

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Town Hall Council Chambers
January 18, 2022
ZOOM MEETING ID 879 9875 4221

Present: Arthur Mathews, President
Michael Molisse, Vice President
John Abbott, Councilor
Lisa Belmarsh, Councilor
Pascale Burga, Councilor
Fred Happel, Councilor
Christopher Heffernan, Councilor
Maureen Kiely, Councilor
Gary MacDougall, Councilor
Greg Shanahan, Councilor

Absent: Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor

Also Present: Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor
James Malary, Chief Financial Officer
Keith Stark, Chief-Weymouth Fire Department

Recording Secretary: Diane Hachey

President Mathews called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathleen Deree called the roll, with Councilor DiFazio absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Burga announced that free COVID at home tests are available at covidtest.gov—tests ship in 7-12 days.

Councilor MacDougall announced that COVID testing is available at the Weymouth Elks on Mondays from 2-6 PM. Weymouth Public Schools are holding a COVID vaccine clinic on February 5th --register at the Weymouth home page.

MINUTES

Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2021

Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Councilor Shanahan abstained, voted 9-0.

Town Council Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2021

Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Councilor Shanahan abstained, voted 9-0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR, TOWN OFFICERS AND TOWN BOARDS

James Malary presented the measures on behalf of the Mayor.

22 003-Library Line-Item Transfer

That the town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$4,000 from line item 16993535-510001-Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Salaries to 16993635-513001-overtime.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 004-Free Cash Transfer to Fire Department Overtime

That the town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$400,000 from free cash to fire department overtime for the purpose of funding costs associated with an increase in fire department overtime hours.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 005-Free Cash Transfer to the Stabilization Fund

That the town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$2,748,906 from free cash to the stabilization fund. This represents the cumulative amount of measures 20 119, 21 006 and 21 104 which transferred funds from the stabilization fund for which the administration promised to reimburse upon free cash certification.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 006-Increase in COLA Base for Retirees

That the town of Weymouth increase the maximum base amount on which the COLA is calculated from \$12,000 to \$13,000 as of July 1, 2022.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 007-Appointment to the Cultural Council-Debbie Courteau

In accord with section 2-10 of the charter, submits Debbie Courteau of 201 Lake Street for appointment to the Cultural Council for a 3 year term to expire on June 30, 2025.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 008-Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals—Alternate-Russell Drysale, III

In accord with Section 2-10 of the charter, submits Russell Drysale, III of 475 East Street for appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals as an alternate for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 009-Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals-Alternate-Jonathan Lynch

In accord with Section 2-10 of the charter, submits Jonathan Lynch of 17 Grove Street for appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals as an alternate for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 010-Appointment to the Board of Library Trustees-Tracy Muniz-Gately

In accord with section 2-10 of the charter, submits Tracy Muniz-Gately of 12 Montcalm Street for appointment to the Board of Library Trustees for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 011- Appointment to the Community Events Committee-Matthew Murray

In accord with Section 2-10 of the charter, submits Matthew Murray of 1805 Commercial Street for appointment to the Community Events Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2022. This is to fill a term due to Ron Rizzo's resignation.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

22 012-Appointment to the Board of Health-Manan Patel

In accord with section 2-10 of the charter, submits Manan Patel for appointment to the Board of Health for a term to expire on June 30, 2025.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

22 002-Town Council Rules and Regulations for 2022-2024
-Council President Mathews

Pursuant to Town Council Rule 55, the Rules will be reviewed and adopted within 120 days following the first Council Meeting in every even year. He requests referral to the Rules Committee.

Councilor Molisse motioned for referral to the Rules Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

American Recovery Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)
Plans for Receipt and Expenditure of Funds
Councilor at Large, Lisa Belmarsh

Councilor Belmarsh announced that there is much infusion of funds through the CARES Act, and recently under ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act). More than \$30 million by the federal government to respond to COVID needs-\$17.8 million were granted to the Town of Weymouth from the federal government and an additional \$11 million from Norfolk County. The schools are slated to receive \$6.9 million. She noted that there are many rules one needs to follow and as this is the first time this funding has been issued, there are long term impacts inherent in how the funds are expended. Funding must be used within the next three years. A survey was conducted with the residents to determine where the funding should be spent. Councilor Belmarsh impressed the importance of prudent spending of these funds, she motioned for a referral to the Economic Development Committee for study. It was noted that administration forwarded details of ARPA and each Councilor received this evening. Motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Council will be Monday February 7, 2022 at 7:51 PM. There being no further business, Vice President Molisse made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Hachey as Recording Secretary

Approved by Arthur Mathews as President of the Town Council

Voted unanimously on 31 January 2022 at STC meeting.