

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019 MINUTES

6:30 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar, Keith E. Hamilton, Leonard B. Katzman, Andrew V. Kelly

MEMBERS ABSENT: Daniela T. Abbott, Linda L. Ujifusa and J. Mark Ryan

Time: 6:30 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ADJOURN – Motion to seal the minutes and adjourn into Open Session made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 4-0.

Time: 6:45 PM

Time: 6:50 PM Ms. Abbott enter the room.

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

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 – Mr. Aguiar stated that there was one vote taken. Motion passed 4-0. Mr. Aguiar attended the Moving Wall ceremony on Sunday, September 22, in Newport and read a proclamation from the Town. The Portsmouth Police Honor Guard was also present. He thanked all of those that served in the conflict. He also thanked all those past and present serving in our Military.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. Proclamation of Appreciation in recognition of James Edwards’ service to the Zoning Board

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Bills – Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-0.

SITTING AS THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

Directions to view licensing applications: 1) Click on [Viewpoint](#), 2) Click Records and then type in the record number which is listed on the agenda, 3) Click on the highlighted record to view the application

1. Request to Advertise for a Public Hearing:

Application to transfer a Class BV Beverage License from KW Nelson Inc d/b/a

Karl's Park Avenue Pub to Migration, Inc., 506 Park Avenue, and also for a permanent expansion of the service area – Motion to approve the request to advertise for a Public Hearing on October 15, 2019 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-0

2. Request to Advertise for a Public Hearing:

Request for a permanent expansion of the service area and expanded hours (2:00 AM closing on Fri-Sat and holiday eves) for CJ's Pub, 568 Park Avenue (#1570) – Motion to approve the request to advertise for a Public Hearing on October 15, 2019 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn as the Board of License Commissioners made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 5-0.

MINUTES

TCM 9/9/19 & Exec. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-0.

TAX VOUCHERS

Request approval for Tax Vouchers #20190923-01 to #20190923-05. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Report out on Prudence Island Town Council Meeting – Our annual Town Council meeting on Prudence Island was held on Saturday, September 14th. At the meeting we updated on National Grid initiatives for the island, addressed and discussed islander concerns regarding paving, speeding, the transfer station and parking at the Homestead ferry landing. There are several issues and concerns raised at the meeting which we will investigate and get back to the Council on, including: Establishing a 6 month pass at the Transfer Station; Re-evaluation of the trailer policy at the PI Transfer Station; Parking policy and enforcement at the Homestead landing; Procurement of Radar Speed Signs; and, incorporation of additional paving for PI in the CIP

2. Transit Forward RI 2040 – I was invited to participate in a meeting regarding the RI Master Transit Plan two weeks ago. The Transit Master Plan will envision how our passenger transportation network should look and operate in the future and is being developed by a project team from RIPTA, RIDOT and RI Statewide Planning. The initiative will result in a 20-year plan, hence the name Transit Forward RI 2040, and the project team is soliciting input from all RI stakeholders on how to address transportation challenges in RI. At the meeting, we discussed ways to identify and implement the most effective means of providing mass transit service for people who rely on it and for people seeking car-free ways to transit RI. Our staff has been asked to assist in identifying key destinations and travel paths in Portsmouth and Aquidneck Island that RIPTA could better serve better in a way that relieves traffic congestion and is non-Providence centric. More information can be found, and suggestions can be made at their website: [transitforwardri.com](http://transitforwardri.com)

3. Aquidneck Island Advisory Group – An Aquidneck Island Advisory Group was formed in response to the natural gas outage on Aquidneck Island last winter. The group is made up of representatives from National Grid, Aquidneck Island municipalities, the RI P.U.C., the Governor's Office, and Island stakeholders as needed. The group is focused on identifying initiatives and strategies to be implemented to prevent a repeat of the conditions which precipitated last winter's event. I've asked National Grid to brief the Council on measures pertinent to Portsmouth and they will do so at one of our upcoming Council meetings.

4. Parks and Recreation Community Needs Survey update – We are moving quickly on the Parks and Recreation Community Needs Survey. The working group has had two meetings with The Center for Research & Public Policy since the last Council meeting. A timeline for the assessment was approved today and we are on track to complete the survey before the end of the year. We anticipate public notice and direct mail information to be issued on or before October 11th. The survey itself will be open for five weeks – from October 14th to November 15th. Data analysis will be conducted November 16th to 21st. A report will then be issued to the Town and a presentation of the findings made to the Council on December 9th.

5. Municipal Resilience Program Community Resilience Building Workshop update – With respect to the Municipal Resilience Program Community Resilience Building Workshop held this summer, the final report is near completion. The next step will be for the core team to prioritize proposed initiatives in line with the RIIB’s criteria for grant funding (which is still under development).

Additionally, I’ve been asked to provide an update with respect to the letters we were directed to write to RI DOT per the resolution passed by the Council at the last TC Meeting. Two letters were issued last week. A letter was sent to RI DOT’s Director of Government and Legislative Affairs which formally requested a safety review of East Main Road by the State Traffic Commission. And, a second letter was sent to RI DOT, Director Alviti, which reminded him of the incorporation of Complete Street designs into state road construction projects in Portsmouth and of the Town’s willingness to work with his department to implements complete street design features in impending STIP projects in Portsmouth to the greatest extent feasible.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Monthly finance report. – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Presentation of Senior Project, Portsmouth: The Trash Free Town. – No motions made.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Monthly RIRRC Report – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-0.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Oct 15 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting (Tuesday)

Oct 28 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

Nov 12 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting (Tuesday)

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 5-0.

Time: 7:27 PM

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Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk