

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 25, 2021
MINUTES

6:15 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar, Keith E. Hamilton, Leonard B. Katzman and J. Mark Ryan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda L. Ujifusa, Daniela T. Abbott and Andrew V. Kelly

Time: 6:16 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion to go into Executive Session under RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 4-0.

1. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) – Litigation: Lautieri v. Town of Portsmouth (C.A. No. 1:21-cv-00117-WES-PAS)

Time: 6:45 PM Mr. Kelly enters the room

No votes were taken.

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn and seal the minutes made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 5-0.

Time: 6:51 PM

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

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

Time: 7:00 PM

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – There was an Executive Session held prior to this meeting. No votes were taken.

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to approve as presented made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0,

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. Bills
2. Peddler License – Mobile Food Establishment (MFE), Renewal:
 - a. Newport Chowder Company, 10 Pell St, Newport (#1981)

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. Gunsmith/Gun Dealer License – Annual, New:
Aquidneck Gunsmithing LLC d/b/a Max-Ord Rifles, 179 High Point Ave (#2001)
(fm. 9/27/2021)

Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn as the Board of License Commissioners made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

MINUTES – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0.
10/12/21

TAX VOUCHERS – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

Request approval for Tax Voucher #20211025-01.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. Grace Kinnunen – Sadly, Grace Kinnunen passed away last week. Grace accomplished much in her life and many here will remember her as a founding member and former Chair of the Glen Park Committee. In 2016, she received the Portsmouth Award for her years of selfless dedication to the Park and our Town. She will be sorely missed.
2. National Grid Aquidneck Island energy update – National Grid will file a supplemental petition with the Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) in early 2022. A stakeholder update was provided to the National Grid Aquidneck Advisory Group earlier this month which outlays their anticipated long-term approach to the natural gas capacity constraints and vulnerabilities on Aquidneck Island. National Grid will provide an update to the Town Council at the November 8th Council meeting.
3. COVID update on 5-11 year old vaccinations – We anticipate COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 5-11 will soon be authorized. When that occurs, we expect the RI Dept. of Health will work with the School Depart. to provide the vaccinations, in early to mid-November. The state expects to work with pediatricians, state-run sites, pharmacies and schools to distribute the vaccine. Due to the complexities associated with conducting a COVID Vaccination clinic for the 5-11 year-old population and the ability of a staff and volunteers to handle the wide-ranging medical and behavioral issues that may arise, this will not be a clinic run by Town staff.
4. Police bullet-proof vest award announcement – Last week we were notified The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has awarded Portsmouth \$9,500 through the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP). These funds will be used to augment our bullet-proof vest maintenance and phased replacement program.

Additionally, we were informed today the Portsmouth Police Department is being awarded a Simulated Impaired Driving Experience (SIDNE) teaching tool by the Newport County Prevention Coalition. The SIDNE is a behind the wheel driving experience that makes the dangers of impaired

driving real during a simulation experience on a custom-built electric kart. The simulation unit would be used to educate youth during hands-on experiences about the dangers of driving under the influence as well as the dangers of distracted driving. The total cost of the simulation unit is valued at \$38,053 and includes an enclosed trailer for the unit as well as 30 months of maintenance. There will be no cost to the town for this grant.

REMOVALS, RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Removal:

a. Solid Waste/Recycling Committee – Motion to accept with regret the removal of Claudette Weissinger made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Appointments:

a. Aquidneck Island Planning Commission – Motion to appoint Stephen Johnson made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

b. Economic Development Committee – Motion to re-appoint Raymond Keller made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

c. Housing Authority – Motion to re-appoint Gary Gump made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. School Bond Referendum update. – No votes taken.

2. Monthly Finance Report. – Motion to receive and place on file as presented made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request to amend the 2014 Resolution (#2014-3-24 B Approving the Increase in Municipal Appointments to the AIPC Board) to allow a third three-year term. – Motion to add at the end of the “Be It Further Resolved” paragraph, “unless otherwise approved by a greater than simple majority of the Portsmouth Town Council” made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
RESOLUTION #2021-10-25

AMENDING RESOLUTION #2014-3-24 B
Approving the Increase in Municipal Appointments
to the Aquidneck Island Planning Commission Board

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2014, the Portsmouth Town Council voted to approve the request of the Board of Directors of the Aquidneck Island Planning Commission (AIPC) to reconfigure its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2014, the Portsmouth Town Council passed Resolution #2014-3-24 B, whereby it reaffirmed its vote to approve the AIPC Board of Directors’ request to increase Aquidneck Island municipal appointments to the AIPC Board from two (2) to four (4); and

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Town Council further resolved in Resolution #2-14-3-24 B that the AIPC Directors shall be appointed by the Councils to serve 1-, 2- or 3-year terms; thereafter, the term of office for each Director shall be three (3) years and shall be limited to two (2) consecutive 3-year terms;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution #2014-3-24 B is hereby amended to state as follows: that the AIPC Directors shall be appointed by the Councils to serve 1-, 2- or 3-year terms; thereafter, the term of office for each Director shall be three (3) years and shall be limited to two (2) consecutive 3-year terms, unless otherwise approved by a greater than simple majority of the Portsmouth Town Council.

Approved by the Portsmouth Town Council on October 25, 2021.

Signed: _____
Kevin M. Aguiar, Town Council President

Attest: _____
Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk

2. Review and assign Town Council liaison positions vacated by Mr. Buddemeyer. – Mr. Katzman was added as liaison to the West Side Development Advisory Committee and the School Committee. Mr. Kelly was added as liaison to the Parks and Recreation Committee.
3. Request approval for extension of Glen Manor House Resident Managers’ contract. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.
4. Request for public hearing on proposed revisions to the Town Code, Chapter 124 entitled “Burning, Outdoor.” – Motion to approve the request to advertise for a Public Hearing to be held on November 22, 2021 made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 5-1. Mr. Kelly in dissent.

CORRESPONDENCE – Motion to receive and place on file made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

1. Letter stating displeasure with short term renters and their behaviors and the decreased quality of life for residents. / S. Panaggio

FUTURE MEETINGS

Nov 8 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting
Nov 22 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting
Dec 13 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

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

Time: 7:38 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk