

**Town of Freetown
2369 McGraw Marathon Rd
Marathon, NY 13803
April 11, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Freetown, NY was held April 11, 2018, at the Town Hall. Town Supervisor Lisa Grinnell called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Present:	Town Supervisor	Lisa Grinnell
	Councilpersons:	Terry Wolff William Contri Crystal Clough Mary Mackey
	Town Clerk:	Serina Ingrahm
	Highway Superintendent:	Art Hawley
	Tax Collector:	Gail Heady

Guest: Elwood Bryan, John Slocum, Tim Brown, Ann Homer, Legislator, LD7. Jim Weiss,

Motion 28: Made by Supervisor Grinnell and seconded by Councilperson Contri to approve the minutes with correction of the dollar amount from \$49.50 to \$48.90 on Councilperson Clough's statement.

Votes:	Councilpersons:	Mary Mackey: Aye Crystal Clough: Aye William Contri: Aye Terry Wolff: Aye
	Supervisor:	Lisa Grinnell: Aye Passed

OPEN FLOOR: Matthew Denniston is a Virgil Town Board Member who represent several towns (Virgil, Harford, Willet, Lapeer and Freetown) on The Workers Compensation Committee. The County formed this committee to address concerns about how the worker compensation funds were being managed in the past, and how the distribution rates were divided up amongst the municipalities. The workers compensation contract expires this summer and giving the county opportunity to renegotiate the terms. Councilperson Clough stated that we had not anticipated a rate increase for this year. Matthew had stated that Robert Barber is the representative who meets with the committee from Mc Neil Company the current policy administrator. His anticipated estimate is based on the preliminary numbers that he has and doesn't see any increases for 2019 on a substantial level. Matthew said he would bring back more accurate numbers at our next meeting. Councilperson Mackey ask Matthew if the public could join the next meeting on May 15th or if it was closed to the public. Matthew said that he would check to see if it was an open forum.

John Slocum had a few questions for our Highway Superintendent concerning Ferber Rd. The ditches between John's two driveways plugged up and would like the Highway Superintendent to

clean out the ditches. Highway Superintendent explained that his crew is waiting for the roads to dry up and settle a little before hauling the heavy equipment on the roads

Amnesty day will be confirmed by Ann Homer Legislator LD7 when she gets more information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Jim Weiss reported on the solar farming moratorium: Mr. Weiss had received a copy of Virgil, Homer, Preble, and Dryden solar laws which average 4-10 pages each. The board had received prior to the meeting a copy of Virgil and Homer to review for options. Mr. Weiss suggested we separate the residential from the industrial solar farms. Mr. Weiss will go through the solar laws in depth and report back to the board at our next board meeting with his suggestions. Mr. Weiss asked Mr. Denniston if Virgil had any perspectives on the solar law, Mr. Denniston stated that they had used Homer as a template and held a few committee meeting on the side and discussed what was best for the town and came up with a solar law. Councilperson Clough quickly mentioned some suggestions for the Freetown's Solar Energy Law. Councilperson Mackey asked Councilperson Clough to email her comments and suggestions.

Mike Maxwell has agreed to do our assessment next year. Supervisor Grinnell needs to notify Mr. Maxwell that all material needs to be returned to our assessor Fran Butler upon completion, also we need a contract from Mr. Maxwell. Councilperson Mackey has requested that Supervisor Grinnell call and have Mr. Maxwell and our Assessor attend our next meeting. Tax Collector offered to give our Assessor a ride to and back from the meeting if she could not provide one for herself.

Councilperson Contri will consult with the Amish on the cleaning and mowing of the Town Hall. Councilperson Clough had two people call on the Cleaning and mowing position and they never showed for their appointment, position still available.

Town Supervisor and Tax Collector are having issues with our printer and fax machine.

