

2020 DEC 22 AM 8:29

JJ Brown

Freetown Board of Selectmen
Meeting Agenda
Monday, December 7, 2020 – 4:30pm
Meeting Held Virtually

****Open Session livestreamed at freetownma.gov/FREECAM****

4:30pm Call to Order

Executive Session

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

1. 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 – Copart of Connecticut, Inc. v. Lisa A. Pacheco, George L. Grunwald and Trevor R. Matthews, all as they are the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Freetown
2. M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(a)(2) – to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel
3. M.G.L. c.30A, sec. 21(a)(3) – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Freetown Police Association because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares.

5:00pm Public Hearing

Chairman Lisa A. Pacheco calls the meeting to order at 4:42pm conducting other business not required to be in the public session which will begin at 5:00pm. Present: Selectmen George L. Grunwald and Selectmen Trevor R. Matthews. Town Administrator David DeManche, Assessor Mike Motta, Assistant Town Clerk Cheryl Estrella, Town Counsel William Hewig, Jeff Field Board of Assessors Member, Mike McCue Town Assessor, Rep. Carole Fiola, Rep. Paul Schmid, Vocational School Committee Members Will Sienkewicz, and Jean Fox, Executive Assistant Timm McIntosh, Senior Clerk Lu-Ann Souza, Town Clerk Jacqueline Brown, and Chris Macera of Republic Services.

Continued from Monday, November 30, 2020

Selectmen Pacheco opens the open public meeting at 5:00pm. Selectmen Pacheco noted this was continued over from the last meeting.

In conjunction with the Board of Assessors, relative to selection of the residential factor to determine the percentage of the tax burden to be borne by each class of property. Board of Assessors members, Mike Motta, Mike McCue, and Jeff Field were welcomed to the meeting.

Mike Motta called the Freetown Board of Assessors meeting to order. Mike McCue read Governor Bakers disclaimer, Chapter 30A section 19 Governors strict orders regarding meetings, hence meeting will be held virtually. He noted Sue Parker from the committee was absent.

Mr. Motta noted the Freetown Board of Assessors provided the Board with a document noting the shift for the last ten years. This document also shows the current shift (1.43%), and some numbers for your consideration today. He has additional information if the Board of Selectmen would like to have it and or has any questions.

Mr. McIntosh noted that participants can dial *9 or use raise hand feature on Zoom to be heard.

Selectmen Travers would like to hear what the average impact would be on households Mr. Motta stated that the average single family value last year was \$349,477 this year \$363,533 average value making last year's tax bill \$4,055.19 if we stay is 1.43 shift bill would increase by \$66.68 for the year. As shift increases to 1.44 or 1.45 the amount would decrease. Selectmen Grunwald asked how long has this shift has been in place? Mr. Motta stated since 2014 it had been 1.45 from 2010-2013. Selectmen Grunwald asked what is rational for changing shift now. Mr. Motta says the purpose is to shift the burden between residential and commercial industrial personal properties. Its not a financial decision as no matter what you decide same dollar amount collected but from different side. Selectmen Grunwald asked if there is a reason not to stay with what we already have? Mr. Motta stated it is more of a policy issue than a financial one. At 1.43 average family tax bill would increase by \$66.68 the average commercial increase would be \$99.14. single family residents are over 75% of our current taxpayers. If you went to 1.45 the increase would be \$37.60 vs. \$66.68. Selectmen Grunwald is in favor of leaving the shift as is and continued is there a reason to make a change to the shift at this time. Selectmen Pacheco says it is like walking a tightrope and what is feasible for both residential and shifting the burden to commercial. It is like walking a fine line with what is visible for both sides.

Mike McCue wants to clarify that the Selectmen are only voting on the shift not the tax rate. The tax rate will be set after the shift is set.

Mr. McIntosh gave instructions on how to raise hand feature on Zoom or how to unmute your phone for any public comment. Selectmen Pacheco asked if anyone has any questions. None were asked.

Mr. Motta noted that they will need signatures from Selectmen to put this in place and will arrange through Board of Selectmen's Office to obtain those.

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to set the shift at 1.43, with residential at \$13.02 and commercial industrial personal property at \$21.03 seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.
- Motion from Selectmen Travers to close the public hearing relative to selection of the residential factor tax burden, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

Board of Selectmen

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

4. Correspondence from the Board of Assessors Office regarding Tax Deferral & Exemption Programs and Farm Animal Excise Tax

Mr. Motta mentioned the Board of Assessors sent a letter to the Selectmen regarding changing the Exemptions, example 41C for elderly, have to applied for and are governed by state law on what the guidelines are, and the towns can change income limit, and the interest rate. These asset limits for 41C are currently \$28,000 single, \$30,000 married. Mr. Motta noted assets included any savings, checking accounts, second cars, 401K, annuities, second home and so forth. He feels the asset limits are low and most people would be above these limits. Selectmen Grunwald feels this number is very low. Selectmen Pacheco. Generally, if they qualify, they get \$500 off their property tax the other option is a deferral which puts off collection of tax, puts a lien on the property, max income limit \$20,000 and incurs an 8% interest until the tax is paid. Other towns in our area have a \$51,000 income limit with 4% interest rate. Selectmen Grunwald suggests the Board of Assessors get more information to present to Selectmen at a future meeting. Mr. Motta would like to know if the Selectmen feel this amount is too low and then they would look to increase the numbers and come back to Selectmen for approval. Selectmen Grunwald feels this is a good idea and that it would help to keep seniors in their homes for as long as they can. Selectmen Grunwald feels that it is less expensive to have the senior in the home rather than a family with two children which would cost the town more. Selectmen Pacheco thinks we should put it up as a Warrant Article to bring it to the Town Meeting floor. Selectmen Matthews asked if other towns tie it to national public data or CPI or rate of inflation, so it naturally grows. Mr. Motta said part of the statute links it to the cost of living. In Freetown's case we have not done that what he would purpose increase asset amount and observe states increase amount yearly.

Mr. Motta would like to prepare some specifics to present the Animal Excise Tax to the Board of Selectmen. There is a farm animal tax that is set by the State which we could use or we could assign a value to each type of animal for tax purposes. Mr. Motta would like to set up a time to discuss specifics on this topic. Selectmen Pacheco agreed that is a good plan. Mike Motta, Mike McCue and Jeff Field exited the meeting

- Motion was made by Jeff Field to adjourn the Board of Assessors Meeting. Mr. Motta seconded the motion.
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

Mr. McIntosh asked if Town Clerk Jacqueline Brown was on the line. She confirmed she was on the line. Rep. Paul Schmid thanked Town Clerk Brown for all she has done including, voting by mail, early voting, and traditional voting, safely securely and always with a smile on your face and for that we will be forever indebted to you. Rep Fiola felt it was in our hearts to join this meeting tonight as Jackie has been a pleasure to work with. Rep. Fiola virtually presented an official citation from the House thanking you for your service. She will be sure to drop it by before Jackie's retirement.

Town Clerk Jacqueline Brown thanked both Reps for attending and the citation and for this year and all the years she has worked with them, it as been a pleasure and an honor.

Rep. Schmid and Rep. Fiola were thanked by Selectmen Pacheco for attending the meeting and exited the meeting.

5. Ambulance Abatements / Write Offs for Months of October & November 2020

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to approve the ambulance abatements for October in the amount of \$50,261.83 for contractual, write offs \$116,301.82 for a total of \$166,563.65 , motion seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.
- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to approve ambulance abatements for November in the amount of \$56,351.89 for contractual, write offs \$19,239.55 for a total of \$75,591.44, motion seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

6. Change Orders 21-23 for Freetown Police Station Project General Construction Contract with HV Collins

Selectmen Pacheco noted line items to approve are:

- Change order 21 \$4,364,68 2 Ballard for car charging station and two extra days to dig the cell tower
- Change order 22 \$10,029.11 change order 23 \$15,314.09 for cell tower. Total amount of \$29,707
- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to approve change orders in the amount of \$29,707, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald to approve
- Vote: motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

7. County Ballot Certification

Town Clerk, Jacqueline Brown asked the Selectmen to sign off on the county ballot certification as presented by Jackie Brown.

Mr. McIntosh asked if the Board must sign or can he sign on their behalf. Town Clerk Brown said Mr. McIntosh can sign.

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to sign off on the county ballot certification as presented by Jackie Brown , seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

8. Call for 2021 Annual Town Election, to be held on April 5, 2021

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews, to approve as presented seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

9. Approval of Comcast Licensing Agreement

Town Administrator DeManche gave the highlights of the negotiated contract including side letter to include Senior discount, increased contribution from 1% to 3%, \$100,000 over ten-year contract net of this will be in \$800,000 area, HD Channel. Mr. DeManche thanked attorney Bill Hewig and the members of the committee and noted it was their recommendation that the Board of Selectmen accept the contract. Mr. Hewig

mentioned that Comcast has not signed off on the contract yet. Mr. Hewig noted the effective date is 11/1/2020.

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to approve the cable contract, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

Selectmen Pacheco thanked Town Administrator and Attorney Hewig for attending the meeting and their work on this project.

Attorney Hewig asked that three original copies signed by the board, then send them to Mike Galla at Comcast. They will sign them all send one to state and one back to us. Mr. McIntosh stated he will make sure that gets done once we receive the copies.

Mr. Hewig left the meeting

10. Renewals of Annual Licenses Issued by Board of Selectmen (see list at end of agenda)

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to approve all of the attached license renewals class II motor vehicle dealers license, Class III vehicle dealers license, annual auctioneer license holders, all alcoholic package store license holders, all alcoholic, Wine and Malt Beverage Store Liquor License, All Alcoholic Common Victualer License Holders, All Alcoholic Club License Holders, motor vehicle Graveyard, Entertainment seven day annual license holders, Jukebox with the exception of Copart 170 South Main Street, with all current restrictions that are existing on these said licenses, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

Selectmen Pacheco read the list of each type of license that was being approved by the Board of Selectmen.

11. Seasonal Population form from the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to vote, approve and sign the Seasonal Population form from the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

12. Council on Aging Renovation Project

After speaking with Attorney Mark Reich Mr. DeManche reissued it as an RFQ given the potential it being considered being a design services that can be used by the Board of Selectmen if they decide to go this route. However, the bids that were submitted as part of the original 30B procurement process although it is a building the point of the RFP was to look at the options regarding program space going to be required then knowing how much space is needed, looking at the three options (new building, combined COA/Library or renovation) and coming up with a ballpark not final price. Bids are due Friday. We will look at them and then decide how to proceed. There is a chance we may get a protest based upon someone saying it should have been a design service and that the Board of Selectmen can make a decision on if that is the case but the bottom line is that at least we will have an idea of what it will cost. We did get an opinion from Mark Reich about the property itself and the way the article was written and that the article specified that it was going to be on that location. Mr. DeManche said there was also discussion if we were to be borrowing but that is not the case as monies was taken out of capital stabilization to avoid borrowing. Selectmen Pacheco said she looks forward to Friday to see the quotes based on the 30B procurement on the three options 1. Renovated existing structure 2. New building 3. Combined Library/Council on Aging. Mr. DeManche said we will have the Council of Aging will meet with the designer to see what their unmet needs they see incorporating into a new or renovated structure. After which the Board will be able to decide on now to move forward. Selectmen Grunwald said the legal opinion took the multipurpose building off the table. Mr. DeManche does not believe that is the case. Mr. DeManche stated the \$550,000 must be spent on the Council of Aging property. Selectmen Grunwald requested Mr. McIntosh to read the letter. Mr. McIntosh stated it is in the packet and the letter does not state we cannot build a new building it just states that the \$550,000 cannot be used for the new building. Selectmen Pacheco believes the \$550,000 is not going to be enough which will require going back to Town Meeting for additional funding. She noted we are not making any decisions tonight and suggests waiting until bids come in on Friday. Mr. DeManche noted that if the bids to do the study come in at \$45,000 we do not have the money available to do the study. However, if they come in at \$15,000 we could proceed using monies from the Town Administrator's engineering and design account. The other issue contemplates the use of those funds to do the study and who controls the money.

13. Day-to-Day operations in absence of the Town Administrator

- Due to time constraints this item will be moved to the next meeting

14. Town Buildings Closure in the event of an emergency

- Due to time constraints this item will be moved to the next meeting

15. Patriot Half Triathlon Event – June 19, 2021

- Due to time constraints this item will be moved to the next meeting

16. Vocational/Technical school recommendation from the Freetown Vocational Education Exploratory Committee

Selectmen Pacheco welcomed guests Will Sienkewicz and Jean Fox from the Vocational Education Exploratory Committee and turned the meeting over to Mr. Sienkewicz. Will Sienkewicz stated the class of 2024 were unable to get spaces at Old Colony. He gave regional school committee and Selectmen Pacheco a lot of credit to find other options for this year's 8th graders. The committee reached out to several Vocational Schools, Bristol Plymouth being one of them. They set up a meeting with Bristol Plymouth who at their last meeting voted unanimously to allow up to fifteen spots for our eighth graders. We also have the option to continue to work toward a long-term entry into the Bristol Plymouth. Bristol Plymouth offers nineteen shops vs. Old Colony's thirteen shops, per pupil cost Bristol Plymouth is \$13,974 vs Old Colony \$17,965. If we were to join Old Colony district the buy is around \$650,000 because Old Colony has some debt which we would take some ownership. There is no buy in for Bristol Plymouth. The town will need to provide transportation. After looking at the comparison and what each school has to offer, they agreed that Bristol Plymouth was the best option. Mr. Sienkewicz is excited about this opportunity for our students. Looks like there is a long-term partnership is in the works. Jean Fox noted that they also have a robust sports program which is also appealing to our students and the per student rate for next year is going down to \$13,729. Noted the other communities that attend Bristol Plymouth are a good match and the transportation would be simple as they are located right off Route 24. Selectmen Matthews asked we have 15 students for next year. Ms. Fox stated up to 15 students. She continued it is on the low end but is a good start for the fits. Selectmen Matthews asked how many students at Old Colony. Jean Fox said we had twenty-four applications for this year. Mr. McIntosh asked if there is anything for the students who got shut out this year such as a night program? Ms. Fox said they do have

a night program and that they have not gone down that road. Selectmen Pacheco mentioned some of the offerings that Bristol Plymouth had such as Biotech, collision, dental, design and visual arts, early education, heating and ventilation and plumbing. Selectmen Pacheco noted the communities that go to Bristol Plymouth are just like Freetown.

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to move forward with our 8th grade students and our vocational education towards the direction towards Bristol Plymouth with a recommendation with the sub-committee, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

Selectmen Pacheco thanked the committee. Jean Fox and Will Sienkewicz left the meeting

17. Declaration of Uniqueness – 159 County Road

- Due to time constraints this item will be moved to the next meeting

18. Tax Title Auction of Three Properties in Tax Title – 14 East Howland Road, 106 North Main Street & 0 Middleboro Road (in vicinity of Boat Ramp)

Selectmen Grunwald suggest waiting until post COVID to do these auctions as we may do better. Town Administrator DeManche said the one we had for Freetown Screw we did there were no issues and had a good turnout and would be OK to proceed. Selectmen Grunwald suggested a minimum bid. Mr. DeManche explained that an absolute auction means no minimum bid or reserve auction which would have a minimum amount. Mr. DeManche suggested to move forward and noted this is a Board decision. Mr. DeManche noted we had a reserve auction for Freetown Screw and . Mr. DeManche confirmed this did not concern the Middleboro Road property. Selectmen Matthews and Selectmen Pacheco confirmed this did not include the Middleboro Road property. Selectmen Grunwald suggests having both properties with a reserve to ensure we get a minimum price for each. Mr. DeManche stated the ways to get the properties value would be to either get the property assessed, which he felt we would not want to ensure the cost, or to establish the baseline for the taxes and land assessment determined by the assessors as your figure. Mr. DeManche continued that this decision would be made by the Board. Selectmen Grunwald said this sounded reasonable. Mr. DeManche asked Mr. Motta if this would-be appropriate way to proceed? Mr. Motta stated the only issue is that the assessment value is based on prior year's sales and

would be a lower number than the market value. Mr. DeManche suggests using the assessment and adding 10%.

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to go forward with the tax title auction the 14 East Howland Road and 106 North Main Street properties at no less than the assessed value seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

19. Update on Highway Roofing Project

Town Administrator David DeManche said Andy DiGiammo from Compass Group, Selectmen Grunwald and Building Commissioner Jeff Chandler met on site and discussed scope of work being done site, whether it was heated and needed insulation. The decision was to include the 5" insulation, use a membrane roof and bid out with an alternate to do part of roof that needs immediate repair. Having the alternate will allow us to just repair the area in need now if they do not have enough monies to fund the entire roof now. Andy DiGiammo will put together specification to bid project out and oversite and do it in January, have contracts in February with start date in March. Selectmen Grunwald said Building Commissioner Jeff Chandler proposed alternate solution since building has more issues that may need to be addressed. Selectmen Grunwald asked Jeff Chandler to go over their conversation after review of the building. Mr. Chandler assessed the building more after the meeting and found disintegrating blocks on the side of the walls needing a lot of work to fix that. Mr. Chandler questioned do we want to redesign to bring it up to the roof or just fix the leak. Mr. Chandler is concerned with the shape of the building itself. Do we just fix the leak, or do we look to future and keep putting money into this whole project? Mr. Chandler does not have an issue doing it either way. Mr. DeManche said blocks were not considered as part of whether we needed to patch the roof. The issue about the building and what it will need was not contemplated with the roof issue. Mr. DeManche suggests looking at it in near future to see what needs to be done, or do we want to bring up to standards. May be time to figure out a capital plan to do the improvements on the building that are needed. Mr. Chandler agreed and said when he really looked at the building he was shocked with the condition. Selectmen Pacheco asked does this building houses equipment, correct? Jeff Chandler, yes. Selectmen Pacheco does the mechanic fix things in this building? Jeff Chandler, not in the section with the leak. Selectmen Pacheco, Is the office where the guys go for lunch in that building? Mr. Chandler answered not in that section. Mechanics, break room and office are not in this section. This section houses the snowplow machines and trucks. Selectmen Pacheco

asked where the mechanic section is it heated and insulated? Jeff Chandler they are newer blocks so no damage, so they hold the heat much better, but it is not insulated, they have a couple of pipes directed into those bays to take the chill off in the area with the trucks. Selectmen Pacheco suggests doing the roof or just the part that is leaking and then to investigate bringing that building to properly install heat and what they need she would not be opposed to do that side and that will give us until spring to decide what is needed. Selectmen Pacheco feels it should be insulated. Mr. DeManche mentioned that we did patch it last year to try to stop the leak. Mr. Chandler said if we are going to keep the building, we need to go with the five-inch insulation. Mr. Chandler continued if we feel the building is not going to last much longer, he says do not do the five-inch insulation, just seal it up and let it do its course. He feels the structure of the building the money that we put into the roof with five-inch insulation it would be foolish to spend but if it will last longer the five inches. Mr. DeManche said whole point was to get the roof done, he noted there may be other structural things that may need to be addressed with a capital plan next year. He does not foresee that we would be replacing the highway barn and if we are going to stay in that building go with five-inch insulation. Mr. DeManche said the deterioration of the blocks on the building were not brought to his attention. Selectmen Grunwald said Jeff Chandler felt the roof could be done for under \$15,000 if we bought the materials it could be done for under \$10,000. Jeff Chandler talked with Kim Fales who said it would be allowed but we would have to get the supplies. He noted if we were doing the five-inch insulation that is not a possibility. David DeManche said the issue with us purchasing the materials is that they license their contractors are we going to hire a company who is not licensed to install that product. Selectmen Grunwald says we have a building that needs a lot of work, we can put a roof on for \$50,000 or more and Jeff Chandler has a solution that will take care of the leak and solve immediate problem. Jeff Chandler said if we are going to do more work to fix the building, he recommends doing five-inch insulation.

Mr. DeManche asked who is going to do the specification to bid this job out. Selectmen Grunwald said Jeff Chandler spoke with Kim Fales and they believe they can do it without a bid. Mr. Chandler said that would be only if we do it without the insulation. Jeff Chandler said he would have Andy DiGiammo involved to do the specs if we are doing five-inch insulation. If we are not doing the five-inch insulation it can be done with the process Jeff Chandler and Kim Fales suggested. Selectmen Grunwald said he is not sure we need to do the five-inch insulation. Selectmen Pacheco said that is why she made motion to go according to building inspector's recommendation. If it needs to be spec'd out Mr. Chandler will spec it out to someone else. Selectmen Grunwald agreed.

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews, to approve the Highway Reroofing project with the five-inch insulation according to recommendation of the Building Inspector seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

20. Minutes: November 16th, November 18th, November 23rd & November 30th

- Due to time constraints this item will be moved to the next meeting

21. Weekly Warrants for month of December 2020, numbered 024-027

- Motion by Selectmen Matthews to approve weekly warrants 024-027, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a roll call vote.

22. Town Administrator's Report

Town Administrator DeManche said one of the containers at police dept. that has electricity for a food pantry. They have reached out to business community, will need shelving, and drop off boxes one in Assonet and one in East Freetown for donations. Explored using some CARES funding to get electricity hooked up, shelving built and see for actual food bank would be helpful. Selectmen Pacheco thinks that is important and noted how COVID has really devastated a lot of people. Town Administrator DeManche stated there was a substantial donation of soup through the United Way available at the Middle School. The availability of soup was put it up on social media to get word out. The food bank will not be income-based program. The plan is to help with food for 3-6 months.

Mr. DeManche also mentioned he sent out a letter to Bristol County regarding bandstand.

23. Police Station Update

- - Due to time constraints this item will be moved to the next meeting

Board of Health

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

24. Trash & Recycling Options beyond June 30, 2021

Selectmen Grunwald mentioned we are going out to bid in June and are trying to fix the issues we have had. He noted talking to the drivers on the trucks who he feels are doing a great job. The issue is they have the automatic pickup for barrels. He asked Chris Macera from Republic Services to confirm. Mr. Macera said the truck has this capability if we are using the right trashcans. Selectmen Grunwald would like to see this fully automated system in place using these trash cans. Selectmen Grunwald feels if this would happen drivers would be able to cover more territory and would not run into issues later in the week. Chris Macera said most communities are using automated system and it is better as the aesthetics are better having same containers, controls spillage of trash and blowing trash around. Mr. Macera noted you do get some efficiencies and it is safer for their employees. 70% of the communities they service are automated. The challenge is there is a capital purchase for these carts so every resident would need two carts each costing \$50 each. Some towns buy the outright, some do a bond to buy them or Republic sometimes buys then and rolls cost into price over the contract period. Cold collect system is currently in use being able to pick up trash and recycling at same time. If go with automated system, it would require two trucks one for trash and another for recycling. Mr. DeManche asked what happens to the revenue from the pay as you go trash bags. Chris Macera says that would go away. There are some cases where there is a small cart (35 gallon) anything over that would go into pay as you go bags which is something to consider. Selectmen Pacheco asked who buys the carts? Chris Macera said Republic can buy them and build into monthly fee over length of the contract, or the town can buy them. Selectmen Grunwald asked Selectmen Pacheco and David DeManche can we bill homeowners? Selectmen Pacheco said no, people do not like to pay for the bags never mind the barrel or cart. Selectmen Grunwald asked if bags go away? Mr. Macera said yes. Selectmen Grunwald asked Mr. DeManche asked how much revenue comes in from bags? Town Administrator DeManche said he would have to talk to Kim Fales about that. Selectmen Pacheco wanted to make sure everyone is on the same page and that we are going to put this out for proposals and not just renewing the contract. Mr. DeManche said you will need to define if we are requiring vendor if we are using automated trucks, who is buying the bins. Selectmen Grunwald said good service and not having trash or glass on the streets will be good. He noted the complaints over the last three years are terrible and he feels automation will fix that issue. David DeManche noted they have this system in Uxbridge and there is some spillage and since the driver does not exit the truck, they leave it and drive off. Selectmen Grunwald suggests making calls to neighboring towns to see how

many complaints they receive. Selectmen Grunwald said Taunton limits the amount of trash you can put out. Chris Macera says Taunton does pay as you throw. Chris Macera said there were a lot of complaints in the Island Rd area that was done on Fridays. They were switched to Mondays beginning at 7am and they have stopped complaints. He also noted COVID has seen a volume of 15% increase of what they are collecting in Freetown. Chris Macera also noted Republic did not come back to the town asking for more monies due to this increase. They are predicting they will remain at a 10% increased amount of trash for 2021. Selectmen Grunwald asked Chris Macera what you recommend we do to make the service better? Mr. Macera feels since we have moved Island Road over to Monday pick up service satisfaction has been increased. This area was where eight of ten complaints were coming from. David DeManche said Republic made a significant route change to this area and he gives them credit for fixing this situation. Chris Macera best way to frame the service for future he can continue as they go and use second truck to get the smaller roads. Republic would give you a price of what it looks like today and one on what it would cost doing automation. Automation will be significantly more as everyone gets a cart and new trucks would need to be purchased. \$385,000 for an automated truck. Selectmen Grunwald asked Chris Macera' opinion on which way to go and that it would be the Boards decision on which way to go. David DeManche said you can put it out to bid for both options.

Chris Macera was thanked for attending the meeting and exited the meeting.

Personnel Board

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

25. Set Rate of Pay for Seasonal Plow Operator

- Motion by Selectmen Pacheco to approve rate of pay suggested by Highway Surveyor of \$21/hour for the snowplow season 2020-2021 and to sign the change of status form for Mark Audette & Edward Walsh. Motion seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

Selectmen Grunwald questioned is this the driver's payrate or for the truck? Mr. McIntosh stated that this was a pay rate for the drivers who we will be reaffirming a vote that was taken at the last meeting to appoint Edward Walsh and Mark Audette tonight.

26. Re-Affirm Vote on Appointment of Edward Walsh & Mark Audette as Seasonal Plow Operator, effective November 30, 2020 and expiring April 30, 2021

- Motion by Selectmen Pacheco motioned to appoint Edward Walsh and Mark Audette as seasonal snow plow drivers effective 11/30/2020 and expires 4/30/2021 seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.
 - o Was noted later in the meeting that the original expiration date was noted as 2020 and should be amended to 4/30/2021 and reaffirmed with a roll call vote.

27. Town Clerk Position after retirement of Jacqueline Brown

Selectmen Pacheco said some things need to be ironed out and that there will be a special Selectman meeting in Executive Session called to confirm these things as well as the new Town Administrators contract. Selectmen Matthews noted that he met with Assistant Town Clerk Cheryl Estrella today and there are deadlines. Selectmen Pacheco mentioned there will be a meeting with Town Counsel Joe Fair who is looking at it and will come back with some recommendations.

Town Clerk Jacqueline Brown stated we need to have Cheryl Estrella's signature on file with AG's Office, Registry of Deeds, Vital Records, State for Election purposes, Registry of Deeds. To have her signatures on file she will need an appointment slip from the Board of Selectmen with an effective date of 1/1/2021. Jacqueline Brown also noted she would need to order stamps and that all must be in place by 1/1/2021.

Selectmen Pacheco thanked Cheryl Estrella and Jackie Brown and Cheryl Estrella and Jackie Brown left the meeting.

28. Appointments:

a. Paul G. Sadeck as Constable – Criminal Process, effective December 7, 2020

- Motion by Selectmen Pacheco to approve Paul G. Sadeck as Constable Criminal Process effective 12/7/2020 and expiring 6/30/2021 seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.
 - o It was noted later in the meeting that the expiration date was read as 2020 but should read 6/20/2021 and reaffirmed with a roll call vote.

b. Madison Ashley, Logan A. St. Louis & Nicole Rodriguez-Rios as Part-Time Signal Operator Trainees, effective November 23, 2020

- Motion by Selectmen Pacheco to approve appointment of Madison Ashley, Logan A. St. Louis & Nicole Rodriguez-Rios as Part-Time Signal Operator Trainees, effective November 23, 2020 expiring June 30, 2021 seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a roll call vote.
 - o It was noted later in the meeting that the expiration date was read as 2020 but should read 6/20/2021 and reaffirmed with a roll call vote.
- Motion to reaffirm the vote with proper date of 2021 was made by Selectmen Pacheco and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald
- Vote: motion was approved in a roll call vote.

c. Cheryl Estrella as Burial Agent, Census Liaison, Local Emergency Planning Committee and Master Public Records Access Officer (all replacing Jacqueline Brown), effective December 24, 2020

- Motion to approve Cheryl Estrella as Burial Agent, Census Liaison, Local Emergency Planning Committee and Master Public Records Access Officer (all replacing Jacqueline Brown), effective December 24, 2020 made by Selectmen Pacheco, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: approved in a unanimous roll call vote

Mr. McIntosh let the Board of Selectmen know that the Annual Licenses have all been loaded into DocuSign and sent to each of them for signatures.

- Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:52pm proposed by Selectmen Matthews, seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: approved unanimously with a roll call vote

Old Business:

Potential discussion on pending items – action will not be taken at this meeting:

- Phone System Upgrades
- Transfer Station/Town Hall Cameras
- Town Meeting Signs
- Cable License Negotiations – December 7th, 2020 meeting

- Annual License Renewals – December 7th, 2020 meeting
- Town of Freetown Hiring Policy
- Job Descriptions & Job Description Review

Please note: the Board may take up any other business to properly come before the Board that was not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before this meeting.

List of Annual Licenses to be Renewed by the Board of Selectmen

Class II Motor Vehicle Dealers License Holders

- Basic Equipment, Inc. Basic Used Cars, Trucks & Equipment (39 Middleboro Road)
- Beech Bluff Auto Sales (25 Beech Bluff Road)
- Bob's Motor Works (68 Locust Street)
- Boehler's Garage (94 Middleboro Road)
- C.J. Auto Sales (33 Narrows Road)
- Choppahead Kustom Cycles (13 County Road)
- Clermont's Auto Sales (36 Middleboro Road)
- Copart (170 South Main Street)
- DPF Enterprises (5 Janice Marie Way)
- Evolution Auto Sales (86 South Main Street)
- J. M. Auto Sales (65 Chace Road, Unit #2)
- Miller's Auto Sales (115 Chace Road)
- P.J.'s Tire, Inc. (65 North Main Street)
- San Man Auto Sales (13 Ridge Hill Road)
- Ray's Garage (65 North Main Street)

Class III Motor Vehicle Dealers License Holders

- Big Wheel Truck Sales, Inc. (42 Quanapoag Road)
- Bugs Stevens Freetown Auto (190 Slab Bridge Road)
- C.S.A. Auto Parts (33 Howland Road)
- D.M. Auto Enterprises (98 Braley Road)
- East Freetown Auto Salvage (97 Braley Road)
- Hometown Automotive (45 County Road)
- J&T Auto Salvage (35 Howland Road)
- Pick-n-Pull (65 Chace Road)
- Westgate Auto (101 Braley Road)

Motor Vehicle Graveyard License Holders

- Pick-n-Pull (65 Chace Road)

Annual Auctioneer License Holders

- J&T Auto Salvage (35 Howland Road)

All Alcoholic Package Store License Holders

- Junior's Convenience Store (58 South Main Street)
- Circle K 7518 (4 Chace Road)
- Crossroads Liquors (1 Chace Road)

Wine & Malt Beverage Package Store License Holders

- Grandpa's Place, Inc. (9 South Main Street)
- Prime Express (1 Mason Road)

All Alcoholic Common Victualer License Holders

- Independence Harbor, Inc. (10 Narrows Road)
- The Nephew's Italian-American Kitchen, Inc. (2 Crossroads Drive)

All Alcoholic Club License Holders

- Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post #6643 (89 Middleboro Road)


Entertainment (7-day) Annual License Holders

- Independence Harbor, Inc. (10 Narrows Road)
- The Nephew's Italian-American Kitchen, Inc. (2 Crossroads Drive)
- Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post #6643 (89 Middleboro Road)

Jukebox License Holders

- Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post #6643 (89 Middleboro Road)

Respectfully submitted,



Lu-Ann Souza
Senior Clerk

List of Documents/Exhibits Used by the Board in this Meeting

- Letter from Mike McCue, Assessor regarding tax deferral programs
- Email from Mike McCue, Assessor Farm Animal Excise
- Ambulance abatements October and November 2020
- Change order numbers 21, 22 & 23 Police Station
- Election recap
- Memo from Town Clerk setting date for Town Election 4/5/2021
- Public Notice from Town Clerk listing positions being elected on 4/5/2021
- KP Law documents on Cable Television Renewal License
- List of annual Class II, Class III Motor Vehicle License applicants
- 2021 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission

- Email from Mark Reich, Esq. re: Council on Aging Building Renovation Article
- Day to Day operations in absence of the Town Administrator document
- Letter from Mark Walter, USAT Certified Race Director seeking approval for Patriot Half based at Cathedral Camp on 6/19-2021
- Patriot Half Triathlon Bike Course Map
- Vocational Education options
- Minutes from 11/16/2020 & 11/18/2020, 11/23/2020 & 11/30/2020 meetings
- Letter from Charles Macomber re: hiring of Mark Audette & Teddy Walsh re: recommendation of payrate for seasonal plow truck drivers
- Certificates of appointment of Mark Audette & Edward Walsh as Seasonal Plow drivers
- Certificate of appointment Paul G. Sadeck as Constable Legal Process
- Certificate of appointment Madison Ashley Part Time Signal Operator
- Certificate of appointment Logan A. St. Louis as Part Time Signal Operator
- Certificate of appointment Nicole Rodriguez-Rios as Part Time Signal Operator
- Email from Mark Reich, Esq. re: appointment of Temporary Town Clerk
- Certificate of appointment Cheryl Estrella as Burial Agent, Census Liaison, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Master Public Records Officer.