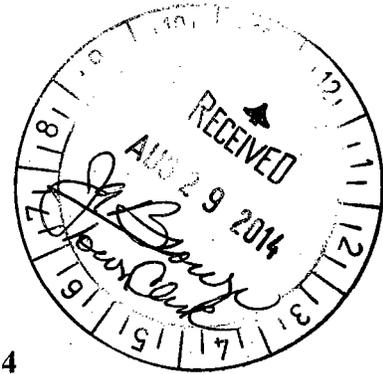




**TOWN OF FREETOWN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**
3 North Main Street/P.O. Box 438
Assonet, MA 02702-0438
PHONE: 508-644-2201; FAX: 508-644-3342



MINUTES OF MEETING OF MONDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2014

**COUNCIL ON AGING
227 CHACE ROAD, EAST FREETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS**

6:04 P.M. Meeting called to order by Chairman Paul Sadeck. Those present: Selectman Lee Baumgartner, Selectman Lisa Pacheco and Town Administrator Richard Brown. The meeting is being recorded By Chairman Sadeck and videotaped by MCCAM.

**Signing of Biweekly payroll/vendor warrants
Weekly Public Discussion period**

The Council On Aging received a 60" flat screen TV generously donated by the Freetown Police Association. Thank you so much.

Consent Agenda

Board of Selectmen: Action relative to:

- Presentation from Tracy Costa of Nobis Engineering regarding Freetown Screw Site. Tracey Costa from Nobis serves as the licensing professional the investigations for the MCP and the steps for the demo of the plant. The history of this if you picture yourself on County Rd. Acushnet property and a portion of property located by the Wilkins. This property had 91' contaminants. Over the past year the practices the discharged pipe 500-1000 gl was discharged to a lagoon back in 96' EPA conducted a removal action. The purpose of a removal action was to mitigate an immediate risk. This was all done illegally. EPA removed up to 1500 tons of soil. This is considered immediate removal. EPA didn't look at groundwater contaminants. If the previous owners were still in place they would have been required to do this. The Town received this site through tax title. This is different circumstances than an owner. We are now volunteering to get this property back in compliance. We have look at a lot of this historical data and looked at the monitoring wells. We have found some contaminates and luckily we have not found this close to the residential properties. We need to determine how much is left. We have a Tier classification based on the classification we believe we are in a Tier 2. In order for us to access this we would need agreements with Acushnet and the property owners. Selectman Pacheco asks what the square footage is, is it 1.6 acres and how many soil boarding and monitoring wells. Ms. Costa agrees with the 1.6 acres and states there are 11 soil boring wells. The bigger concern would be outside what we haven't seen. 21E exemption the Town still has to be willing to sell the site. If you don't you would become the responsible party. On Friday we would be publishing a phase 1 classification has been completed. And the report will be on file at DEP. Selectman

Pacheco ask if town of Acushnet has any residents. No Tracey says there are not. Selectman Sadeck asks if the Town sells it then who is responsible. Ms. Costa says when we do Phase 2 we do a Phase 3 it will include a cleanup cost and this will be important to the prospective buyers. Selectman Baumgartner asks if Acushnet is responsible for this. She states no they are not they only have conservation land here. Who's responsibility will it be to monitor the wells that are in Acushnet. Ms. Costa says we would be once we do this and further states if we look ahead we need to have wells within the former lagoon, the water table just sits there. We need new data. In terms of time line like if demo is late spring and early summer. Selectman Baumgartner asks how long is the testing. Ms. Costa says within 2 weeks we have the data. Selectman Baumgartner asks if this is considered Brownfield. Ms. Costa says yes. Selectman Sadeck asks if there money for a cleanup. Ms. Costa said if MassDev gets additional money there would be however there would be obstacles. Dan LeBlanc asks about the acres the Town owns. Yes it is all 1.6 acres. Demo plan- asbestos in building, Pcb and lead paint. Whether or not everything needs to be demolished as bulk waste will depend on whoever is awarded contract to demolish the building. Mr. Brown and I are working to prepare bid specifications on this. The residence that is located to the left of the property is using it as their driveway and in addition a bus company also uses some of the property as a turn around. We need to install a fence and we would also need a Police detail. This would slow the buses down in their turn around. All of the work would be done during the week and with dust suppression. Water mist would be applied while this is being done. When EPA did their removal action they cut the pipe to the building we are assuming that there is still some contamination left over. We would also propose to leave a permanent fence. Selectman Baumgartner asks if they will look at the soil once the building is removed. Ms. Costa said it will all be in the bid specs. The contract that is awarded this will need a strong emphasis on OSHA etc. Selectman Pacheco states if the start date is summer then the bus turnaround may not be a problem. The plan is to work with everyone.