Councilperson Clough report from CCTVS-. The County, City, Towns, Villages, and Schools Advisory board, has been designated by the legislators as a shared service committee to develop the shared services plan. Each municipality needs to designate an official representative to cast an official vote.

Councilperson Clough is Freetown's official representative to the shared services committee. CCTVS meetings are open to the public and especially all municipal representatives are welcome to attend these monthly informational meetings. CCTVS Advisory Board is hosting a round table discussion with the County's Informational technology needs. Currently their hourly rate is \$50.00.

Councilperson Mackey stated she would like to see the town take better precautions on cyber security and would like the County to develop a handbook as a tool for local municipalities.

Legislator LD7 Ann Homer shared that the County has discussed creating a cloud back-up.

Mrs. Homer also discussed in 2014 the funds for workers compensation had been depleted, there was a discussing that took place back in 2014 about replenishing the funds by assessing the towns as individuals low utilization pay \$1,000 and high utilization pay higher rates, no discussion was made.

Councilperson Clough discussed that they had allocated monies for the Youth summer swim program, no application was available to get assistance for the program, Marathon is anticipating a shared service for Marathon, Harford Lapeer and Freetown so we could get a discount for that program and Councilperson Clough would like to have a list of those kids so they can be identify as Freetown's residence.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilperson Clough requested that the reclining chair that left by the recycling bin to be put out of sight so no further dumping was encouraged.

Tax Collector had a discussion with the Board members on a written statement from Councilperson Clough that she had read to the board and submitted to be in the March minutes. Tax Collector had pointed out a monetary discrepancy that was reported by Councilperson Clough in the statement and requested it to be changed in the minutes for March to the correct amount. The discrepancy was change from \$49.50 to \$48.90 and clarified at this point. Tax Collector also inquired information from Councilperson Clough on the five townsmen that wasn't receiving there Veteran's discount.

Tax Collector asked the board what an audit tool was, the board explained to her it was a paper that's a guideline on what to check for during an audit.

Supervisor Grinnell has informed the Board members that the State Comptrollers will be auditing the Towns finance, starting on the 23rd of March.

Councilperson Clough announced there was a state finical training available to the Towns, there was no interest shown.

Councilperson Mackey pointed out that the training course taking place in Ellicottville, just west of Salamanca.

Councilperson Clough reminded the board that we need to follow through with the roof repair project.

Councilperson Clough suggested that the Town could have a yard sale at the park,

Councilperson Mackey discussed charging \$5.00 for the space and bring your own tables, and possibility holiday decoration contest, one for daytime and one for night time.

Councilperson Clough suggested that the gravel be replenish around the park equipment by the Highway Dept.

Councilperson Mackey has found more discrepancy on the finical reports from the Bookkeeper.

HIGHWAY: Superintendent Hawley turned in a monthly report to the board. Highway Superintendent requested a new plow truck for next year. A salesman from International contacted Superintendent Hawley and stated he has a truck already assembled and thinks it would fit the towns needs for plowing and offered to bring it down so the board members could check it out for possible purchase, at a discount. Councilperson Clough inquired on whether this was part of the Onondaga bid which ends this year. Councilperson Mackey would like to wait until slightly later in the year so we have a better understanding of the Town's financial situation.

Councilperson Clough has reported a sign that was defaced on the east end of Stramba Rd.

Councilperson Clough also report a signs on the east end of Deneve Rd. that was leaning in toward the road

Highway Superintendent Hawley stated it would be replaced.

Pine Hill Bridge: A second grant application is being turn in by Rebecca Stone Marathon.

Motion 29: Made by Supervisor Grinnell and seconded by Councilperson Wolff to pay voucher numbers 46-63 from the following accounts.

(A) \$2,253.90

(DA) \$ 15,789.14

Votes:	Councilpersons:	Mary Mackey: Aye	
		Crystal Clough: Aye	
		William Contri: Aye	
		Terry Wolff: Aye	
	Supervisor:	Lisa Grinnell: Aye	Passed