

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Weymouth Town Hall
Council Chambers
April 19, 2016

Present: Patrick O'Connor, President
Michael Smart, Vice President
Robert Conlon, Councilor
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor
Jane Hackett, Councilor
Ed Harrington, Councilor
Rebecca Haugh, Councilor
Thomas J. Lacey, Councilor
Arthur Mathews, Councilor
Brian McDonald, Councilor
Michael Molisse, Councilor

Also Present: Mayor Robert Hedlund
Ted Langill, Chief of Staff
Nicholas Bulens, Administrative Services Coordinator
Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
David Tower, Business Manager
John MacLeod, Construction Supervisor

Recording Secretary: Diane Hachey

President O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathleen Deree called the roll, with all members present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Smart announced that the Mayor is hosting Weyfest on June 18, which is an old fashioned block party, festivities start at 11am and end at 8pm with musical entertainment. Please visit weyfestweymouth.com for further details.

Councilor Lacey announced that the New England Wildlife Center is hosting an event "Stand Together to Stop Addiction" on April 21, 2016 from 6-8:30 PM. The event is sponsored by Sheriff Bellotti and District Attorney Morrissey.

MINUTES

Ordinance Committee Minutes of March 7, 2016

A motion was made by Vice President Smart to approve the minutes from the Ordinance Committee meeting of March 7, 2016 and was seconded by Councilor Mathews.
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Rules Committee Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2016

A motion was made by Vice President Smart to approve the minutes from the Rules Committee meeting of March 7, 2016 and was seconded by Councilor Mathews.
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Public Hearings

7:35 PM (continued from April 4, 2016)

16 014-National Grid Gas Main Petition-Pond Street

Vice President Smart motioned to continue the public hearing, noting that abutters were notified on March 25, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously. President O'Connor noted that the hearing was continued due to inclement weather.

Dennis Regan of National Grid presented in request of installing a gas main at Pond Street and Galway Road. At the last public hearing patching issues were raised and he brought this to his manager's attention and it was determined that the issue doesn't belong to National Grid.

Vice President Smart asked who the responsible party is and Mr. Regan stated that the town's Department of Public Works department has reached out to Joe Cardinal at National Grid.

The following are the comments from the public:

Harvey Welch of 674 Pond Street stated that a precast factory is looking for gas installation and they are not good neighbors. He noted that they attempted to install a cell tower in the past. Saturday noise is affecting quality of life for the neighbors, land was filled in all the way back to the railroad tracks and properties are flooding, and mosquitoes are prevalent. He feels that problems should be mitigated, water flow should be north to south down Pond Street, prior to approving this petition.

Vice President Smart motions to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Vice President Smart motions for consideration under 2-9 (b), motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Vice President Smart motioned for favorable action on measure number 16 014, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews. Councilor Smart asked of Mr. Regan and administration: that issues raised by Mr. Welch are considered and investigated accordingly. He doesn't want to hold this measure hostage as it has been before the Council for some time-- so he impresses upon administration and NGrid to alleviate Mr. Welch's concerns.

Voted unanimously.

7:36 PM 16 025-Overlay Surplus and Free Cash Transfer for Improvements to the John McCulloch Building

Vice President Smart motioned to open the public hearing, noting that this was advertised on 8 April. Mr. MacLeod and Ted Langill presented and are requesting \$131,643.12 from free cash and \$428,356.88 from overlay surplus reserve fund, totaling \$560,000-- to fund the costs associated with building repairs to the McCulloch Building. The roof, floor of the gym, walking trail for seniors, a 970 foot walkway for seniors, and a parking lot refurbish are items on the list to be completed.

President O'Connor asked for comments from the public, to which there was no response.

Vice President Smart motions to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

7:37 PM 16 026-Free Cash for Guardrail and Fencing Improvements

Vice President Smart motioned to open the public hearing, noting that this was advertised on 8 April, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

The Mayor, Mr. Langill and Mr. MacLeod presented noting that work has commenced on this project and they are seeking funding to continue--a contract is in place. Councilor Hackett noted that at Budget/Management she requested a breakdown and current balance of free cash, she noted that 3 million remains after this evening's measures are approved.

Councilor Lacey asked for an explanation of the bidding process. Mr. MacLeod noted that it is an annual bid which was conducted last May, only one bid was received.

Council President O'Connor asked for comments from the public to which there was no response.

Vice President Smart motions to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

7:38 PM 16 027-Free Cash for a Public Works Aerial Lift Vehicles

Vice President Smart motioned to open the public hearing, noting that this was advertised on 8 April-motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Mr. Tower presented and noted that DPW is requesting a lift vehicle equipped with a 35 foot boom for purposes of replacing an outdated vehicle which is utilized for tree trimming and downed wires.

Council President O'Connor asked for comments from the public, to which there was no response.

Vice President Smart motions to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

7:39 PM 16 029-Free Cash for Sidewalk Repairs

Vice President Smart motioned to open the public hearing, noting that this was advertised on 8 April-motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

DPW is requesting funding to complete town wide improvements to sidewalks. The work is being done in- house, which results in monetary savings. It was noted that Chapter 90 funding only allows for so much, we are mixing in -house crews with outside contractors in order to complete the restorations.

Councilor Hackett noted that administration committed at Budget/Management to supplying a breakdown of expenditures.

Council President O'Connor requested comments from the public to which there was no response.

Vice President Smart motions to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

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

PRESENTATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2017 OPERATING BUDGET **MAYOR HEDLUND, TED LANGILL-CHIEF OF STAFF**

Council President O'Connor announced that the power point presentation will be posted on the website for the public to view.

Mayor Hedlund notes that the town meeting will be held May 23, 2016 and this is an overview via a power point presentation (attached).

He delivered an overview and highlighted as follows:

- \$155.5 million operating budget, 4% increase over fiscal year 2016

- a balanced, fiscally responsible operating budget, of which free cash is used to supplement the schools and he wants the current revenues to serve their purpose

- level service budget with modest growth

- cooperative, open collaboration with School Administration
- focus is on addressing capital needs with appropriate revenue sources
- flexible to absorb CBA settlements
- optimistic that growing recurring revenues and responsible spending will allow progress in addressing town needs
- fiscal year 2017 revenue has increased by 4% to \$155,506,272
- tax levy is increasing by 62.5% or \$12,900,000
- state aid is increasing by 23.9% or \$37,193,663
- tax levy is a \$3.7 million increase, 4%
- motor vehicle excise is increasing by 5.6% or \$325,000
- state aid increase is 2.5% or \$907,000
- Building permits will see an increase totaling \$325,000
- impacts to the town's operating expenses are an increase in state assessments and recycling charges, and health insurance costs are down, as is debt service
- schools represent 41.9 % or \$65,160,413 of the total budget
- pensions and benefits represent 21.7% or \$33,785,333 of the total budget
- Police department accounts for 7.4% of the total budget which is \$11,561,305
- Fire Department accounts for 5.5% or \$8,569,626 of the budget
- Public Works represents 6.6% or \$10,292,878 of the entire budget
- Debt Service allocation is 6.4% or \$9,958,884
- total revenue increase for fiscal year 2017 over 2016 is \$5,916,584
- Enterprise budget changes are a modest change in the sewer budget of \$582,994 or a 3.8% increase
- the Water enterprise budget is only seeing a nominal increase of \$613

-The MWRA assessment rate is increasing by 5.7% which will be passed onto the rate payers

-School department operating budget in fiscal year 2016 was \$61,979,972, broken down as follows:

Free cash structural deficit \$1,650,000
Remaining level services \$1,252,769
IT support added positions \$120,000
SPED additional teacher \$56,359 (is calculated into NSS formula)

Total fiscal year 2017 school budget allocation is \$65,160,413

-FY 17 capital expenditures for the schools

\$900,000 IT Infrastructure and equipment
\$150,000 textbooks and curriculum development
\$1,050,000 total capital investments

-Capital Spending

Proposed Capital Improvements

Fencing, guardrails, sidewalks, senior center, park improvements, school IT, school curriculum, DPW vehicles, police cruisers and motorcycles, fire engine, improving traffic signalization

Councilor DiFazio asked about the outstanding collective bargaining agreements and the effect they will have on the budget. Mr. Langill feels comfortable that this budget is able to absorb those costs.

Councilor DiFazio further urged that the \$3m road program includes street acceptances, noting that we put a handful through each year. Mayor Hedlund acknowledged that the town solicitor, and the DPW Director are working collectively to streamline the program and put safeguards in place for many new subdivisions coming due.

Councilor DiFazio asked if any bonding is contemplated for big projects down the road. Mayor confirms that there is nothing immediate in terms of bonding but they are looking at several recreation projects.

Councilor Hackett thanks administration for its candor and a great presentation and appreciates not utilizing free cash for recurring expenses. Mayor Hedlund noted that he hasn't had luck securing a CFO and thanked the department heads and Ted for crafting the budget. She notes that the Mayor is to be commended for what he has accomplished during his short period of time in office.