- Letter from representatives of Acushnet Saw Mills regarding removing 7.71 acres of forestland on Braley Road from Chapter 61 and Lots 108 & 111, and the Town's right of first refusal. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to refuse the property. Passed unanimously.
- Annual renewal of Class II Motor Vehicle License by the Board of Selectmen:
 - Class II Motor Vehicle License: Jan's Used Car Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to approve, Passed unanimously; John's Auto Body & Sales Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to approve. Selectman Pacheco asked if John Laronda is back in Town. Selectman Sadeck states yes he is. Passed unanimously.
- Approval of Board of Selectmen's Minutes from November 1, 2013 Motion (Baumgartner/Sadeck) to approve. Passed unanimously; November 12, 2013. Motion (Baumgartner/Pacheco) to approve. Passed unanimously.
- Discussion with Veteran's Agent regarding the Chair of Honor for POW/MIA at Town Hall. Dan LeBlanc shares an email request by Frank Ardita To have a Chair of Honor in the Town of the Town Hall. This was done at Fenway Park and Gillette. This was manufactured at Hussey seat company. Dan LeBlanc reads from a website that explains the chair is a place of honor for a POW/MIA as a remembrance for POW/MIA. Dan LeBlanc recommends a

portable chair. MA rolling thunder wants to do this and they want MA to be the first to have this in every City and Town. The cost associated with this is minimal and the VFW would take care of this. The cost is \$300 this covers the chair, rope and flags. Where we could put this may be an issue. Selectman Pacheco says the permanent chair needs to be bolted? Dan LeBlanc says yes it does. Selectman Pacheco says if it could be bolted and then we could move it around to the various schools etc. Selectman Pacheco says we could have this at all our Town Meeting. This would be a great thing. She states she is speaking out of turn. However she is for this. Selectman Baumgartner is for this as well. Selectman Sadeck is all for this. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to go forward with this under Dan's directions. Passed unanimously.

- Every Sunday in March is a breakfast to raise money at the VFW Starting March 2, 2014

Board of Health:

Personnel Board:

- Accept Resignation letter from Nadine Dimond, effective February 28, 2014. Selectman Baumgartner states Nadine was our Floater, Selectman Baumgartner reads the letter and asks for a letter to be sent. Motion (Pacheco/Sadeck) Passed unanimously.
- Discuss request submitted by Thomas Ashley, Jr. regarding transfer of benefits from Full time Signal Operator to Full time Patrolman. Selectman Baumgartner reads Mr. Ashley's letter requesting the carry -over of his benefits. Motion (Pacheco/Sadeck) to approve the transfer with buying out Comp time and carry-over vacation time. Selectman Pacheco states we have done this in the past and we did this for Brandon Wixon. The Comp Time buy out was recommended by the Police Chief. 48.5 hours. Passed unanimously.

New Business

Budget meeting Selectman Pacheco states they need to be spaced out. Tonight we have a lot of budgets listed on the Agenda. I would like to have maybe the downstairs one night and the upstairs another night.

- Dates for upcoming Board of Selectmen Meetings Monday February 24th, Monday March 10th, Monday March 24th.
- Discuss replacement of Town Hall Floor and painting of Town Offices. Selectman Baumgartner would like the floor to be covered as you enter the town hall we have money set aside. Maybe the employees can have input with Mary McNeil's guidance. Selectman Pacheco states the offices were recently painted. Motion (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to replace the hallway downstairs with a price not to exceed \$5,000.00. Passed unanimously. Selectman Pacheco says give Mark Audette 2 days off during the week so he can paint on the weekend. Selectman Sadeck says if we have to pay someone to paint we will.
- Budget Meeting Finance Committee and with the Police Department, Fire Department, Highway Department and Veteran's Agent.

