

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 2017

6:02PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

MEMBERS PRESENT: Keith E. Hamilton, David M. Gleason, Paul F. Kesson, Elizabeth A. Pedro, J. Mark Ryan and Linda L. Ujifusa

Members absent: Kevin M. Aguiar

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) – Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the public interest.
2. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) – Any discussions or considerations related to the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public.

A motion by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Mr. Kesson, to go into Executive Session under RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) – Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property and RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) – Any discussions or considerations related to the disposition of publicly held property. The motion carried 6-0 with Mr. Aguiar absent.

TIME: 6:57 PM – Break

TIME: 7:05 PM - Return

ADJOURN

7:05 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

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

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Bills

Motion by Mr Kesson, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to receive and place on file. Motion passed 6-0

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

President Hamilton informed those present that in tonight's Executive Session no votes were taken and the matters have been continued to another month.

MINUTES

TCM 12/12/16 Exec.

Motion by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Ms. Pedro, for discussion. Ms. Pedro would like to add the dollar amount associated with the motion. Mr. Kesson moved to accept as amended, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 6-0.

TAX VOUCHERS

Request Approval for Tax Vouchers #20170123-01 to #20170123-05. / M. Helfand

Motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Mr. Kesson, to approve. Motion passed 6-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. IT Update – Consolidation of IT functions between Town & School Department to be completed this spring.
2. Report on Meeting RI Trust Regarding Wellness of Workforce – Discussed ways to improve and promote employee workforce health and fitness.
3. Report on RIIB Regarding the CSSLP Program – RIIB agreed to extend a broader line of credit still administered in \$300K batches, to eliminate delays.
4. Report on SNP & Moody's Bond Ratings – Both agencies have confirmed previous ratings: Moody's rated us AA2, S&P rated us AAA.

REMOVALS, RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointments:

a. Melville Park Committee

Motion by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Ms Ujifusa, to appoint Matt Ellsworth. Motion passed 6-0

OLD BUSINESS

OB1. Discussion/Action – RFP for Legal Services for Town. / R. Rainer

Motion by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Mr. Gleason, to review the RFP over the next two weeks and vote on it at the next meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

OB2. Discussion/Action – Prudence Ferry Dock Repairs. / K. Hamilton

Motion by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to have Mr. Rainer speak to Bristol to determine how much money we should contribute and under what conditions to ensure ferry service continues. Motion passed 6-0.

OB3. Finance Update. / D. Faucher

Motion by Mr Kesson, seconded by Mr. Gleason, to receive and place on file. Motion passed 6-0

NEW BUSINESS

NB1. Request Permission to Place an Insert, with a Dog Park Update, in the Annual Dog License Renewal Letters. / B. Miller, Chair, Dog Park Planning Committee

Motion by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa, to approve. Motion passed 6-0.

NB2. Request Extension of Glen Manor House Manager’s Contract. / B. Chase

Motion by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve the recommendation of the Glen Manor House Authority to extend the current Manager’s contract and to task our Town Administrator & Finance Director to create an RFP for a contractor to analyze the condition of the building, recommend improvements and provide options for the property to maximize benefits of the town going forward. A motion to amend by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to modify the main motion. The amendment is to approve the extension of a modified contract, to be approved by the Town Council at a later date. The motion passed 5-1, with Mr. Kesson against. The main motion passed 4-1-1, with Mr. Kesson against and Ms. Pedro abstaining.

NB3. Discussion/Action – Requesting a Change to the Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance, Article V (B) 9. / C. Chappell for A. Hackett

Cort Chappell, for Ann Hackett, to request to advertise and send to Planning Board to make recommendation to the Town Planner.

Motion by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kesson, to advertise and to set Public Hearing for March 13. Motion passed 6-0.

NB4. Town of Portsmouth 2016 Financial Statements Presentation. / J. Wilkinson, Marcum Accountants

Town awarded Certificate of Reporting Achievement for 2015 Comprehensive Financial Report. To sum up, Town is in very good shape.

Motion by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Mr. Kesson, to receive report and place on file. Motion passed 6-0

NB5. Announcement of Portsmouth Prevention Coalition's Project Purple Week: January 23–27, 2017. / K. Hamilton

a. Request Approval of Project Purple Week Proclamation

President Hamilton read the proclamation.

NB6. Discussion/Action – Recreation Department Items and Updates. / T. Dunbar

a. Recommendations for Glen Park Fees

Motion by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Ms. Pedro, for Recreation Director to work with the Town Administrator and with volunteers to formulate an overall policy towards charging user fees for any rental properties. Motion passed 6-0.

b. Recreation Department Spring/Summer 2016 Catalog

No motion necessary. Thank you to Tim Dunbar.

NB7. Discussion/Action – Acceptance of Brown Terrace Extension as a Public Road & Release of Road Bond. / L. Lesinski & B. Woodhead

Motion by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to accept Brown Terrace and release the road bond. Motion passed 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter Requesting Support of the Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District (ERICD) and ERICD Mission Statement. / S. Churgin, ERICD
2. Thank You Letter from the Portsmouth Garden Club for the Contribution to the Civic Beautification Program. And, Another Thank You Letter to the Garden Club for the Wreaths Placed at the Town Hall and Around Town. / C. Goetzinger, Secretary & R. Rainer
3. Request Resolution in Opposition to the Preferred Alternative of the Northeast Corridor FUTURE, Washington, DC to Boston, MA Tier 1 Final EIS. / A. Weinreich, Charlestown Town Clerk

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to place Item #2 on file and move Items 1 & 3 to the next agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- January 28 9:00 AM - Town Council/School Committee Budget Strategy and Planning Meeting Portsmouth High School Library (Saturday)
- February 13 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
- February 27 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
- March 13 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

A motion by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURN

Time: 9:55 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk