

# APPROVED

## SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

April 13, 2020, Monday

Via Zoom 581 363 408

Present: Arthur Mathews, President  
Michael Molisse, Vice President  
Pascale Burga, Councilor  
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor  
Jane Hackett, Councilor  
Fred Happel, Councilor  
Ed Harrington, Councilor  
Rebecca Haugh, Councilor  
Christopher Heffernan  
Maureen Kiely, Councilor

Also Present: Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor  
Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk  
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor  
Ted Langill, Chief of Staff  
Robert Luongo, Director of Planning  
Eric Schneider, Principal Planner  
Jim McGrath, DPW  
Jody Lehrer, Planning  
Steve Reilly, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Elizabeth Foster Nolan, Census 2020

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

President Mathews called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. He read:

*“Governor Charles Baker has declared a State of Emergency in Massachusetts to support the state's response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Per the directive of Mayor Hedlund and the Town of Weymouth's "Emergency Declaration and Town-Wide Guidance in Response to COVID-19 of March 13, 2020”, the Town Council will meet remotely for the health and safety of Councilors and the public during the Massachusetts State of Emergency. Town council using Zoom software to conduct meetings.”*

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathleen Deree called the roll, with all members present.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Establishment of a Special Committee-Replacement of District Six Councilor Vacancy**

**-Pursuant to Town Council Rule Number 34- President Arthur Mathews**

President Mathews reported his intent is to create a special committee to replace the District Six Councilor. He read Rule 34:

*“Special Committees may be authorized at any time by majority vote and shall be appointed by the President to consider such matters as the Council may refer to them.”*

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to approve the establishment of a special committee under Rule 34 to replace the District Six Councilor and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**20 017-Utility Petition-NGRID-Gas Installation/Replacement-North Street/Shaw Street**

President Mathews reported that at the last meeting, on February 18, 2020, the public hearing on this measure was continued to the meeting scheduled for March 9, 2020; however, the March meetings were postponed due to the existing State of Emergency in Massachusetts. New abutter notices will go out and the hearing will be continued to the April 27, 2020 meeting.

**COMMUNICATION AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR, TOWN OFFICERS AND TOWN BOARDS**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Chief of Staff Ted Langill requested the following committee reappointments:

**20 041-Reappointment to Memorial Committee-Frank Burke**

Frank Burke of 93 Bluff Road to the Memorial Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 042-Reappointment to Community Preservation Committee-Daniel Condon**

Daniel Condon of 103 Chard Street to Community Preservation Committee the for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

**20 043-Reappointment to Waterfront Committee-Karen Graham**

Karen Graham of 514 Pleasant Street to the Waterfront Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 044-Reappointment to Board of Health-Clare LaMorte**

Clare LaMorte of 12 Whipple Circle to the Board of Health for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 045-Reappointment to Community Preservation Committee-Patricia O’Leary**  
Patricia O’Leary of 999 Commercial Street to the Community Preservation Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

**20 046-Reappointment to Board of Elder Services-Jeannette Rose**  
Jeannette Rose of 18 Fairmount Avenue to the Board of Elder Services for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 047-Reappointment to Waterfront Committee-James Sullivan**  
James Sullivan of 75 Blanchard Road to the Waterfront Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 048-Reappointment to Board of Health-Lynn Squillace**  
Lynn Squillace of 119 Pond Street to the Board of Health for a term to expire on June 30, 2032.

**20 049-Reappointment to Community Events Committee-Steve Sweeney**  
Steve Sweeney of 69 Academy Ave to the Community Events Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 051-Reappointment to Community Events Committee-Peter Webb, Sr.**  
Peter Webb, Sr. of 23 Church Street, Unit 9 to the Community Events Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 052-Reappointment to 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee-Peter Webb, Sr.**  
Peter Webb, Sr. of 23 Church Street, Unit 9 to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 053-Reappointment to 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee-Peter Webb, Jr.**  
Peter Webb, Jr. of 23 Church Street, Unit 9 to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**20 054-Reappointment to Zoning Board of Appeals-Richard McLeod**  
Richard McLeod of 4 Sherricks Farm Road to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to consider measures 20 041 through 20 054, inclusive, under 2-9(b), same night action and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to adopt the reappointment list, measures 20 041 through 20 054, inclusive and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett-YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **Budget/Management Committee-Chair Michael Molisse**

Chair Molisse reported that the Budget/Management Committee met on April 13, 2020 to deliberate the following measures:

#### **20 018-Reserve Fund Transfer-Weymouth Complete Count 2020 Census**

Vice President Molisse reported that this measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 18, 2020. The committee met on April 13, 2020 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/ Management Committee, a motion was made by Vice President Molisse to approve measure 20 018; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$20,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Town Clerk, Unclassified Expenditures line item for the purpose of funding costs associated with Weymouth's Census Complete Count activities.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### **20 019-Reserve Fund Transfer-Engineering Services-Stormwater Compliance**

Vice President Molisse reported that this measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 18, 2020. The committee met on April 13, 2020 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget Management Committee, a motion was made by Vice President Molisse to approve measure 20 019; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$96,000 from the Reserve Fund to the DPW, Engineering, Other Professional Services line item for the purpose of funding the engineering costs associated with meeting requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Stormwater Program.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES,

Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**20 020-Reserve Fund Transfer-Charter Review Committee-Funding Request**

Vice President Molisse reported that this measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 18, 2020. The committee met on April 13, 2020 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget Management Committee, a motion was made by Vice President Molisse to approve measure 20 020; that the Town of Weymouth appropriate the sum of \$8,500 from the Reserve Fund (Program 132) to the following line items to Fund 0002 for the purpose of funding projected expenses for the Charter Review Committee:

- \$5,000 for Recording Secretary Salary
- \$3,500 for Miscellaneous Expenses (paper, notices, printing).

The motion was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**20 022-Reserve Fund Transfer-Engineering Services**

Vice President Molisse reported that this measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 18, 2020. The committee met on April 13, 2020 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget Management Committee, a motion was made by Vice President Molisse to approve measure 20 022; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$13,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Planning Department, Other Professional Services line item, for the purpose of funding costs associated with procuring engineering services related to submitting a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The motion was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**20 036-Authorization to Expend CDBG & HOME Funds 2020-2021**

Vice President Molisse reported that this measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on March 9, 2020. The committee met on April 13,

2020 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/ Management Committee, a motion was made by Vice President Molisse to approve measure 20 036; That the town of Weymouth accepts the fiscal year 2020-2021 HUD grants in the amounts of \$712,833 for CDBG and \$177,780 In HOME Investment Partnership Grant funds.

Furthermore, that the Director of Planning and Community Development, having received the approval of the Mayor, be permitted to expend said grants in their entirety as described on the attached funding allocation lists.

Both are allocations from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

These amounts are estimated as HUD will not have actual award amounts until a later date; however, approval is needed prior to the date of notification of the actual grant amounts.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **Rules Committee-Chair Pascale Burga**

#### **20 014-Town Council Rules and Regulations 2020-2022**

Councilor Burga reported that the purpose of the Weymouth Town Council Rules is to establish and maintain reasonable rules of procedure for the Weymouth Town Council to promote fair and orderly conduct for council proceedings. The Rules committee is appointed by the by the Town Council President as defined in section 7 of the Rules. Every even year, the rules will be reviewed and adopted within 120 days of the first council meeting. This year the first council meeting was January 6<sup>th</sup>. On Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, this measure was referred to the Rules Committee. The committee met on April 8, 2020 and voted to forward to the full town council with a recommendation to adopt the following changes:

1. Addition to Rule 35- add a new section to section E that reads, “while committee meetings are open to the public, an individual may not address the committee without prior permission from the chair. Opportunities to express one’s opinion can be done so at a public hearing, if the measure so requires, or request to address the council during Resident and Community Comment.”

2. Rule 43, under Town Solicitor-add a new section, and renaming section “B” and “C” to “C” and “D.” “The Town Solicitor shall, either in person, or by deputy, attend any committee meeting by request of the committee chair.”
3. Rule 35, Section D-currently reads under D, “no committee meeting shall be scheduled on the eve of a preliminary or general election,” and that is requested to say, “No committee meeting shall be scheduled on the eve of any election.” That would capture any special election, for example the debt exclusion.
4. Rule 31, under Standing Committee, currently reads, “Economic Development Committee may consider and report to the council on all matters relating to Economic Development, including but not limited to Community Development Block Grant, otherwise known as CDBG program and the CDBG annual budget.” That was voted to be removed from Economic Development Committee and added to the Budget Management Committee.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Councilor Burga made a motion to adopt the Rules and Regulations for 2020-2022, as amended, and was seconded by Vice President Molisse. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **20 037-Fiscal Year 2019 Audited Financial Statements and Management Letter- President Mathews**

President Mathews introduced the Statements and Management Letter submitted by the town’s outside auditor, Melanson, Heath & Company. Mr. Swanson reported that the federal government has granted a 6-month extension due to current state.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to refer measure 20 037 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Harrington. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett-YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS**

### **Pursuant to Code of Ordinances Section 2-302- Meetings of the Town Council Motion to move the regularly scheduled meeting of April 21, 2020 to Monday April 27, 2020 at 7:30 PM -Council President Arthur Mathews**

Due to the current State of Emergency that exists in Massachusetts, the normal schedule of meetings was interrupted. A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to move the

meeting scheduled for April 21, 2020 to April 27, 2020 and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-YES, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Town Council Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2020.

At 7:55 PM; there being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Molisse to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. A roll call vote was taken. Councilor Burga- YES, Councilor DiFazio-YES, Councilor Hackett- YES, Councilor Happel-YES, Councilor Harrington-NO, Councilor Haugh-YES, Councilor Heffernan-YES, Councilor Kiely-YES, Vice President Molisse-YES, President Mathews-YES. VOTE PASSED 9-1.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Arthur Mathews as President of the Town Council.  
Voted unanimously on 18 May 2020