- Budget – *Veteran's Agent Dept 543* Dan LeBlanc states he asked for \$1,000 more. I have 18 active clients, I started with 6. He finds jobs for these people. Mr. LeBlanc states the other thing that happens now for these people when they run out of fuel assistance they have to pay for it and then they come to me for reimbursement up to \$500.00 which is then reimbursed to the Town at 75% by the state. February was a little high because a couple clients came for reimbursement. This FY gets reimbursed next FY. Selectman Pacheco asks last year you had 19 and now you have 18. He says I have found jobs for them. Education and Training we get reimbursed 100%. \$550.
- *Memorial and Veteran's Day 544* – I buy flags and flowers out of this account and I don't need an increase in this.
- *Highway 420* – Charles Macomber states we are trying to keep everything on an even keel. Slight increase on myself. 3% for me and contractual increase for the guys. Chuck would like to add 2 people. The truck driver laborer person we currently have lost his CDL & Hoisting license because he could not get a medical card & he cannot drive the big trucks or operate the equipment anymore. The assistant mechanic I am looking to the future. The current mechanic is overwhelmed on a daily basis. I would like to have someone be able to step right up in his place. All the new mechanical stuff we need laptop computer programs to service things. He now takes care of 60+ vehicles. Selectman Baumgartner says if you hire a new mechanic he will have those skills. Selectman Sadeck asks if our current mechanic is ASE certified (automotive services excellence). Bob Alderson states Chuck is correct all the laptop equipment that is required to run all these vehicles is a lot. At some point you need to have the people to run the equipment. Mr. Alderson says you don't have the money to hire someone properly now. Selectman Sadeck states in line 2 of your budget that is new? Chuck says yes. Selectman Pacheco asks when will this person be eligible for retirement. Chuck states 2018. This employee is a 35 year handicap employee. The employee is just unable to get a new medical card. Selectman Sadeck states isn't there an exemption at the DMV. Chuck has talked to the people at the registry and all they ask for is a medical card. Selectman Sadeck states as long as you don't drive interstate that may be a way to get around it. The next line is an increase in the uniform budget. Selectman Pacheco said this is only for the new employees. Yes we took tacked on 5% to 72K for other supplies. Striping the road we can do less if we need to. Selectman Sadeck says the biggest jump in your budget is the new employees. Chuck says he understands there is no money but we have tried to do our best but the more money we have the more we can do. Selectman Sadeck asks without these 2 employees could you do it with the crew you have? Chuck says throughout the spring and summer it is difficult to do it. Last year we had to start doing the Assonet Cemetery. The highway dept started doing this because. Paul Denault asks why would we hire someone with all these qualifications if he doesn't have the tools to do it. Selectman Baumgartner asks Chuck when he buys new equipment does that usually come with updates. Chuck states no we bid it. He says the problem we have is the new Police Cruisers we are constantly sending those over to the Ford Dealership. Selectman Baumgartner is it worth to hire a mechanic or buy the software. Bob Alderson states labor is where you will spend your money. Bob Alderson states mechanical problems should be able to be handled in house. Selectman Sadeck ask the old bus we use can you have the lift disconnected completely. Bob Alderson asks about the Ball Fields – Chuck says 2-3 guys 3 days a weeks. Bob Alderson says we looked into that. Selectman Pacheco says we looked into that already. Chuck says cutting

lawns is cheaper than repairing things. Bob Alderson states we should give more money there. Selectman Pacheco states we have asked for a 3-5 year plan and we haven't had it. Chuck states I gave you a list paving the FES 100K, South Main St. Bell Rock Road, Last January, Mr. Brown states the list Chuck gave to me I gave to the Board however we are talking about large things. We need to talk about smaller things. Selectman Baumgartner asks if they have a list of things that his crew can do. Paul Denault agrees with Selectman Pacheco we need to see what you could do with more money. We need a list of in house stuff. Paul Denault asks what the average salary is. Chuck states the average salary \$22 is. Kent Wilkins states the other supplies are a large amount. Asphalt, gravel, stones, mortor, street signs etc.

