



TOWN OF FREETOWN

Finance Committee

3 North Main Street/P.O. Box 438, Assonet, MA 02702-0438

PHONE: 508-644-2201; FAX: 508-644-3342

MEETING MINUTES: Monday, October 21, 2019 @ 4:00 PM

Town Hall – Assessors' Office, 3 North Main Street, Assonet MA

2020 FEB 18 P 12:08

J. Brown

PRESENT: – Gary Martin, Kent Wilkins, Huguette Lord, Craig Rosen, Carol Woldorf, Robert Alderson, and Katie Calheta

ABSENT: None

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

TOPIC: Approval of Meeting Minutes from 9/11/19

Vote: Mr. Rosen motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Mr. Wilkins; approved 5-0, Mr. Alderson and Ms. Calheta abstaining.

TOPIC: Transfer request of \$500 from the Reserve fund to the Highway Department

Request dated on September 16th, to transfer \$500 to cover the cost of overtime accrued on Sept. 13-14 by Highway Department employees. Current account balance is \$176.20. Overtime amount would leave a negative balance of \$137.68. Granting the transfer would result in a positive balance of \$362.32

Discussion: Budgeting for FY20 did not anticipate a prolonged absence by the Highway Surveyor, who is salaried, as he would normally take after hours assignments.

Vote: Motion to recommend transfer made by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Mr. Wilkins, unanimously approved.

TOPIC: Recommendations on Warrant Articles

Article 1. Transfer funds of \$2,650 to the police department to cover expenses for Sergeant and Lieutenant promotional examinations

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Ms. Lord, unanimously approved.

Article 2. Request to transfer \$8,837 to supplement police budget for retirement incentives

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Ms. Calheta, unanimously approved.

Article 3. Request for \$1,100 to supplement Board of Registrars budget for expenses incurred for mailing annual town census.

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Ms. Woldorf, unanimously approved

Article 4. Request for \$2, 646 for funding first year cost of promotion of employee to Assistant Town Clerk position

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Mr. Wilkins, unanimously approved

Article 5. Request to approve \$18,600 for projects and preparations in order to plan and prepare for EPA permit during FY20

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Ms. Woldorf, unanimously approved.

Article 6. Request to create a revolving fund for firearms safety training

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Ms. Calheta, unanimously approved

Article 7. Requesting vote to supplement the amount raised from Water Sewer revenues to be reimbursed to the town

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Wilkins, seconded by Mr. Alderson, unanimously approved

Article 8. Request to transfer \$1,000 from the Cemetery Commission part-time personnel budget line to the expense budget line

Vote: Motion to recommend by Ms. Woldorf, seconded by Mr. Alderson, unanimously approved

Article 9. Request to accept provisions real estate tax exemptions to surviving parents or guardians of veterans

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Rosen, seconded by Mr. Alderson, unanimously approved

Article 10. Request to allow for installation of a communications tower on the site of the new police station, allowing the BOS to enter into a lease agreement with telecommunications companies.

Discussion: holding off voting on this article until board receives further clarification as explanation listed is vague. Meeting for vote on this article scheduled for Monday 10-28-19.

Article 11 & 12 . Request to transfer care, custody, and management of land locked parcels (Bolton Cedar Swamp and Elijah Pierce Woodlot) for general municipal purposes

Vote: Motion to recommend by Ms. Woldorf, seconded by Mr. Wilkins, unanimously approved

Article 13. Request to transfer care, custody and management of 5 properties for general municipal purposes

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Mr. Wilkins, unanimously approved

Article 14. Request to ratify and amend rules and regulations of the Cemetery Commission

Vote: Motion of no recommendation by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Ms. Lord, unanimously approved

Article 15 & 16. Articles 15 & 16 are not budgetary

Vote: Motion of no recommendation by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Ms. Calheta, unanimously approved

Article 17. Request vote to transfer \$72,000 from available funds to capital project fund to pay down debt of the new police station.

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Rosen, seconded by Mr. Wilkins, approved 6-0, 1 abstention by Mr. Alderson

Article 18. Request to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund to be used for any lawful purpose, though no set amount has been given

Vote: Motion to recommend by Mr. Alderson, seconded by Ms. Lord, unanimously approved.

TOPIC: Reorganization

Discussion: Mr. Wilkins states he will not be active in the Finance Committee in the near future. Recruiting new members is discussed, as well a Vice Chair replacement for Mr. Wilkins

TOPIC: New Business

Discussion: No new business

Next meeting scheduled for October 28, 2019, at 6:40 PM at the Freetown Elementary School.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Waldorf @ 5:05 PM, seconded by Mr. Alderson, unanimously approved.

This is a true record by me

Attest: Catrina Goncalves

