

TOWN OF FREETOWN

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK

Finance Committee

2022 APR -7 PM 2:07

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Assonet, MA 02702-0438

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Minutes of

MEETING: 6:00 PM Thursday, February 9, 2022

Remote meeting via Zoom

Chair Gary Martin called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's June 16, 2021, Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, sec. 18, this meeting of the Freetown Finance Committee will be conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. A recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings will be posted to the Town's YouTube Channel and/or the Town of Freetown Website (freetownma.gov).

Present: Chair Gary Martin, Emily-Anne Dors, Katie Calheta, Kent Wilkins, Bob Alderson, Margaret French, Christine Dupras and Kim Johnson, Recording Clerk.

1. Minutes from 1/6/22 – The minutes have the old order from Governor Baker regarding remote meetings, so it will be changed to reflect the newer order.

Christine motioned to accept the minutes from 1/6/22, with changes noted, seconded by Margaret. Roll call vote: Margaret French – yes, Kent Wilkins – abstain, Christine Dupras – yes, Katie Calheta – yes, Bob Alderson – yes, Emily-Anne Dors – yes and Gary Martin – yes. Vote was 6-0-1.

2. Transfer request from the Highway Department for \$9,450. from the Reserve Fund for the purchase of a sand spreader for de-icing roads – Bob said he asked the accountant if there is a viable way of paying for it, and she said no, and the Finance Committee has always been in the position to not give out money beforehand. He feels that the Highway Dept. should use the money in their budget to fund the spreader and if they end up short later, then they can transfer money from the reserve fund. Gary said based on Kim's email with the December Financial Report, the Highway Department is already advanced in their spending and will need a transfer from the reserve fund anyway. Gary said that he thinks it makes sense to fund this now rather than later. Christine agreed with Gary. There was some discussion on the type of vehicle the sander is.

Bob motioned to pay for the Sand Spreader, seconded by Kent. Roll call vote: Margaret French – yes, Kent Wilkins – yes, Christine Dupras – yes, Katie Calheta – yes, Bob Alderson – yes, Emily-Anne Dors – yes and Gary Martin – yes. Vote was unanimous. 7-0-0.

Gary said that there will be some expenses coming up from Reserve Fund soon. Kent asked what was left in the Reserve Fund and Gary said there was a balance of approximately \$116,000.00 prior to this last motion.

Margaret motioned to adjourn at 6:21 PM, seconded by Katie. Roll call vote: Kent Wilkins – yes, Margaret French – yes, Christine Dupras – yes, Katie Calheta – yes, Bob Alderson – yes, Emily-Anne Dors – yes and Gary Martin – yes. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Johnson