



**TOWN OF FREETOWN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
3 North Main Street/P.O. Box 438
Assonet, MA 02702-0438
PHONE: 508-644-2201; FAX: 508-644-3342**

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MONDAY JUNE 16, 2014

**FREETOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ACTIVITIES ROOM
43 BULLOCK ROAD, EAST FREETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS**

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

6:05 P.M. Pole hearing relative to VERIZON/NSTAR for placement of new pole 15/6PB and to relocate Pole 15/34 on Chace Rd, East Freetown, MA 02717.
Abutters have been notified via certified mail. No abutter present. The poles are necessary for the Solar Farm Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco) to approve. Passed unanimously.

6:10 P.M. Pole hearing relative to VERIZON/NSTAR for placement of new poles 11/31.5 & 11/33.5 and to relocate Poles 11/22, 11/31, 11/32, 11/34, 11/34, 11/58, 11/66, 11/68, and 1/69 on Braley Rd, East Freetown, MA 02717.
Abutters have not all been notified via certified mail. Selectman Pacheco said we can hear this on the 14th of July and if that isn't good enough then we can hold a meeting sooner. Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco) to continue. Passed unanimously.

**Signing of Biweekly payroll/vendor warrants
Weekly Public Discussion period**

Consent Agenda:

Board of Selectmen: Action relative to:

- Diane Lawless, Treasurer/Collector to address Board regarding Retiree Part B Medicare and Lock Box. Mrs. Lawless distributes information for the retirees that are being accessed the penalty. \$12.06 per month is the penalty which was adopted 2008. There have only been 2 denials and her contact at SSA stated that they may not be contacted for awhile. We haven't given up on filing for appeals. She has drafted a letter to Medicare. This is a win win for us, either way the town needs to pay the penalty. Selectman Baumgartner said don't the people have to have some sort of responsibility themselves. Mrs. Lawless said there have been a lot of changes, either way we are paying the penalty. If we send this letter we are helping the retiree out. I have an email from my former predecessor that went to the retirees saying that

they didn't have to file. Most of the individuals are spouses. There have been a lot of changes and no one is taking any blame for this. The law is if the Town didn't follow through on this then it is on the Town. Selectman Sadeck said the saving is for the Town to do this. The penalty is \$12.06 now. Selectman Baumgartner said how long will this penalty last. Mrs. Lawless said this penalty is forever. She said this is a \$1200 savings to the Town for these 10 people. Selectman Pacheco said that she doesn't know a lot about this she want to know do we have to do this; does our Attorney want us to? Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) adopt Mrs. Lawless' letter because this is a reasonable letter and that we pay the penalty once the appeals have been exhausted and to make sure the people file all levels of appeals. Passed unanimously. Mrs. Lawless said we also need to know how to reimburse these people. This begins July 1st. Reimbursement every quarter.

- Lockbox – Mrs. Lawless said this is working well for Excise Tax and the Town is getting this information properly. We are able to do other things in the office. Selectman Pacheco asks if they are still taking payments at the window. Mrs. Lawless said all the payments are taken at the window and she goes to the Bank herself. Mrs. Lawless said she brought Denise from Bristol County Saving Bank along tonight in case the Board has any questions. Selectman Pacheco doesn't want the payments to be mailed out to Lockbox; if they are brought into the Town Hall then they should be handled within the Town Hall. Mrs. Lawless states that Lockbox has taken in 50% of the work and now we are about to do Real Estate and Property Tax. Selectman Sadeck asks the cost. Denise said there is no cost. There is a min balance of \$300,000 in the depository. Selectman Sadeck said then there is a cost to it. Denise said there has never been a time that you the Town have gone down below the balance. Denise said it is beneficiary for Treasurer/Collector to use these services. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to continue with Lockbox for Real estate and personal property. Passed unanimously. Come back to this in 6 months to see how it is working. Selectman Baumgartner asks if we reach a point is there a penalty. Selectman Pacheco said she thinks that is where the confusion comes in when this is now that your expectations are that you want us to continue this. She understands that there are some benefits to this however you can't go behind us and then ask for this service after you have implemented it. Selectman Pacheco isn't opposed to this service just the way Mrs. Lawless started it. Mrs. Lawless said the bills are ready to go out now.

Board of Health:

Personnel Board:

- Request from Diane Lawless to carry over 3 days of unused vacation time from FY14 into FY15. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner). To approve the carryover of vacation but to use it by November 30th. Passed unanimously.
- Approve Hiring of new Building Commissioner. Selectman Sadeck explains they reviewed apps and the top app is Scott Barbato Motion (Sadeck/Baumgartner) to appoint Scott Barbato. Passed unanimously.
- Selectman Pacheco reaffirms the vote for Janice Boucher's contract. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner). Passed unanimously.

New Business

- Dates for upcoming Board of Selectmen Meetings: Monday July 14th, Monday July 28th, Monday August 11th, Monday August 25th, Monday September 8th, Monday September 22nd.
- Town Hall Employees attending a Funeral for an Employees' father – anyone can attend but they need to use their own vacation/personal time.

Old Business:

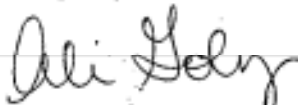
- Action taken on debt owed by town employee.
- Status of Feasibility study.
- Status of police grievance.
- Rochester/Acushnet/Freetown missing town bound.
- Freetown Elementary lease agreement.
- Pending report of South Main Bridge scheduled for October 2014.
- Pond Level.
- Status of water and sewer agreement with Fall River.
- Status of frost heave issue in front of 4 Kevin Drive.
- Report on Mr. Belmore.
- School Fuel usage.
- Grass Mowing at FYAA fields.
- Lang Road.

Executive Session:

Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco) Roll Call Chairman Lisa A. Pacheco, Selectman Paul G. Sadeck and Selectman Lee J. Baumgartner. To Enter into Executive Session and return into Open Session - To Conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel. All members voted in the affirmative when polled. Others present are Town Counsel Mark Reich and Town Administrator Richard Brown.

Adjournment of Regular Meeting: meeting remained open until adjourned after the Annual Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Ali Golz, Administrative Assistant