



TOWN OF FREETOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Monday, February 10, 2020 - 5:30pm

Lakeville Police Station Meeting Room

323 Bedford Street, Lakeville, MA 02347

2020 FEB 19 P 3:25

[Signature]

5:30 PM **Call to Order** Temporary Chairman Lisa A. Pacheco calls the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Selectman George L. Grunwald is present, as is Administrative Assistant Timm McIntosh. Selectman Charles B. Sullivan and Town Administrator David DeManche are not present. The meeting is being recorded by LakeCAM.

Board of Selectmen:

1. Proposed Freetown Lakeville Lake District

The Board is meeting with the Lakeville Board of Selectmen: Chairman Evagelia Fabian, Selectman John Powderly and Selectman Richard LaCamera, along with Lakeville Town Administrator Maureen Candito. Selectman Fabian says this Lake District will impact both Towns, so this is a good time to have our first meeting on this. Selectman Pacheco says she and Selectman Grunwald have reviewed the minutes of the April 25, 2018 Lakeville Board of Selectmen meeting, when they met with Mr. Sarcia previously. Selectman Fabian asks if Freetown is looking for opinions, cautioning that Lakeville has a variety of information to study still, she isn't sure they have comments yet. Selectman LaCamera asks if Freetown has a copy of the legislation that would be filed; Selectman Pacheco says we do not, we'd need to ask the petitioners about that. Selectman LaCamera notes that he is not criticizing Freetown but asks why Freetown would vote on something if we don't know. Selectman Pacheco has the same questions. She says her biggest concern would be that this would make Long Pond an exclusive environment, with the haves and the have nots. She commends the end result of this and the stated intent but thinks this is the wrong road to go down. She thinks the state should be involved and has concerns about the group not having a charter. Selectman Pacheco also notes that Mr. Sarcia stated in April 2018 meeting with Lakeville that he met with the Freetown Board members individually, but that is not true; Selectman Pacheco has never met privately with him. Selectman Powderly agrees with Selectman Pacheco. He thinks this amount to taxation without representation. He cites large state meetings held in recent years on the weed issue, where there were no agreements beyond studying more. He thinks mailings should go out to all the properties that would be affected, to make sure they are aware of what's actually happening and what will happen.

Selectman Fabian notes that Lakeville has not yet received a petition on this matter. If this were to come to them, however, she would have other specific issues, like if there is a succession plan. She also notes their Town Accountant said there are caps for the amount taxes can go up. She also has concerns about the herring and the herring people; she's spoken to many of them and has gotten varied opinions back. Selectman LaCamera cites an agreement from 1899 that made Long Pond a backup water supply for Taunton and Fall River, asking if adding chemicals would impact these public water supplies.

Selectman Pacheco asks what happens if one Town approves this and the other does not; Selectman Fabian says that we have a ton of questions, and that she's curious as to what will happen on Saturday. She is happy we are having this conversation to see that we are both on the same page with our questions. Selectman Grunwald asks what we can do, noting that the Town Meeting can easily be stacked due to low turnout. Selectman Powderly says Lakeville has the same problem with town meeting attendance. Selectman Fabian says we all agree that we'd like to see something happen, but we just need to settle on what is the right thing.

The Lakeville Selectmen continue their meeting in the Meeting Room; the Freetown Selectman depart, to finish their meeting immediately outside the room.

Selectman Pacheco asks if we want to schedule a meeting ahead of the Town Meeting to make a recommendation on the article. Selectman Grunwald says he would be comfortable voting it tonight.

VOTE: Motion (Grunwald/Pacheco) to not recommend Article 2 for the Special Town Meeting; passed unanimously.

2. Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Freetown and the Freetown Employees Association regarding a donation of sick time

The Board has received a policy to address this going forward; Selectman Grunwald has no problems with that.

VOTE: Motion (Grunwald/Pacheco) to approve the memorandum of agreement; passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Timm McIntosh
Administrative Assistant

List of documents/exhibits used in this meeting, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 22(a)

- Copy of minutes from April 25, 2018 meeting of Lakeville Board of Selectmen
- Warrant for Special Town Meeting, February 15th, 2020
- Draft Memorandum of Agreement between Town of Freetown and Public Employees Union, Local 1144, LIUNA (Highway Union-Unit B)