

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 27, 2017
MINUTES

6:00 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

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

Members absent: J. Mark Ryan

Time: 6:00 PM

Motion to go into Executive Session made by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Mr. Gleason. Motion passed 6-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Motion to seal the minutes and adjourn to Open Session made by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Mr. Aguiar. Motion passed 6-0.

Time: 6:43

ADJOURN

7:00 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

Time: 7:00

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

SITTING AS THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

1. Peddler License – Specific Event:

McGrath Clambakes, Inc., 64 Halsey Street #5, Newport, RI for the Beast of the East Rugby Tournament, April 22 & 23, 2017

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to approve. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Peddler License – Specific Event:

Rugby Imports, Ltd., 885 Warren Avenue, East Providence, RI for the Beast of the East Rugby Tournament, April 22 & 23, 2017

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Mr. Aguiar, to approve. Motion passed 6-0.

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to adjourn as the Board of License Commissioners. Motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURN

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

President Hamilton informed those present that in tonight's Executive Session there was a discussion on collective bargaining and no votes were taken.

MINUTES

TCM 1/23/17 (fr. 3/13/17 mtg.)

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa, to approve. Motion passed 5-0 with Mr. Aguiar abstaining.

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa, to approve. Motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Pedro abstaining.

TCM 2/7/17

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Mr. Kesson, to approve. Motion passed 5-0 with Mr. Aguiar abstaining.

TCM 2/13/17 Exec.

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Mr. Kesson, to approve. Motion passed 5-0 with Mr. Aguiar abstaining.

TCM 2/27/17 Exec.

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to approve. Motion passed 6-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Budget Process Update:

- The Budget Process as previously laid out is still on track.
- The School Committee approved the School Dept. Budget at their last meeting and copies have been turned over to the Finance Dept. and made available to the Council.
- We have worked through all Dept. requests and the Capital Improvement Plan and will start finalizing the draft this week.
- On April 10th, we will turn over an advance draft to the Council – which will be two weeks before the Budget meetings beginning on April 24th

Staff Wellness Initiative Update:

- As previously reported, we are working with the RI Trust on a wellness initiative for Town Employees.
- The first step was the execution of a survey to determine concerns and interests. An incentive to take the survey in the form of a free FITBIT to a random respondent.
- The winner of the FITBIT was Deputy Fire Chief, Michael O'Brien.
- We will start a 6-week walking challenge to promote fun and healthy competition.
- Staff will track their steps and the top three walkers will receive prizes!
- The Council is invited to take part. Information on how to join the challenge will be forwarded tomorrow.

Report on meeting with Director of RI Infrastructure Bank:

- Together with members of the Staff, I met with Mr. Jeff Diehl, Executive Director and CEO of the RI Infrastructure Bank.
- As you know, we utilize funding from the Bank to operate our CSSLP program.
- The Infrastructure Bank is interested in expanding their infrastructure finance programs.
- In addition to the CSSLP program, we received a brief on the bank's
 - Efficient Buildings Fund
 - The RI Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program
 - The Municipal Road and Bridge Revolving Fund, and the
 - The Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- While there are no plans to expand our involvement with the institution beyond the CSSLP program, the meeting left us with information that may be useful to us in future endeavors.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion/Action – New Police Station Owner's Representative Selection Recommendation.

Motion by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Mr. Aguiar, to approve ABM as the Owner's Representative. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Monthly Finance Report.

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request from the Armenian National Committee of Rhode Island to Fly the Armenian Flag on April 24, 2017.

Motion by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to fly the Armenian flag on April 24, 2017. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Discussion/Action – FY 2015-2016 Budget Deficit of \$699,863. / L. Fitzmorris, Portsmouth Concerned Citizens

Main concerns are 1) Why didn't we act to mitigate the deficit? 2) There's no evidence that the Town Council was informed of the concern, but we should've noticed there were no monthly reports. 3) Also, there were no monthly reports sent to the State as required by state law 45-12-22.2.

Mr. Fitzmorris requests a motion for the Town Administrator to look into the components of the deficit and why we're not filing the reports.

Mr. Rainer said there was not a deficit, ended the fiscal year with a surplus of \$178,428.

Mr. Menke will speak to the Dept. of Revenue and the Auditor General and bring back the answers to the 4/10/17 TCM.

3. Discussion/Action – Portsmouth Pension Funding Level of 52.5%, a Shortfall Below the State Required 60% of \$6,702,110. / L. Fitzmorris, Portsmouth Concerned Citizens

Mr. Fitzmorris withdrew this item from the agenda. Mr. Menke noted that we are at 54.5% now, entering into year 7 of a 30-year plan. We are expected to be at 60% in 2023 and 100% by 2041.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Request to Attend, Purchase an Ad or Become a Sponsor/Patron of the 12th Annual Turning Around Ministries Dinner and Silent Auction on April 29, 2017.
2. Portsmouth Water and Fire District's Quarterly Financial Reports for the Period Ending January 31, 2017.
3. Burrillville Town Council Adoption of a Resolution Petitioning the Director of Revenue for the Installation of an Accounting System for the Town of Burrillville in Accordance with RIGL 45-10-1.
4. Invitation to Participate in the 33rd Annual Aquidneck Island National Police Parade, Sunday May 7, 2017.
5. Prudence Island Water District's Annual Report to the Electors FY Ending Sept. 30, 2016.
6. Resolution in Support of Governor Gina Raimondo's Rhode Island's Promise Program. / A.

7. Resolution in Support of Inadequacies of the Low and Moderate Income Housing Act as Identified by the Town of Gloucester, RI and Forwarded to the RI Legislative LMIH Study Commission. / A. Weinreich, CMC, Charlestown Town Clerk
8. Letter re: DEM Project Priority List for State Fiscal Year 2018. / J. Manning, P.E., Principle Sanitary Engineer, RI Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Resources
9. Letter re: 2017 Merritt Neighborhood Fund Grant Application. / C. Allott, Executive Director, Aquidneck Land Trust
10. Letter re: Legislation for the Legalization of Marijuana for Adult Use. / P. Kilmartin, Attorney General

A motion by Mr. Gleason, seconded by Ms. Pedro, to move Items #3 & #7 to the next agenda and place all others on file. Motion passed 6-0.

FUTURE MEETINGS

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| April 10 | 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting |
| April 24 | 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting: Budget Overview and Discussion on Revenue |
| April 25 | 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting: Budget –Town Hall, Police, Fire, Public Works |
| April 26 | 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting: Budget –All Other Departments |
| April 27 | 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting: Budget – If Needed |

A motion by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Mr. Gleason, to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURN

Time: 8:15

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk