

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 8, 2019 MINUTES

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar, Linda L. Ujifusa, J. Mark Ryan, Keith E. Hamilton, Leonard B. Katzman, Andrew V. Kelly and Daniela T. Abbott

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.

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – None.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. RI House of Representative’s Citation to Marye Taylor Portsmouth’s Oldest Citizen. – Rep. Terri Cortvriend and President Aguiar read proclamations to Ms. Taylor.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Bills

2. CRMC – PUBLIC NOTICE:

An Application of Joan Tokarz, 11 Seal Island Road, Bristol, RI 02809, for a State of RI Assent to modify an approved residential boating facility. Two new tie off piles are proposed to be installed 15’ from the float. The tie off piles will be located 12’ from the property line extension; letters of no objection from the affected property owners were provided. This is a modification to Assent No. 2018-06-009. Project Location: 327 Riverside Street, Ports.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

MINUTES

TCM 6/12/19

TCM 6/24/19 & Exec.

Motion to approve the minutes made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. Coggeshall School building update – I reported at the last Council meeting that we were investigating a potential air quality issue at the Coggeshall School Bldg. Air quality testing was conducted on June 17th. The results are in and airborne mold spore concentrations in several areas are very high and significantly above current safe guidelines. Based on the test results, a comprehensive decontamination effort would have to be undertaken to make the building safe for use. Because of the presence of high concentrations of mold spores, any occupants of the building are at elevated risk of allergic responses and other health issues. Because of this, the Building Official issued an order to cease use and occupancy until air quality issues are resolved. We are currently working on plans, pricing, and alternative recommendations for your consideration at the next Council meeting. In the meantime, we will contact current users and occupants and notify them of the issue.

2. Portsmouth representation at Sailor of the Year ceremony – On Friday, June 28th, I had the privilege to represent Portsmouth at the annual Sailor of the Year ceremony. At the event, I presented proclamations of congratulations on being honored as the 2018 Navy Service Members of the Year to: Hospital Corpsman Third Class, Kassandra Betancourt, Operations Specialist First Class, Joshua Umphress, and Operations Specialist Second Class, Nyesha M. Adams – all stationed here on Aquidneck Island.

3. Arthur Daniel Howell House concessionaire agreement – And lastly, on July 2nd, the concessionaire agreement for the renovation and use of the Arthur Daniel Howell House was signed. We look forward to this next step in our effort to improve all the Glen properties.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Resignation:

a. Economic Development Committee – Motion to accept with regret Justin Perry’s resignation made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Appointment:

a. Economic Development Committee – Motion to appoint Nancy Howard made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request an advisory opinion from the Planning Board for a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to include a Solar Ordinance and to then return to the Council to request to schedule and advertise for a Public Hearing. – Motion to put forth the request to the Planning Board for an advisory opinion made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Discuss purported changes to the deeded beach rights of McCorrie Point Beach and issues that need to be addressed. – No motions made.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Gray Matter Marketing is holding an event that will impact Portsmouth: the 4 Bridges Ride will take place on Sunday September 15, 2019. / M. Gray, President

2. Response to resolution re: Sidewalk Modification on East Main Rd. / D. Fish, RI DOT

Motion to receive and place on file and to direct the Town Administrator to write a letter of thanks to Mr. Alviti for his comments made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Jul 22 Cancelled

Aug 13 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting (Tuesday)

Aug 26 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

Sep 09 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0

Time: 8:37 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk