

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 24, 2018 (Tuesday) MINUTES

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

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

Time: 7:00 PM

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

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.

Mr. Hamilton stated that Ms. Pedro wished to speak prior to the meeting.

Ms. Pedro stated the following:

“After reflecting on my vote last night in regards to ratifying the Finance Director appointment, I’d like to change my vote. I cannot support the appointment of this position. I’d like a chance to explain why.

When I was in the middle of speaking with the Candidate, Ms. Mills, about the difference between CPA and non-CPA status and why I thought that was important, Mr. Rainer had an outburst that surprised and distracted me.

During this outburst he called my opinion an “implication” to which I take offense. It’s my job as an elected official to ask questions and speak for the people that elected me to be their voice.

To me, the “implication” of this outburst is that I’m not supposed to question anything or give my opinion

When, in fact, this council is the only supervision that Mr. Rainer has. Since I was cut short during my exchange with Ms. Mills, I want to point out that she has held so many different positions that it averages out to about 2 ½ years per position. Yet she stated that it will take her 3 years of classes to get her CPA status back. I also never found out who will pay for these classes. Nothing personal against Ms. Mills, I don’t even know her, I’m just not comfortable with this.

Moving forward, especially through this budget process, I will continue to do my due diligence by asking questions and voicing my opinion. And I would like to continue without intimidation or the implication that it is not my right to do so.”

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

NEW BUSINESS

The Town Administrator’s Proposed Budget Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 is available on the Town’s website at www.portsmouthri.com

1. Budget: Discussion/Action – Revenues – Motion to provisionally approve Revenues in the amount of \$63,247,183 made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Budget: Discussion/Action – School Department

The Portsmouth Public Schools Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 is available on the Town’s website at www.portsmouthri.com – Motion to provisionally approve the Town Appropriation to the School Department in the amount of \$32,846,238 made by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-1. Ms. Pedro in dissent.

Motion to provisionally approve the Total School Department Budget in the amount of \$38,783,579 made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 6-1. Ms. Pedro in dissent.

Motion for the School Department to fund their own for the Capital projects at \$604,150 made by Ms. Pedro, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Budget: Discussion/Action – Police Department – Motion to provisionally approve the Police Dept. Budget in the amount of \$5,971,731 made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 6-1. Mr. Kesson in dissent.

a. Animal Control – Motion to provisionally approve the Animal Control Budget in the amount of \$114,794 made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Gleason. Motion passed 7-0.

b. Harbor Master – Motion to provisionally approve the Harbor Master Budget in the amount of \$83,680 made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 4-3. Mr. Kesson, Ms. Pedro and Mr. Gleason in dissent.

c. Prudence Island – Motion to provisionally approve the Prudence Island Public Safety Budget in the amount of \$112,340 made by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Budget: Discussion/Action – Fire Department – Motion to provisionally approve the Fire Dept. Budget in the amount of \$6,076,142 made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Aguiar. Motion passed 6-1. Mr. Kesson in dissent.

5. Budget: Discussion/Action – Department of Public Works – Motion to provisionally approve the Public Works Dept. Budget in the amount of \$2,639,891 made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion to provisionally approve the Public Works Dept. Snow Removal Budget in the amount of \$79,279 made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion to provisionally approve the Public Works Dept. Snow Removal Materials and Road Improvements Budget in the amount of \$695,000 made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Aguiar. Motion passed 5-2. Mr. Kesson and Ms. Pedro in dissent. Mr. Kesson is “against because of the \$600,000”.

Motion to provisionally approve the Public Works Dept. total Snow Removal, Snow Removal Materials and Road Improvement Budget in the amount of \$774,279 made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Mr. Gleason. Motion passed 5-2. Mr. Kesson and Ms. Pedro in dissent.

a. Prudence Island Transfer Station – Motion to provisionally approve the Prudence Island Transfer Station Budget in the amount of \$136,950 made by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Mr. Gleason. Motion passed 7-0.

b. Prudence Island Volunteer Fire Department Civic Support – Motion to provisionally approve the Prudence Island Volunteer Fire Dept. Budget in the amount of \$168,800 made by Mr. Kesson, seconded by Mr. Gleason. Motion passed 7-0.

FUTURE MEETINGS

April 25 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting: Budget – All Other Departments

April 26 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting: Budget – If Needed

May 14 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting & Provisional Budget

May 29 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting (Tuesday)

June 11 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kesson. Motion passed 7-0.

Time: 9:47 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk