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Freetown Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 3, 2022– 4:30pm
Police Station Community Room
15 Memorial Drive, East Freetown, MA

Call to Order

Selectmen Matthews called the meeting to order at 4:30pm. Selectmen Grunwald, Selectmen Zager, Interim Town Administrator Deb Pettey, and Executive Assistant Lu-Ann Souza were also present. Selectmen Matthews noted we will be going into Executive Session to discuss items 1-3 and would return to open session.

-Motion to enter Executive Session was made at 4:03pm by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.

- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

- Vote: Selectmen Zager – yes, Selectmen Grunwald – yes, Selectmen Matthews – yes

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 collective bargaining with **Public Employees Union, Local 1144 LIUNA (all bargaining units), the Freetown Police Association and the Freetown Full-Time Firefighters Association** because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares.
 2. 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
 3. M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(6) – to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.
- Motion to adjourn Executive Session and return to open session was made at 5:20pm by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
 - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
Vote: Selectmen Zager – yes, Selectmen Grunwald – yes, Selectmen Matthews – yes

Selectmen Matthews called the meeting to order at 5:20pm.

Personnel Board

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

4. Acknowledge the resignations of:
 - a. Susan Jose from the Housing Authority effective 12/20/21.
 - b. Mary L. Bowen from the Board of Registrars effective 3/31/22.
 - The Board acknowledged these resignations.
5. Approve the following appointments:
 - a. Jacqueline Garell as Part-Time COA Senior Clerk effective 1/4/22-6/30/22.
 - b. Margaret French to the Conservation Commission effective 1/3/22-6/30/24.
 - Motion to approve appointments a & b was made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectmen Zager.
 - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
6. Adjust the appointment dates for Steven Chandler to the Freetown Historical Commission to be 8/18/21-6/30/24.

Selectmen Matthews inquired why this date was being changed. Executive Assistant Lu-Ann Souza noted that this can be a three-year appointment or a one year. They originally had put it in for the one year but came back and corrected it to be a three-year term.

 - Motion to adjust the appointment dates for Steven Chandler to the Freetown Historical Commission to be 8/18/21-6/30/24 was made by Selectmen Mathews and seconded by Selectmen Zager.
 - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
7. Discussion and vote on Deb Souza request to change retirement incentive option from 3 years to 2 years and any action related thereto.
 - Motion to approve the requested retirement incentive for Deb Souza was made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectmen Zager.
 - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

Board of Selectmen

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

8. Approve the meeting minutes from 12/13/21.
 - Motion to approve the meeting minutes from 12/13/21 was made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
 - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.
9. Discussion and Vote on contract for between The Town of Freetown and UMASS Boston Edward J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management for Organizational Study.

There was a brief discussion on the need for this study and the Board agreed to proceed. The study will be about Town Hall. Who reports to who and who does what. Cost is fifteen thousand dollars and is in the budget. Selectmen Mathews stated this is long overdue and will help us figure out and allocate resources where needed.

- Motion to approve the contract between the Town of Freetown and UMASS Boston Edward J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management for Organizational Study was made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

10. Discussion, and vote on public access provider as of 1/1/22 and approval of corresponding agreement 1/1/22-12/31/24.

There was a brief discussion regarding the two providers and the Board agreed that they would keep the current provider to record the meetings, as they are satisfied with the service and did not see the need to expand coverage at this time.

- Motion to use MCCAM as Freetown's public access provider as of 1/1/22 and approve their agreement effective 1/1/22-12/31/24 was made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

11. Discussion, and vote to approve the following Class II Second-Hand Motor Vehicle Licenses for 2022.

- a. Elizabeth Borges d/b/a Main Street Auto
- b. John Laronda., Jr. d/b/a John's Auto Body & Sales

- Motion to approve the Class II Second-Hand Motor Vehicles Licenses for a & b above was made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

12. Discussion, and vote to approve the commercial insurance coverage for 2022 for 5 S. Main Street property.

There was discussion that due to this building being unoccupied our regular insurer is unable to insure it so this policy is necessary to be written with Lloyds of London for two thousand one hundred dollars a year to cover the property.

- Motion to approve the commercial insurance coverage for 2022 for 5 S. Main Street property was made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

Board of Health

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

13. Discussion, and vote on requested variances for 1 A Estelle Ave, East Freetown.

Deb Pettey noted that the Engineer, Abutter and Board of Health Agent were all in agreement that this variance was acceptable and would like to request the Board to sign off on it.

- Motion to approve the requested variances for 1 A Estelle Ave, East Freetown was made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

14. Public health Nurse update and recommendations for current COVID19 conditions.

Deb Pettey let the group know that cases were high in Freetown. There was discussion of asking the Public Health Nurse to come to the next meeting to update the Board on necessary precautions, closing Town Buildings, mask mandates etc.

15. Discussion, and vote on Public Health Nurse case investigation protocols.

Deb Pettey noted the state was requiring the public health nurses to follow up on vulnerable populations and not all the cases as the caseload is just unmanageable. The Board agreed to have the public health nurse just follow up on vulnerable populations.

- Motion to have public health nurse follow up on vulnerable populations with cases of COVID19 and the new recommended guidelines for contract tracing was made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

Board of Parks Commission

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

No topics for discussion

Town Administrator's Report

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.

Old Business:

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

- Council on Aging building
- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:43pm was made by Selectmen Zager and Seconded by Selectmen Grunwald.
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

List of Documents/Exhibits the Board Utilized during this meeting.

- Agenda
- Resignation letter from Susan Jose

- Resignation letter from Mary Bowen
- Memo from Town Clerk re: Mary Bowen's resignation
- Certificate of Appointment Part Time COA Senior Clerk Jacqueline Garell
- Letter COA Board recommending Jacqueline Garell
- Certificate of Appointment Conservation Commission Margaret French
- Letter conservation commission recommending Margaret French
- COA Sub-Committee Interested Parties
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee Margaret French
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee George Grunwald
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee Kent Wilkins
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee Robert Alderson
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee Alfred (Sonny) Barros
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee Bruce Wilbur
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee Paula Charette
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee Wayne Jaye
- Certificate of Appointment COA Sub-Committee Jeffrey Amaral
- Certificate of Appointment Freetown Historical Commission Steven Chandler
- Meeting Notes from 12/13/21
- Email Attorney Reich re: Collins Center Agreement
- Agreement Collins Center
- Agreements PEG Access from MCCAM and LakeCAM
- Email from Town Accountant re: PEG Access balances
- Class II MV License applications John's Auto Body & Main Street Auto
- Cabot Risk Insurance information for 5 S Main Street
- Letter of Transmittal Charon Associates
- Application for variance 1 A Estelle Ave
- Soil evaluator form for 1 A Estelle Ave
- Perc test 1 A Estelle Ave
- Case Investigations and Contact Tracing

Respectfully Submitted,



Lola C. Furtado

Administrative Assistant