

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Town Hall Council Chambers**  
**Zoom # 817 3914 9449**  
**April 5, 2021, Monday**

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

Also Present: Robert Hedlund, Mayor  
Ted Langill, Chief of Staff  
Lee Hultin, Assistant Town Clerk  
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor  
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor  
James Malary, Director of Municipal Finance  
Chief Richard Fuller, WPD

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

President Mathews called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Assistant Town Clerk Lee Hultin called the roll, with one member absent.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Burga announced a call for groups to sign up volunteers for the Mayor's Annual Town-wide Clean-up Day on Saturday, April 24, 2021. Registrations due by April 22, 2021.

Councilor Dwyer arrived (7:34 PM).

**MINUTES**

**Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2021**

Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 1, 2021 Budget/Management Committee meeting and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken:

Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

### **Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2021**

Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 1, 2021 Town Council meeting and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken:

Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

### **Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2021**

Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2021 Ordinance Committee meeting and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken:

Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **21 011-Joint Utility Petition-National Grid/Verizon Pole Relocation-Seaver Road**

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to open the public hearing on measure 21 011 and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken:

Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

Tim Lyford presented the measure on behalf of NGRID; that the Town of Weymouth grant permission to relocate poles, wires, cables and fixtures, including anchors, guys and other such necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way or ways, per Plan No. 29486312 dated 2/20/2020:

Seaver Road - Relocating Pole 9, 2' East and 10' +/- North of existing location in order to remove tree guy

President Mathews asked if there were any questions or comments from the public, to which there were none.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to close the public hearing on measure 21 011 and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken:

Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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 consider measure 21 011 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 Dwyer-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 approve measure 21 011; that the Town of Weymouth grant permission to relocate poles, wires, cables and fixtures, including anchors, guys and other such necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way or ways, per Plan No. 29486312 dated 2/20/2020 - Seaver Road, and was seconded by Councilor Kiely.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

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

### **21 029-Reappointment Recreation Commission-Stephen Ames**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Stephen Ames of 121 Pine Street to the Recreation Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

### **21 030-Reappointment Cultural Council-Joseph Brisbee**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Joseph Brisbee of 30 Madison Street to the for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

### **21 031-Reappointment Waterfront Committee-Nancy Blazo**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Nancy Blazo of 23 Regatta Road to the Waterfront Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 032-Reappointment Waterfront Committee-Paul Brooks**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Paul Brooks of 38 Ocean Avenue to the Waterfront Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 033-Reappointment Historical Commission-James Clarke**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint James Clarke of 86 Great Hill Drive to the Historical Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 034-Reappointment Community Events Committee-Michele Connaire**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Michele Connaire of 68 Sagamore Road to the Community Events Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 035-Reappointment Zoning Board of Appeals-Brandon Diem**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Brandon Diem of 22 Stratford Road to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**21 036-Reappointment Board of Library Trustees-Christa Dunn**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Christa Dunn of 56 Holbrook Road to the Board of Library Trustees for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 037-Reappointment Scholarship Fund Committee-Jamie Lane**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Jamie Lane of 28 Wadsworth Street to the Scholarship Fund Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 038-Reappointment Veteran's Council-Francine Nesson**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Francine Nesson of 19 Carol Street to the Veteran's Council for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 039-Reappointment Community Events Committee-Karyn O'Neil**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Karyn O'Neil of 149 Carolyn Road to the Community Events Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 040-Reappointment Cultural Council-Mary Pap**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Mary Pap of 60 Lovell Street to the Cultural Council for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

**21 041-Reappointment Planning Board-Paul Rotondo**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Paul Rotondo of 150 Park Avenue to the Planning Board for a term to expire on June 30, 2026.

**21 042-Reappointment Community Events Committee- Mary Roy**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Mary Roy of 31 Brae Road to the Community Events Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 043-Reappointment Scholarship Fund Committee-Annmarie Rush**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Annmarie Rush of 84 Mandalay Road to the Scholarship Fund Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 044-Reappointment Memorial Committee-Keith Spain**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Keith Spain of 15 Georgia Road to the Memorial Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 045-Reappointment Cemetery Commission-Deborah Sullivan**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Deborah Sullivan of 238 Park Avenue to the Cemetery Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 046-Reappointment Historical Commission-Jenn Weiss-Donovan**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Jenn Weiss-Donovan of 4 Payne Avenue to the Historical Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 047-Reappointment Local Emergency Planning Committee-Stephen White**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the Town Charter, reappoint Stephen White of 166 Lakeshore Drive to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 048-Reappointment Commission on Disabilities-Frank Burke**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the Town Charter, reappoint Frank Burke of 93 Bluff Road to the Commission on Disabilities for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

**21 049-Reappointment Cultural Council-Hong Vuong**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, reappoint Hong Vuong of 26 Paris Street to the Cultural Council for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to adopt the Reappointment List; Measures 21 029 through and including 21 049, and was seconded by Councilor Kiely.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

**21 050-Appointment Planning Board-Carston Snow Eikelberg**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, appoint Carston Snow-Eikelberg of 19 Blossom Lane to the Planning Board for a term to expire on June 30, 2024. This is to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of George Berg.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to refer measure 21 050 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

**21 051-Borrowing Authorization for Road and Sidewalk Repairs and Reconstruction**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth appropriate the sum of \$4,000,000 to pay costs associated with repairing and reconstructing town roads and sidewalks, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L.c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and that the Mayor is authorized to contract for an expend any grants, aid, or gifts available for this project; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary of convenient to carry out this project. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L.c.44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to refer measure 21 051 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. President Mathews reported he spoke with the Mayor, who will provide supporting materials to the Council before the next budget meeting.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

**21 052-Amend Measure 20 072 (Adams MS Renovation as Part of the New Chapman MS Project)**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth amend measure 20 072:

Strike the amount of \$3,000.000 and replace it with the amount of \$4,525,000, so the amended paragraph reads:

“Ordered, that the sum of \$4,525,000 is appropriated to pay costs associated with renovation and furnishing of the Abigail Adams Middle School including but not limited to, the school building, any existing or new ancillary buildings, garages, workshops, and any infrastructure or related site-work necessary to complete the associated project, located at 89 Middle Street, Weymouth, MA 02189, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and that the Mayor is authorized to contract for and expend any grants aid or gifts available for this project; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this project.”

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to refer measure 21 052 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

**21 053-Independent Audit Fee**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$4,000 from the Reserve Fund to Town Council Audit Fees for the purpose of funding an additional \$4,000 expense from the Independent Auditors (Melanson).

Town Auditor Swanson informed the administration that Melanson was required to perform additional audit work for the Federal Single Audit FY20 that was not budgeted in FY21. Melanson’s Engagement Letter for FY21 stipulates “Additional fees may apply if more than two federal programs must be audited.” Three federal programs were required to be audited.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to refer measure 21 053 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

**21 054-Water Retained Earnings-Libbey Park Replacement Well Implementation**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$350,000 from the Water Enterprise Fund's Retained Earnings for the purpose of funding the costs associated with the Libbey Park Replacement Well Implementation. This is item #60 in the FY22-26 Capital Improvements Plan.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to refer measure 21 054 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

**21 055-Community Preservation Fund Transfer for the Preservation of the First Church**

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, Director of Finance James Malary requested that the the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$178,738 from the Community Preservation Historic Resources Fund and \$254,262 from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, for a total of \$433,000, for historic architectural services for the restoration and preservation of the exterior of First Church as approved by the Community Preservation Committee.

A motion was made by Vice President Molisse to refer measure 21 055 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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 5, 2021 to deliberate the following measures:

**21 027-Authorizing the Weymouth Police Department to Enter Into a Five-Year Contract for Body Camera and Vehicle Video Communication Systems**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on March 15, 2021. The committee met on April 5, 2021 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.



On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve measure 21 027; that that the Town Council authorize the Town to enter into a contract for BodyWorn™ Camera and Vehicle Video & Communication Systems for a term of 5 years, commencing I 2021, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30B, Section 12 and Councilor seconded the motion. President Mathews reported that he had questions regarding the funding and the status of ongoing state legislation which were addressed in a call to the Mayor. He asked the Chief to explain what happens if the five-year contract the department adopts contradicts the legislation. Chief Fuller responded that they have been working on it for a year with the two unions. The policy they arrived at addresses any union concerns. The state legislation allows the unions the opportunity for input on policy and implementation. When the state comes out with its legislation by July 2022, if the language reads, “notwithstanding any collective bargaining...” then the collective bargaining agreements rule. If not, then the state’s language will govern.

Councilor Hackett offered a point of information. The measure is simply to approve a lease term greater than three years, and not the content of the agreement.

Auditor Swanson reported that he presented a list of his questions to the department that were sufficiently answered in writing, and in the earlier Budget/Management Committee meeting.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Recused, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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. VOTED 10-0; one recusal.

### **21 006-Wharf Street Incinerator Demolition and Site Remediation**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 16, 2021. The committee met on March 15 and on April 5, 2021 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. A public hearing was held on March 15, 2021.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve measure 21 006; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$940,000 from the Stabilization Fund to a capital project fund for the purpose of funding costs associated with the demolition of the wharf Street Incinerator and accompanying site remediation. Councilor Hackett seconded the motion.

Councilor Harrington read brief remarks-

*“The appearance of the razing of the incinerator and smokestack on tonight’s agenda got me interested and concerned about the balance of money in the compressor mitigation fund. We started with ten million and after the incinerator razing and fire truck requests, we’re down to seven and a half million. For over forty years this town has been agonizing over traffic issues in Columbian Square. Just this past Friday, there was a publicized report of an ambulance colliding with a passenger vehicle. It’s not an isolated event; it’s an almost constant occurrence. Columbian Square is the most dangerous town-controlled intersection in Weymouth. There’s a*

*significant crash there about once a week. Over the last forty years we've done at least a dozen studies regarding increasing safety in Columbian Square and we've concluded that signalization is necessary, but it's so expensive that we really couldn't afford to do the fix. Now we can. There's \$7.5 million dollars available from compressor mitigation money. Every town councilor receives many calls and emails regarding important potential projects, all across town. In South Weymouth, Columbian Square is the big one, but there are needs all over town. Over the past several days, I've spoken with several of my colleagues and Mayor Hedlund repeatedly. Initially, I was looking into slowing down the process about the incinerator removal and now, things have developed and I've developed a greater understanding about the process, and understanding of the timing of the process. I guess there's blasting that needs to be done sooner rather than later because of the herring. Our mayor also has plans to continue to ambitiously pave streets in town and that's also impacted by seasons and weather.*

*I feel that Mayor Hedlund was listening when I spoke to him about the importance of involving the council in creating a list of projects to be accomplished in a prioritized fashion. He has pledged to do this with the next cash windfall, so to speak, of over \$17 million in stimulus money due in in May of this year.*

*Frequent and open communication between the mayor and the council is critical in building and rebuilding trust and in working to improve and run our town efficiently. North Weymouth needs seawalls and major fire station improvements, safe and sanitary facilities at the beaches, a boardwalk for quality of life and enhancement in property values. South Weymouth needs to manage traffic safety better. There have been hundreds of crashes in Columbian Square resulting in serious injuries and in property damages. The removal of the incinerator and stack will beautify that waterfront area in conjunction with the Mill Overlay project. I now have good reason to believe it will all occur. Sufficient funds are now available and the mayor has pledged to be communicative and cooperative.*

*I urge my colleagues to continue to work together and with the mayor towards getting our momentum going again. Together we rebuilt almost all of our community parks, built a wonderful new library, and the Chapman School project is roaring forward. It's spring, it's Easter, and the pandemic is withering. I, for one, am ready to put the pedal to the metal to get things done. I feel confident in speaking with my colleagues and with the mayor and Ted Langill that there will be significant forward motion regarding communications between the council and the administration. Lists will be developed and prioritized with input from the council. Our interest and concerns will be heard and addressed. So, therefore, tonight, I will be in favor of this project because of these recent developments with the Mayor and in this new era in the spirit of communication and cooperation."*

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

**21 025-Appointment to the Board of Registrars-Lisa Knoppe-Reed**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on March 15, 2021. The committee met on April 5, 2021 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. Ms. Knoppe-Reed was introduced to the council. She cited her past experience volunteering in the election process.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve measure 21 025; that the town of Weymouth, in accordance with 2-10 of the Town Charter appoint Lisa Knoppe-Reed of to the Board of Registrars for a term to expire on June 30, 2022. Councilor Hackett seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken: (Councilor Burga-connection briefly interrupted), Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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, 10-0.

**21 026-Appointment to the Conservation Commission-Alexander Donovan**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on March 15, 2021. The committee met on April 5, 2021 and voted to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. Mr. Donovan was introduced to the Council. He reported that he volunteered with the Open Space Committee and Recreation Department and brings BSA leader and architectural construction management experience for a balanced perspective between construction management and conservation to the town.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve measure 21 026; That the town of Weymouth, in accordance with 2-10 of the Town Charter, appoint Alexander Donovan of 4 Payne Avenue to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2021, to fill the vacancy created by the death of Thomas Tanner. Councilor Kiely seconded the motion.

Vice President Molisse thanked Mr. Tanner’s family for his years of public service to the town.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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

**Charter Review Committee Submission Deadline- Council President Arthur Mathews/Councilor Rebecca Haugh**

President Mathews reported that he put this on the agenda tonight to try to speed the process along. He has concerns with the delay in the process. The Charter Review Committee finished its deliberations six months ago, and he has been waiting for a report to come before Council. He provided a chronological timeline of the process, with the hopes that it will move it forward. He read the following statement:

*“Pursuant to Section 8-5 of the Weymouth Town Charter, a review of the Charter is required every ten years for the purpose of review and preparation of a proposed revision. By May 1, 2020, the committee will file a report with the town clerk, and by June 15, 2020, the report must be submitted to the town council. As we all know, we are in the midst of a global pandemic, but in order to adhere to the charter, we need to address what the status is of the report, from the town solicitor. It’s important to note that the measure, once it’s received, must be referred to the Ordinance Committee, which needs to meet and deliberate, a public hearing must be scheduled, and the Ordinance Committee make its recommendation to the Town Council. Additionally, the Town Clerk is required to notify the public in a mailing of any proposed revision 35 days before the November 2, 2021 election. These are the events leading up to today:*

*4/18/20- Councilor Haugh sent President Mathews and Chair of the Charter Review Committee an email asking if the Charter Review Committee has to do anything legislatively in town, seeing as the COVID closure has prevented meetings and we most likely would not make the May 1, 2020 deadline.*

*4/18/20- President Mathews forwarded email to Solicitor Callanan asking for guidance. Never received a response.*

*4/28/20 and 5/5/20- Dian Hachey asked Solicitor Callanan for follow up to President Mathews’ April 18<sup>th</sup> inquiry. No responses.*

*10/14/20- CRC completed their work and voted to recommend their revisions, and the solicitor was to prepare a report for filing.*

*2/25/21- 4 months since the committee completed its work, I sent a memo to the Mayor questioning the status of the CRC and ORC and didn’t receive a response.*

*3/4/21- (5 months later) the solicitor submitted a report to the committee and asked that they sign. This was questioned by the committee, as they voted to allow the chair to approve the recommended revisions (excerpt from 10/14/20 minutes)*

*3/10/21- a committee member pointed out to the solicitor several revisions were voted by the committee were not in the report.*

*3/31/21- the solicitor issued a corrected CRC report to the members, and again, asked for signatures after it was pointed out to him that this is not necessary.*

*As of this meeting, we have not received the CRC report from the solicitor, more than 11 months after it was due, pursuant to the charter.”*

He then read a memo he sent to the Mayor on February 25, 2021:

*I am writing to express my concern that the above committees are behind in meeting their deadlines, pursuant to Charter Section 8-5.*

*The Charter Review Committee timeline states that by May 1, 2020 the committee will file its report with the Town Clerk, and that by June 15, 2020, the report must be submitted to Town Council.*

