



## TOWN OF FREETOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

### MINUTES

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK

Tuesday, February 19, 2019, 6:00pm 2019 MAR 22 AM 8:33  
Council on Aging – 227 Chace Road, East Freetown

*J. Brown*

#### 6:00 P.M. Call to Order

Chairman Robert P. Jose calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco is present. Selectman Charles B. Sullivan is absent. Also present: Town Administrator David DeManche and Administrative Assistant Timm McIntosh. The meeting is being recorded by FREECAM.

#### Executive Session:

At 6:00pm, motion (Pacheco/Jose) to enter into executive session, under the following exemption, and to return to open session following. Roll Call Chairman Robert P. Jose and Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco. All voted in the affirmative when polled.

1. M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(a) (3) – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Town Hall/Clerical Union because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares.

At 6:06pm, motion (Pacheco/Jose) to exit executive session and return to open session. Roll Call Chairman Robert P. Jose and Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco. All voted in the affirmative when polled.

#### Board of Selectmen:

2. Discuss/Approve “On Your Left Racing” triathlon event for July 27, 2019. Derek Savas of On Your Left Racing is present, and speaks to the event, which is new to Freetown in 2019. Part of the event goes through Freetown, departing from Cathedral Camp. Police Chief and Fire Chief have signed off on the event notification form. The event would start at 7am and participants would be off the roads by 10am. Selectman Pacheco asks Mr. McIntosh to add a notice to the website about potential traffic impacts for this and the next two events, and that Mr. Savas ensures the course is cleaned after his event.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to approve, passed unanimously.

3. Discuss/Approve 13<sup>th</sup> Annual “Patriot Half” triathlon event for June 15, 2019. This is an annual event.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to approve, passed unanimously.

4. Discuss/Approve 18<sup>th</sup> Annual “Cranberry Trifest” triathlon events for August 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to approve, passed unanimously.

5. Discuss/Approve Change Order No. 2 for Rehabilitation of Two Bridges project with Aetna Bridge Company. Selectman Pacheco says this change order appears to be in the negative. Selectman Jose notes it appears to him that it is an increase of \$6,000. Discussion ensues if the Board even approved change order #1. Mr. DeManche says he didn't talk to the Highway Surveyor on this. Selectman Jose isn't sure if this is Locust Street or S. Main Street. The Board will hold this until the next meeting.
6. Discuss Comstar ambulance billing process. This agenda item discussed in coordination with the next agenda item.
7. Discuss terminating ambulance rate agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield. Fire Chief Gary Silvia has a meeting tonight and could not be at the Board meetings. Mr. DeManche says Chief Silvia contacted Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) and discussed termination, which can be done simply by email with 90 day notice. Mr. DeManche recommends registered mail as well. Selectman Jose says he believes the monthly abatements are very high, so he, Chief Silvia and Comstar met to go over permutations and where we compare. He found we were similar to other towns except in 3rd party billing. The Town had been utilizing the same rates with BCBS since 1991, and nobody else has a similar agreement; the Town has just never moved away from there. Selectman Jose says we are getting a third of the money that we can, as BCBS is our major carrier. Everyone agreed that terminating the agreement would be the best course of action. Selectman Pacheco wants to know what the next step is after terminating the contract. Selectman Jose says after 90 days, they have to reimburse us at the rate we bill. It does not affect Medicare, Medicaid or MassHealth, which are all set rates, they will only pay what they pay. Selectman Pacheco wants all of that in writing. Selectman Jose says we have all of that in writing.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to move forward with the terminating of the contract, with everything in writing, and subject to the review of the Town Administrator and his signature on that as well, passed unanimously.

8. Approve 2018/2019 snow plow application for James Dias.

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to approve, passed unanimously.

9. Approve minutes of February 4, 2019 meeting of the Board of Selectmen

VOTE: Motion (Pacheco/Jose) to approve, passed unanimously.

10. Town Administrator's Report

- Mr. DeManche will be meeting with department heads on their budget requests over the next three days, going over each increase.

- While Mr. DeManche was on vacation the Town Hall had boiler inspection, which found some minor issues. These will be taken care of by the building inspector, and should not be too costly.
- A kickoff meeting for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>. Reviews potential environmental impacts in the community. It involves two workshops for a total of 8 hours. This program will make us eligible for future grants.
- Mr. DeManche has dates with Bill Hewing from KP Law for the Cable Advisory Committee, which will be scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup> before the Economic Development Committee meeting.
- The Form L for the Police Station site plan review has been received from the Planning Board for comment by the Board. The plan is in the office.
- Finally, on the Fire Station #1 doors, the Historical Commission met with Mr. Digiammo and they have come up with a plan. Next step would be to prepare an estimate for Town Meeting.

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

11. Review of Local Upgrades approved by Health Agent Derek Macedo. Selectman Pacheco reads through the list of upgrades approved by Mr. Macedo for December and January. The Board has no questions.

#### **Personnel Board:**

12. Approve memorandum of understanding between the Town of Freetown and Public Union Employees, Local 1144 of the Laborer's International Union of North America. This agenda item was passed over.

#### **New Business:**

13. Dates for upcoming Board of Selectmen Meetings: Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>, Monday March 18<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

#### **Executive Session:**

At 6:00pm, motion (Pacheco/Jose) to enter into executive session, under the following exemptions, and to return to open session following. Roll Call Chairman Robert P. Jose and Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco. All voted in the affirmative when polled.

14. M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(a) (3) – to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares
15. M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a) (3) – to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Excel Recycling, LLC vs. Town of Freetown

At 6:40pm, motion (Pacheco/Jose) to adjourn from executive session. Roll Call Chairman Robert P. Jose and Selectman Lisa A. Pacheco. All voted in the affirmative when polled.

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 Derek Savas, On Your Left Racing Series, regarding event in Freetown on July 27, 2019
- Draft Event Notification Form for On Your Left Racing event on July 27, 2019, signed by Chief of Police Carlton Abbott and Fire Chief Gary Silvia
- Map & list of directions for On Your Left Race event
- Letter from Sun Multisport Events regarding Patriot Half and Cranberry Trifest events
- Draft Event Notification Form for Patriot Half event on June 15, 2019, signed by Chief of Police Carlton Abbott and Fire Chief Gary Silvia
- Map & list of directions for Patriot Half event
- Draft Event Notification Form for Cranberry Trifest event on June 15, 2019, signed by Chief of Police Carlton Abbott and Fire Chief Gary Silvia
- Map & list of directions for Cranberry Trifest event
- Draft Change Order #2 memo to Aetna Bridge Company for Rehabilitation of Two Bridges
- Letter & spreadsheets from Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. regarding change order #2
- Application to plow contact sheet for James Dias
- Draft minutes for meeting of the Board of Selectmen on February 4, 2019
- Septic Approvals with Local Upgrades for December 2018 and January 2019