- **Snow and Ice Removal 423** – We are not asking for more. It is more of a burden to the Town to ask for more than to keep with what we have. You can never go down.
- **Capital Equipment** - 1990 Highway truck, 35K F250 to replace a GMC pickup truck 200K+ is on this and the lawnmower is 10 years old but we need a new one. Chuck states all the equipment is state bid.
- **Street Lights** – stayed the same.
- **Fire** – Chief Silvia states the salaries reflects 1.5% increase in July and .5% increase in Jan of upcoming FY scroll down to the call guys. I have had to increase this due to vacation time and then scroll down to medical time to get recertified. Selectman Sadeck 2.38% is your personnel costs. Why the additional overtime. Chief Silvia states the Call Firefighters are added in and then the overtimes are added in. Selectman Sadeck asks why it comes out to 64%. Selectman Silvia states he went back 3 years and that it how it has held. It is difficult to have a call guy come in during the week. Bob Alderson asks how many call guys. 28 Chief Silvia says. Bob Alderson says why can't we have professional call guys. Chief Silvia state we are probably one of the only Towns that have Call Firefighters working side by side with our Full Timers Firefighters. Bob Alderson says there could be some improvements here. Selectman Sadeck said did you request an additional person. Chief Silvia said yes I did. Selectman Pacheco states and you increased electricity by \$1,000. Now \$1,000 for the buildings. The increase for IT went up \$3,000. This is for the ambulance software. The fire software it went up. Brad Paiva asks about the generator how many hours. Chief Silvia is not sure. Selectman Sadeck asks about the personnel it went up \$25,000 from last year. Chief Silvia said with the Paramedic stipends and the certifications that's where it is. You have the breakdown. Selectman Pacheco asks if they are doing the Grant. Yes Chief Silvia says. Pagers are getting tired. Monte can't fix them anymore. We would like to buy them for a Cap Equipment. Chief Silvia would like to hire a full time day shifter. Last month we have lost 3 of our most active firefighters. We were able to have them during the day. We need someone for the day.
- **Police** - Personnel expenses include contractual/step/educational also a current Patrolman will receive his masters. The formula we took the adjusted salary add holiday and subtracted out the incentive. When you go to Personnel Services repair services the IMC which is our records managements-administrative, detective, cross agency. Selectman Sadeck says that is \$17,315 additional. The IMC bill is outstanding now it has not been paid. Professional &

Technical Medical this is for hiring reserves, medical & psychological exams and physical ability test fees. Uniforms Accessories - \$11,672 includes ballistic vests that supply 7-8 reserve officers that are required by the contract. You can leave this under this line item or you can break it into an Article but next year you will have more to replace. We replace them on a 5 year cycle. Firearms/Defensive Equipment \$18,800K increase.- we transferred \$10,000 last year \$35,808 should have been \$25,808. This includes ammunition. Educational Incentive the notations on the bottom are incorrect, disregard those. Selectman Sadeck states the 3 officers we lost didn't have college incentives. Jacob had a BA. And Patrolman Ashley will have an incentive. Also Shane Kelly will be getting a 25% and he is going from nothing. His degree was in Art. He previously had no incentive. Bob Alderson asks about the cost of ammo. Chief Abbott will have to speak with Patrolman Fornicari.

- Motion to accept the Agreements for LUINA for Communications and Town Hall, Libraries, Highway (Pacheco/Baumgartner) to approve and sign it. Passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Status of contact with Rochester and Acushnet to reestablish Town bounds.
- Discussion of Freetown Elementary lease agreement with Freetown Lakeville Regional School System - Richard Brown states that Lakeville doesn't have a lease yet.

Executive Session:

- #2 To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel.

Adjournment of regular meeting Motion at 8:34 to enter into Executive Session and not to return into open session (Pacheco/Baumgartner). All members voted in the affirmative then polled.

Respectfully submitted,



Ali Golz, Administrative Assistant