

Freetown Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Meetings  
Monday April 11, 2022– 6:00pm  
Police Station Community Room  
15 Memorial Drive, East Freetown, MA

RECEIVED  
FREETOWN TOWN CLERK  
2022 MAY -6 AM 10: 51

**Call to Order**

Selectmen Trevor Matthews call to order the meeting at 6:00pm. In attendance were Selectmen Jared Zager, Selectmen Carlos Lopes, Interim Town Administrator Deborah Pettey, Executive Assistant Lu-Ann Souza and Administrative Assistant Lola Furtado. Also Public Health Nurse Lori Desmarais, Board of Health Agent Keven Desmarais, Ellen Lima, Leia Adey and Steven Tripp.

**Board of Selectmen**

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

1. Reorganize Board of Selectmen, choose a Chairman, Personnel Board Chair, Parks Commission Chair, and Board of Health Chair.

Selectmen Zager requested staying with Board of Health, Selectmen Lopes, Parks Commission Chair and Personnel Board, Selectmen Matthews staying on as the Chairman.

- Motion to keep Selectmen Matthews as the Chairman, Selectmen Zager Board of Health Chair, Selectmen Lopes Parks Commission Chair and Personnel Board Chair was made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

2. Discuss and vote to appoint a Selectmen Representative to the following positions:

- a. Bristol County Advisory Delegate
- b. Building Committee
- c. COA Sub-Committee (this may change if Bldg. Chair reorganizes this committee)
- d. EMA-Public Safety
- e. Local Emergency Planning Committee
- f. Priority Development Committee
- g. Soil Conservation Board
- h. SRTA, Freetown Representative

- Motion to appoint the following:

Selectmen Lopes to (d) EMA-Public Safety and (e) Local Emergency Planning Committee, Selectmen Zager to (b) Building Committee, (f) Priority Development Committee and (g) Soil Conservation, Selectmen Matthews to (a) Bristol County Advisory Committee and (h) SRTA, Freetown Representative made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes

- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

3. Approve the meeting minutes from 6/8/2021, 3/7/2022, 3/24/2022.

- Motion to approve the meeting minutes from 6/8/2021, 3/7/2022, 3/24/2022 made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Matthews
- Vote: Selectmen Zager - yes, Selectmen Matthews - yes, Selectmen Lopes - abstain

4. Review the first draft of the 2022 Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants currently scheduled for 6/6/2022.

Deb Pettey stated the articles of the Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants are extremely rough in drafts. Proceeded to read all 18 pages of 43 articles.

5. Review & vote to approve Warrant Articles for both the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) and Special Town Meeting (STM) currently scheduled for 6/6/2022 and to send ATM and STM Warrants to Town Counsel for review.

- Motion to have the Warrant articles with adjustments made by Deb Pettey and submit them to Town Counsel for review made by Selection Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

6. Discussion, and vote on approving the Town of Freetown's Complete Streets policy.

Deb Petty stated this is the Complete Streets grant process that we started and need in place so we can apply for the grants which we already have and have received. Ms. Pettey sent it to the new Planning Tech Victoria D'Antoni who sent it to the Planning Board for approval to continue with the grant funding. We received Thirty-Eight Thousand Dollars to do engineering study around town with the Planning Board identifying areas that need improvements. About 10 of the projects with the Planning Board will vote to prioritize them. The next round of applying for the grant funds to get those projects completed. The Complete Street grant funds are about Four Hundred Thousand Dollars per project. We have not been involved with Complete Streets prior, we are in a good position to get these grant fundings.

- Motion to approve the Town of Freetown Complete Streets policy made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

7. Discussion, and vote to approve the agreement between the Town of Freetown and Morgan Record Management for scanning of Assessors Maps.

- Motion to approve the agreement between the Town of Freetown and Morgan Record Management for scanning of Assessors Maps made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
  - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
8. Discussion, and vote to reach out to Board and Committee Chairs to confirm Fiscal Year 23 reappointments.
- Motion to reach out to Board and Committee Chairs to confirm Fiscal Year 23 reappointments made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
  - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
9. Discussion, and vote on approval of the agreement between the Town of Freetown and Environmental Partners for general engineering.
- Motion to approve the agreement between the Town of Freetown and Environmental Partners for general engineering made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
  - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
10. Discussion, and vote to approve the Gilles Tripanier Memorial Enduro on 5/22/22.
- Motion to approve the Gilles Tripanier Memorial Enduro on 5/22/22 made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
  - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
11. Discussion, and vote on auctioning the property at 106 N. Main Street.
- Motion to approve the auctioning the property at 106 N. Main Street made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
  - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
12. Discussion, and vote on approval of the annual license agreement between Stop 'n Shop and the Town of Freetown for use of the by-pass road for the Fourth of July parade.
- Motion to approval of the annual license agreement between Stop 'n Shop and the Town of Freetown for use of the by-pass road for the Fourth of July parade made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
  - Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

13. Discussion, and vote on approval of the Massachusetts State-Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements

- Motion to approve the Massachusetts State-Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlement made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

14. Discussion, and vote on approval of the Agreement between The Town of Freetown and TM Masonry for work on the bandstand.

- Motion to approval of the Agreement between The Town of Freetown and TM Masonry for work on the bandstand made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

15. Discussion, and vote to approve the Public Entertainment on Sunday license request from St. John Neumann Parish for the Lakeside Festival on 5/29/2022.

- Motion to approve the Public Entertainment on Sunday license request from St. John Neumann Parish for the Lakeside Festival on 5/29/2022 made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

**Personnel Board**

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

16. Acknowledge the resignation of Kim Johnson as recording clerk for Building Committee, Economic Development Committee and Finance Committee effective 4/1/2022.

- Motion to accept the resignation of Kim Johnson as recording clerk for Building Committee, Economic Development Committee and Finance Committee effective 4/1/2022 made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

17. Rescind the appointment of Deborah L. Pettey to SEMASS Committee and Health Insurance Advisory Committee.

- Motion to rescind the appointment of Deborah L. Pettey to SEMASS Committee and Heath Insurance Advisory Committee made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectman Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

18. Approve the following appointments:

- a. Ronnie Frates to Truck Driver effective 3/29/22-6/30/2022.

- b. Kobey Imbert to Health Insurance Advisory Committee Dispatch Representative effective 4/11/22-6/30/22.
- c. Victoria D'Antoni SRPEDD Commissioner effective 5/25/2022-5/24/2023.
- d. Patricia Rodrick to the Tax Increment Financing Board effective 4/11/22-6/30/22.
- e. Trevor Matthews as Regional School Finance Committee effective 4/11/22-6/30/22.

- Motion to approve a-d appointments made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectmen Zager
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote
- Motion to approve e. Trevor Matthews as Regional School Finance Committee effective 4/11/22-6/30/22 made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: Selectmen Zager-yes, Selectmen Lopes -yes, Selectmen Matthews – abstain

19. Discussion and vote on allowing members of the Public Employees Union, Local 1144, LIUNA Clerical and Library Union, Contract and By-Law employees to roll over up to one weeks' vacation time into the next fiscal year.

Union contracts states that they are not allowed to roll over any vacation time. This is an unfunded mandate of the budget. Because of COVID they carried their vacation over that they didn't use last year and didn't use all of this year. Realizing now they will lose it. People need to use their vacation going forward.

- Motion to allowing members of the Public Employees Union, Local 1144, LIUNA Clerical and Library Union, Contract and By-Law employees to roll over up to one weeks' vacation time into the next fiscal year for a single time made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

20. Discussion and vote to approve the MOA between the Town of Freetown and Public Employees Union, Local 1144, LIUNA Clerical and Library Union regarding 2% COLA for Payroll Coordinator for 7/1/22 & 7/1/23.

- Motion to approve the MOA between the Town of Freetown and Public Employees Union, Local 1144, LIUNA Clerical and Library Union regarding 2% COLA for Payroll Coordinator for 7/1/22 & 7/1/23 made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectmen Zager
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

## Board of Health

Discussion/possible action on the following topics:

21. Discussion, on vaccine clinic and billing with the Public Health Nurse.

Public Health Nurse Lori Desmarais checked with the Town Accountant Kim Fales. According to MGL c.3b, Procurement in the amount of less than Ten Thousand Dollars shall be obtained through the exercise of sound business practice. Commonwealth Medicine takes ten percent of whatever we make between administrative fee and vaccine reimbursement, way below the Ten Thousand Dollar mark. Revolving fund staying at Five Thousand Dollars.

22. Discussion, and vote to approve and sign the Agreement and Amendment between the Town of Freetown and University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School for acquiring vaccines and billing services effective 2/1/2022-2/1/2023.

- Motion to have Deb Pettey work with Town Council for the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School for acquiring vaccines and billing services effective 2/1/2022-2/1/2023 made by Selectmen Matthews and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- Vote: was approved in a unanimous roll call vote

23. Discussion, and vote on COVID19 staff protocols when testing positive and close contacts quarantine procedures and coming back to work.

Board of Health Agent Keven Desmarais stated the State of Massachusetts Department of Health, and the Federal Government CDC has certain recommendations which are enacted upon by local Boards of Health. Not laws, rules, or regulations. Positive cases start a 5-day isolation starting the day of being tested as day zero. Close contact people need to test and if positive start the 5-day isolation period as well and masked for 5 more days unless symptoms still exist. If negative result, recommendation is to wear a mask around people for 10 days.

