

**PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2016**

7:00 PM – TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL, 2200 EAST MAIN ROAD

MEMBERS PRESENT: Keith E. Hamilton, James A. Seveney, Kevin M. Aquiar,
Michael A. Buddemeyer, David M. Gleason, Elizabeth A. Pedro
and Joseph W. Robicheau.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a Moment of Silence for our men and women serving around the world in harm's way

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. Proclamation: Establishing an Annual Portsmouth Founders' Day

President Hamilton presented a Proclamation Establishing an Annual Portsmouth Founders' Day to James Garman, on behalf of the Portsmouth Historical Society.

SITTING AS THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

1. Entertainment License:

Rhode Island Rugby Football Foundation, Collegiate Rugby Tournament, Gardner Seveney Sports Complex, April 16 & 17, 2016

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to approve an Entertainment License for Rhode Island Rugby Football Foundation, for their Collegiate Rugby Tournament at the Seveney Sports Complex on April 16-17, 2016. All voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURN

A motion by Mr. Robicheau, seconded by Mr. Seveney, to adjourn as a Board of License Commissioners. All voted in favor of the motion.

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

President Hamilton said the Council met on January 23rd with the School Committee to review goals and driving forces with the Town's State Legislative Delegation.

MINUTES

TCM 12/14/15 Exec.

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to approve the Executive Session minutes of TCM 12/14/15. All voted in favor of the motion.

TCM 1/11/16

A motion by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to approve the minutes of TCM 1/11/16 with corrections. The motion carried 6-0 with Mr. Buddemeyer abstaining.

(CORRECTION: OB 4 – Town Planner Crosby stated “that was a mischaracterization of our discussion” that all commercial properties in the area are waiting to see what was going to happen with the roundabouts.)

BILLS

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Mr. Gleason, to pay all just and due bills in the amount of \$111,964.82. All voted in favor of the motion.

TAX VOUCHERS

Request Approval for Tax Vouchers #20160125-01 to #20160125-04

A motion by Mr. Robicheau, seconded by Mr. Gleason, to approve Tax Vouchers #20160125-01 to #20160125-04, as requested by the Tax Assessor/Collector. All voted in favor of the motion.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Electronic Waste/Recycling Update – vendor will take items with Cathode tubes for a fee at PHS. The website will be updated.

2. Tank Farm Study Update – Matrix held a workshop with Tank Farm Committee on January 20 discussing the status of study Matrix will return to update the Town Council in two months.
3. Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns Convention – will be held January 28th.
4. Town Website Update – coming attractions with online community videos to be added.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1. Resignations:

- a. Harbor Commission

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to accept with regret the resignation of Robert Anson from the Harbor Commission and to send Mr. Anson a letter of thanks. All voted in favor of the motion.

- b. Lower Glen Farm Preservation Committee

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Mr. Gleason, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Anne Nichelson, from the Lower Glen Farm Preservation Committee and to send Ms. Nichelson a letter of thanks. All voted in favor of the motion.

2. Appointments:

- a. Bristol Ferry Town Common (Re-Appt.)

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to re-appoint H. Weber Wilson to the Bristol Ferry Town Common Committee. All voted in favor of the motion.

- b. Glen Park Working Committee (Re-Appt.)

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to re-appoint Herbert Nichelson to the Glen Park Working Committee. All voted in favor of the motion.

OLD BUSINESS

OB 1 – Request Permission to Conduct 2016 Race the State Through Portsmouth, August 7, 2016/H. Piggin, Manuka Sports Event Management (FR: 1/11/16)

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to approve their request, subject to proof of insurance and licenses as needed via the Town Clerk's Office, for Manuka Sports Event Management to conduct 2016 Race the State through Portsmouth on August 7, 2016. All voted in favor of the motion.

OB 2 – Update on RIDOT Activity Regarding the Town Center Project and Request for Discussion/Recommendation to Staff on Next Steps/ G. Crosby

A motion by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to draft and send letters and contact Senator Pagliarini. All voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

NB 1 – Request Approval of a Resolution in Opposition to the Proposed Truck Tolls/ L. Fitzmorris, Portsmouth Concerned Citizens

A motion by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to accept the resolution and add: “Whereas the Rhode Island budget is \$8.7 Billion, we must be able to find the 1% of the budget, \$40,000,000 to repair roads”. All voted in favor of the motion.

TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH RESOLUTION #2016-01-25

THE TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH RI OPPOSES THE GOVERNOR’S PROPOSAL TO INSTITUTE TRUCK TOLLS ON MAJOR HIGHWAYS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

Meeting, duly noticed and held, this twenty-fifth day of January, 2016, and upon motion duly made and seconded, discussed and passed by a vote of the Portsmouth Town Council. The Town Council of the municipal operation of Portsmouth, Rhode Island hereby recites and resolves as follows:

- WHEREAS:** The proposed construction of toll gantries on a number of Rhode Island highways presently under consideration in the Assembly as the Governor’s RhodeWorks RI program is intended to place tolls on certain types of trucks doing business in Rhode Island and
- WHEREAS:** The Town Council has serious concerns with the negative impact such tolls will have on commerce in Portsmouth as the cost of tolling is anticipated to increase the cost of goods delivered by truck to Portsmouth businesses and citizens and the neighboring communities and
- WHEREAS:** The Portsmouth Town Council and many of Portsmouth’s Citizens believe that once established, the system of toll gantries will likely be used to collect tolls from private vehicles.
- WHEREAS:** The Rhode Island annual budget currently stands at \$8.7 billion. The cost to repair the State’s roads and bridges is estimated at \$40 million per year. This would amount to less than 1% of the annual budget; therefore the state should be able to fund this Public Works project with existing funds.

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby opposes any legislation that will place any toll gantries on any highways within the State of Rhode Island.

ATTESTED, that the Resolution set forth above was approved by the Town Council of the Town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, by action duly taken on the 25th day of January, 2016.

Keith E. Hamilton, President, Portsmouth Town Council

NB 2 – Discussion/Action – Police Station Architectural Services/ J. Lathrop

A motion by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to direct the Finance Department to start on an RFQ. All voted in favor of the motion.

NB 3 – December Budget Update/ J. Lathrop

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to receive and place on file. All voted in favor of the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Thank You Letter for Partnering on the Conservation of the Eugene Chase Farm Property on Prudence Island/ R. Jenness, chair, Prudence Conservancy

A motion by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Mr. Seveney, to receive and place on file. All voted in favor of the motion.

FUTURE MEETINGS

February 8 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
February 22 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) – Collective Bargaining: PMEA

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to go into Executive Session under RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining, PMEA. All voted in favor of the motion.

TIME: 7:55 p.m. - Break

TIME: 8:20 p.m. - Return

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Hamilton announced that the Council had met to discuss negotiations with the PMEA.

A motion by Mr. Seveney, seconded by Mr. Robicheau, to adjourn. All voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURN

TIME: 8:20 p.m.

Joanne M. Mower, Town Clerk