



TOWN OF FREETOWN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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MINUTES OF
MEETING OF MONDAY APRIL 25, 2016

COUNCIL ON AGING
227 CHACE ROAD, EAST FREETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

6:00 P.M. Call to Order Selectman Paul Sadeck calls meeting to order. Those present are Selectmen Lisa Pacheco and Selectmen Robert Jose. The meeting is being recorded by FREECAM.

Weekly Public Discussion

Executive Session

- Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to go into E/S and come back into Open Session M.G.L. c30A, Sec. 21(a) To discuss strategy with respect to a settlement with the Massachusetts Attorney General, and collective bargaining with the Freetown Police Department, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body Selectman Sadeck declares. Roll Call, All Vote in the affirmative.

7:00 P.M. Discuss Annual Town Meeting Articles with Finance Committee

Special Town Meeting Articles

The Finance Committee and Town Accountant Kim Fales has joined the Selectmen after recess. Selectmen Sadeck asks if there is any new discussion on Articles for Special Town Meeting. Selectmen Jose would like to bring back the STM Article regarding the Police Union, Article 5. Selectmen Pacheco notes the Board hasn't officially voted on any of the STM articles, which will be done at a later time.

Zoning/Planning Articles

Nick Velozo from the Planning Board is present to discuss the Zoning and Planning articles, so the Board takes the articles out of order to start. Mr. Velozo speaks about the parking by-law article. He says that it primarily updates older, vague language. Mr. Alderson of the Finance Committee has questions about the article, but it assured that it affects commercial areas, not residential areas. Next, the site plan review article establishes an application for site plan review, which the ZBA lacked previously. Both of these articles have been to Town Counsel, the next two have not. Next, the table of use article, which is something most towns have nowadays. Finally, the 4th article updates definitions for the by-laws. With no further questions, Mr. Velozo departs the meeting.

Omnibus Budget Discussion

Town Accountant Kim Fales received an update from the school district relating to the transportation assessment for Old Colony. The assessment has come in at \$161,913.60, an increase of \$13,010.40 from the FY15 assessment. This is an additional \$9,289 hit to our budget.

Omnibus for the School Budget has an increase. Pacheco wants a review of Old Colony review. Educational Assessment is \$1,698,366 for 92 students, \$18,460.50 per student. Last year's was approximately \$16,327. Mr. Alderson notes this does not include transportation. Selectmen Pacheco asks Ms. Fales to go over a letter she received that explains why the cost went up. The Assessment went up because of IEP's. 23 students have them, an increase of \$4,966 each. There is a \$5,000 increase over students without IEPs. Selectmen Pacheco says in all the years she has never seen it calculated this way, Ms. Fales says we've never seen it calculated at all. Selectmen Pacheco asks if they are getting any circuit breaker costs and will that off set our cost at all. This information should come back to us. Ms. Fales says Mr. Healey met with Sarah Griffith, OC's business manager, and that we got a letter as a follow up. Selectmen Pacheco Selectmen Pacheco would like to see what the template is. Mr. Paiva asks about federal money for special needs students, Selectmen Pacheco says there is no federal money, but the circuit breaker costs she spoke of is the state money for that purpose. She says she would have loved to be at the meeting with Mr. Healey.

Annual Town Meeting Articles Discussion

- Elected Official Salary Article - This is fine. After this, salaries will be in line.
- Revolving Account – This is a customary, housekeeping Article.
- Cemetery Article – a transfer of \$4,500 from the sale of cemetery lots to be able to use the money for upkeep and the like. This is their money, so the Board is fine with this.
- Highway Articles – Ms. Fales suggests we move this and the next two articles to Capital Budgets. Selectmen Pacheco says she was going to suggest the same thing.
 - Skid Steer – Mr. Macomber says this is essentially a Bobcat, that is used every single day. He says the current one is 14 years old we are having a hard time finding parts for it. If they do find parts, we find them in NH or CT. The new skid steer Mr. Macomber wants to purchase is a John Deere, like the rest of the Department's equipment, from the same dealer. Part availability would not be an issue anymore.
 - Lawn Mower – Mr. Macomber says the Department has three lawn mowers currently, two of them around 15 years old. The one he would like to replace it is on its second engine and has the same parts availability issues as the skid steer.
 - Scan Tool – Mr. Macomber notes this was requested by the Board of Selectmen. Selectmen Sadeck says this is for the new mechanic when our Town mechanic retires. Mr. Alderson says this is a waste of money because you end up having to pay to read and update the scan tool. Selectmen Pacheco says we will take this off because we were informed that when we get another mechanic, we'd need something like this. Mr. Alderson says that the mechanic probably would need the tool, but this is just the beginning of the cost of it. Selectmen Sadeck says we will wait on this and deal with this later when it's needed
 - Sadeck wants to know if everyone wants to move the two articles to the Capital Budget.
- Board of Assessors – \$31,500 to fund the Interim Year Adjustment of Assessed Values. This is required, so it is fine.
- Board of Assessors – \$9,900 to fund the software license for PK Valuations Group. Like the last one, this one is required so this is fine.
- BOS/Building Article for Town owned building. Selectmen Sadeck says that he thinks the value on this article is \$25,000, Selectmen Pacheco says she would like Scott to have put a

full Capital Improvement plan together. Ms. Fales says there is 140K in the Capital Improvement list now, this would be for costs that come up during the year for upkeep and whatnot, not necessarily prolonging the lifespan of buildings. Essentially, this is the fund to pay for things that break. Selectmen Jose asks how much do you want to put in there. Selectmen Sadeck says \$25000.

- Women's Center Article – Yes, this is done every year.
- Cemetery Article – \$350 for the maintenance of veteran's graves. This is done every year, so this is fine.
- Water Enterprise Article – the amount for this article has been reduced by \$50,000, to \$501,768. This is fine.
- Sewer Enterprise Article – The operating budget for this is \$198,874. This is fine.
- The Capital Stabilization Fund and Stabilization Fund articles should be the last two, moved to the back of the pile. Selectmen Pacheco says we should have a dollar amount before the Town Meeting, we should fill it in before the Special Town Meeting.
- Planning Board Articles – taken out of order at the beginning of the meeting.
- The Road Acceptance Articles – These are placeholders at this time, as these are coming before the Board of Selectmen at next week's meeting.

Ms. Fales notes the only budget we are still waiting for at this point is the final numbers from the new trash & recycling contract.

Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to adjourn at 8:00pm, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ali Golz".

Ali Golz, Administrative Assistant