- Motion to give Selectmen Zager authority to work with Health Agent Kevin Desmarais to update, modify protocols as required to send out to the town made by Selectmen Lopes and seconded by Selectmen Matthews
- Vote: Selectmen Lopes -yes, Selectmen Matthews –yes. Selectmen Zager-abstain

24. Discussion with Board of Health Agent regarding the Air Sensor Grant program

The State has provided us with 10 air sensors through a program at no cost to us. We need to find locations for them. It measures particulate matter. These measure the amount of dust and particulates in the air. These are not enforcement tools; these are information gathering tools. Selectmen Matthews stated this could lead us to requesting further testing on other issues. Mr. Desmarais says absolutely. These air sensors have no cost to us but where we put them will have a cost to the homeowner or business. The air sensors need electricity and WIFI. We need to get legal access and installation documents that will allow the town to go onto these properties for purpose of installation and maintenance. Is this something our town staff is going to be installing? Is it the expectation of the BOH Agent climbing a ladder on somebody's house and installing? Or are we using a private company



for an electrician, cable installer? Where are the locations that we want to install them? Maybe schools, town hall, industrial areas in Assonet and East Freetown or private businesses. Placement may be upwind and down wind. Comparison locations around town. If people want these on their homes, they need to understand this is public knowledge and public information. Ms. Ellen Lima stated she is not a direct abutter, but they are affected by this every day. She requested we do your due diligence with these facilities across the country. She noted there's aluminum, iron and lead. There is ground water and storm water let alone the noise, the sound, the air we breathe, the smell in the air is horrendous. Six years of this. Excel won't answer the phone and won't acknowledge what's going on. The most horrible thing has been the explosions. A new neighbor has a monitor on his house that records the noise and what it does to the house. The vibration within the house is substantial. I am up the street and up the hill, it is an extraordinary thing to live with. She feels this is the first thing the town has access to that will help us figure out what is going on here. Our property values are already affected. BOH Agent Mr. Desmarais wants to be clear the putting these sensors around houses will be public knowledge. If you would ever go to refinance or sell your home, someone looking into that could see that and it could potentially have a detrimental effect. Its up to the property owner to decide if that is ok. Leia Adey agrees with this but states anyone wanting to buy a house in the neighborhood, they are going to want to know all this. Also, the particular matter is in the air permit or Excel so if anything below pm10 goes into your lungs and it is dangerous stuff. Mr. Desmarais stated we don't know exactly where it comes from, this will not take the particular matter and identify the source. Southcoast Rails are also located in the area. MBTA may not want them either. Mr. Desmarais stated the units will need electricity and WIFI. If we are going to ask the general public to participate in something we are doing, we should be one hundred percent forthcoming and letting them know it will be on for a three year minimum. The Town of Freetown applied for the grant. It's a private company that provided these to us. The Department of Environmental Protection had said they would lend us their sound measuring equipment. Last Thursday Mr. Desmarais and the part time health agent received training on them. The sound regulations through the DEP are very grey. Selectmen Zager noted we will be talking to Town Council regarding all of this. Mr. Desmarais also mentioned about appointments made earlier that all 3 of the Selectmen are the Soil Board Committee, the representative from Conservation, himself, and a representative from the Planning Board. A by-law was voted on from the town meeting and is in the Attorney Generals hands now. When it comes back from the Attorney General's office then that makes the Conservation Commission the entirety of the Soil Board. But until we hear from them by defacto being elected as a Selectman you are also the Soil Board Committee. Ms. Souza stated she had checked with the Town Clerk if we should have this on there and she said yes. Selectmen Matthews said we can fix this next time.

- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm made by Selectmen Zager and seconded by Selectmen Lopes
- 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
- Kiosk at the Boat Ramp
- Host Community Agreements

**List of Documents /Exhibits used by the Board during this meeting**

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting minutes June 8, 2021, March 7, 2022, March 24, 2022
- Warrant for the Special Town Meeting
- Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting
- Complete Streets Policy
- Morgan Records Management
- Letter to the Board/Committee Chair for Reappointments
- E-Mail from Victoria D'Antoni – Environmental Partners Contract
- Event Notification Form - Gilles Trapanier Memorial Enduro
- E-Mail - 106 N. Main St.
- License Agreement for by-pass for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July staging for parade
- Mass State-Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements
- Agreement with TM Masonry for Bandstand Project
- Lakeside Festival Application for a License or Permit
- Letter of Resignation Kimberly Johnson
- Letter to Personnel Board - Laborer and Truck Driver Positions
- Certificate of Appointment – Ronnie Frates
- Certificate of Appointment – Kobey Imbert
- Certificate of Appointment - Victoria D'Antoni
- Certificate of Appointment – Patricia Rodrick
- Certificate of Appointment – Trevor Matthews
- MOA between Town of Freetown and Public Employees Assoc.
- Memo - Clerical /Library Vacation Rollover Request
- MOA Between Town of Freetown and Public Employees Union- Payroll Coordinator
- Agreement By and Between Town of Freetown and the University of Ma Chan Medical School
- Amendment to Municipal Contract for COVID related items

Respectfully submitted,



Lola Furtado

Administrative Assistant