*When I was first appointed Town Council President, I sent a memorandum to your office questioning why the Charter Review Committee hadn't yet scheduled a meeting. My understanding is that the committee has completed their deliberations, and at their meeting of October 14, 2020, voted to recommend their revisions, and the Solicitor was to file the committee report with the Town Council on behalf of the committee. I also understand that the Charter Review Committee chair has approved all minutes.*

*As the Town Council has yet to deliberate this measure, schedule and hold a public hearing and vote; all while meeting the deadlines inherent to place these revisions on the November 2, 2021 ballot for the voters; I am asking the status of the Solicitor's report. Additionally, a mailing must be completed to the voters to advise them of said changes. To this end, the report of the Charter Review Committee must be submitted to the Town Council as soon as possible in order that we proceed accordingly.*

*As far as the Ordinance Review Committee, I appointed my members on July 29, 2-2- and you appointed mayoral members on August 6, 2020. Pursuant to the Charter, the report of this committee is due to the Town Clerk by May 1, 2021 and a report to the Town Council by June 15, 2021.*

*As of today, a meeting has yet to be scheduled for the committee to organize- I am requesting that you call a meeting as soon as possible in order that the committee begin its deliberation and have sufficient time to conduct their review. (This has since occurred.)*

*Excerpted from 10/14/20 CRC minutes:*

*"Atty. Callanan suggested that the committee can delegate an individual to perform the last administrative, non-substantive things left to do for the committee (approving the final report and approving the final minutes)..."*

*...On a motion made by Mr. Moody, seconded by Councilor Hackett, the committee approved the chair and vice chair, on behalf of the committee, to make any non-substantive changes within seven days of receiving the updated final draft report and minutes from September 30, 2020 and October 14, 2020. 8-0-0 unanimous roll call vote."*

Councilor Haugh reported that she served on the committee and thanked the President for the appointment. She also thanked the other members. A lot of time was devoted to reviewing every section of the charter. Their work was completed on October 14, 2020, and due to whatever miscommunication, they still do not have the report. It is very frustrating for them after all of the hours of work and there are 7-8 changes that the Town Council has to consider in order to get it on a ballot in November. She pointed out that they are in a time crunch, coming into budget season. It must have a public hearing. The Council needs to get the report and get their work done.

President Mathews asked how long the report is? Councilor Haugh responded that there are 7-8 changes and many are minor. It is certainly doable if they can get the report and refer it to the Ordinance Committee, to get it on this year's ballot. The Council process still has to take place.

Solicitor Callanan commented that the final Charter Review report is in the Council office awaiting signatures. He is not a member of the committee and not the only full-time town staff member on the committee. He noted it's not unlike the Charter Review Committee, which is under his supervision. The Charter Review Committee is not under his supervision. He is one of the staff people trying to help out the committee. He is happy to answer questions, but is not a member of the committee, nor the only staff person helping the committee. As he understands, it is in the Council office and can be filed. He is at a loss as to what has taken place over the last months.

Council President asked for an explanation as to why signatures are required if the committee voted the chair and vice-chair could vote on behalf of the committee.

Solicitor Callanan responded that he had not heard that from the chair or vice-chair.

President Mathews pointed out that is his interpretation from reading the minutes. If the solicitor is fine with it, he will file the report. He did not get responses from the solicitor or mayor and will pursue submitting it to the clerk's office and place on the agenda next meeting.

Councilor Burga asked why signatures are needed if the committee voted they are not. President Mathews provided the explanation. Councilor Hackett responded that she will focus on this. Councilor Haugh did also, and suggested it be submitted tomorrow. There is no further work for the committee to do and does not need Councilor Hackett to do anything further. The administration did not follow through. Corrections were made after the report was issued. President Mathews suggested that even if the final two committee members sign the report, it will be filed with the clerk's office by the end of the week.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Council will be Tuesday, April 20, 2020, due to Patriots' Day Observance. At 8:37 PM; there being no further business, Vice President Molisse made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Heffernan.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor DiFazio-Yes, Councilor Dwyer-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.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Arthur Mathews as President of the Town Council  
Voted unanimously on 17 May 2021