have this on our agenda next time.
- Pending report of South Main bridge scheduled for October 2014 – Waiting for this. Leave on so we don't forget.
- Pond Level
- Status of water and sewer agreement with Fall River – Mr. Brown has not heard back. Selectman Pacheco asked if we have a deadline for this. Mr. Brown said we can hold this open for the discussion from this morning.
- Status of light in front of 200 Slab Bridge Road – Mr. Brown said NStar was supposed to send Mr. Mellon regarding this and an agreement. Mr. Brown said at this point we could assume responsibility for this. Selectman Pacheco said Slab Bridge doesn't have any lighting except near the school. Selectman Sadeck says this light is in front of his house but he is getting billed for this. Selectman Pacheco says we would have one light on the whole road that we would pay for. Mr. Brown stated he kept the light on because he wanted it. Mr. LeBlanc says he can't pay afford to pay for it. Selectman Pacheco says we need to find out about this and resolve this. Mr. Brown said Mr. Mellen would prefer to have the light.
- Status of frost heave issue in front of 4 Kevin Drive – Mr. Brown said as you know we just got money from MaDOT and he will work on this road.
- Report on meeting with Mr. Belmore scheduled for April 1, 2014 – Selectman Sadeck asks if we want to do anymore than what was already done. Selectman Pacheco said we agreed to replace baby trees and seal the driveway. Selectman Pacheco says is it correct trees were given to him and they were sent back to us and the trees were purchased by the

construction company not the Town. Selectman Sadeck says Mr. Belmore told him when he met with him his well pump line broke because it took in sediment and sand. He had a premier system and it hurt compromised his furnace. He said this was brought to the EMA director at that time who was Wes Vaughn. The amount to fix it was about \$3,000.00. We need to take a vote to have further discussion or do nothing. Selectman Pacheco said first we had the floods which disrupt the earth over there. Many other people's homes were disturbed however we didn't help those people but I will entertain a motion. Selectman Baumgartner said it may have been because of the Flood but we don't know. Motion Baumgartner to replace the trees and seal the driveway. Baumgartner rescinds the Motion. Selectman Sadeck says he has the right to take us to court over this. Selectman Pacheco says Mr. Belmore keeps coming back on this issue, would he be coming back on this if the trees and the sealing would have been done already. Selectman Pacheco says the Town owns 4'. Mr. Brown said from the vote the first time I was gotten a release of claims do you want me to get it now. Selectman Pacheco asks if Selectman Sadeck can speak to him about this. Selectman Sadeck also says that Mr. Belmore would like two (2) signs on the road Turtle crossing signs.

- School Fuel usage. – Mr. Brown says Lakeville charges them a mechanical/programming volume fee. The bills have been roughly \$100.00 over the last couple of years. Selectman Pacheco asks to speak to the Chief of Police and Fire Chief about this.
- Selectman Sadeck said the email that came in this week from Mr. Labelle. Selectman Baumgartner states Mr. Labelle wants to know if the road can be paved. He wants to know if he can pave it himself. Mr. Brown sent an email with some information about that.

**Executive Session:**

**Adjournment of regular meeting** Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco) to adjourn at 8:56

Respectfully submitted,



Ali Golz, Administrative Assistant