Councilor Conlon wishes that the contribution to the OPEB account was more, but it is what it is. He notes that it is recommended that we fund OPEEB and this shows that we

are making an effort, he likes the practicality of the school budget and the improvements being made to the town's infrastructure.

Councilor Molisse thanked administration and announced that he will be holding Budget/Management meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning at 6PM and looks forward to reviewing each department's budgets.

Councilor Smart asked for the backup for water/sewer measures, noting that the Budget/Management Committee needs these before they can deliberate.

Council President O'Connor noted that administration has done a thorough and excellent job and Ted Langill is to be commended, especially as there is the transition from one administration to another.

Ted acknowledges the hard work and involvement of the department heads and noted Bill McKinney's expertise which he lended. Also thanks were extended to Nick Bulens, who was his right hand person, the Budget/Management Committee and Council staff.

16 031-Proposed Amendment to Southfield Zoning and Land Use By-Laws/Solar

Nick Bulens presented on behalf of the Mayor's Office and requests that an amendment to the Zoning and Land Use By-Laws for the NAS, which were recently revised in November of 2015. Councilor Smart motioned for joint referral to the Ordinance and Environmental Committees, in addition to the Planning Board; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 033-Appointment to the Commission on Disabilities/John MacLeod

Nick Bulens requests that John MacLeod is appointed to the Commission on Disabilities. Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Motion to bundle reappointment measures number 16 034 through 16 058 was made by Councilor Smart; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously:

16 034-Reappointment to the Cemetery Commission/Michael Crowley

16 035-Reappointment to the Community Events Committee/Ron Rizzo

16 036-Reappointment to the Community Preservation Committee/Patricia O'Leary

16 037-Reappointment to the Commission on Disabilities/Ron Evans

16 038-Reappointment to the Commission on Disabilities/Francesco Hladysz

16 039-Reappointment to the Board of Elder Services/Diane Oliverio

16 040-Reappointment to the Board of Elder Services/William Begley

16 041-Reappointment to the Board of Elder Services/Laureen Pizzi

16 042-Reappointment to the Historical Commission/Rodney Lundin

16 043-Reappointment to the Historical Commission/Cathy Torrey

16 044-Reappointment to the Memorial Committee/Joan Anderson

16 045-Reappointment to the Redevelopment Authority/George Berg

16 046-Reappointment to the Youth Coalition/Mary Jordan Roy

16 047-Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals/Richard McLeod

16 048-Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals/Jonathan Moriarty

16 049-Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals/Brandon Diem

16 050-Reappointment to the WETC Board of Directors/Glenn Heath

16 051-Reappointment to the Scholarship Fund Committee/Karen McCaffery

16 052-Reappointment to the Board of Library Trustees/Cathy Torrey

16 053-Reappointment to the Board of Library Trustees/Patricia O'Leary

16 054-Reappointment to the Cultural Council/Judith Beth Cohen

16 055-Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals/Brad Vinton

16 056-Reappointment to the Construction Steering Committee/Gilbert Starkey

16 057-Reappointment to the Cultural Council/Patrick Angland

16 058-Reappointment to the Cultural Council/Charlotte Champagne

Motion to refer measures 16 034 through 16 058 to the Budget/Management Committee; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 059-Appointment to the Recreation Commission/Keith Ricci

Nick Bulens requests that Keith Ricci is appointed to the Recreation Commission. Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 060-Appointment to the Planning Board/George Berg

Nick Bulens requests that George Berg is appointed to the Planning Board. Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 061-Appointment to the Historical Commission/Jenn Weiss Donovan

Nick Bulens requests that Jenn Weiss Donovan is appointed to the Historical Commission. Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 062-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund-School Maintenance Vehicles

Nick Bulens requests that \$83,874 is raised and appropriated from the Special Purpose Stabilization fund for capital projects for the purpose of funding costs regarding the purchase of two school vehicles.

Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 063-Free Cash for Veterans' Memorial Wall

Nick Bulens requests that \$50,000 is transferred from free cash to fund the engineering and design work for the restoration of the Veterans' Memorial Wall.

Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 064-Fire Department Line Item Transfer

Nick Bulens requests that \$150,000 is transferred from fire suppression salaries to fire suppression overtime for funding the projected overtime expenses for the fire department; and further that \$10,000 is transferred from fire suppression salaries to the building maintenance account to fund costs associated with completion of the fire alarm relocation project.

Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 065-CPA Request for Funding-Design & Permitting for the Daylighting of the Smelt Run, Weymouth Landing

Nick Bulens requests that \$100,000 is raised and appropriated from the unreserved fund balance account for the design and permitting of the Smelt Run in the Landing.

Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Councilor Smart motions to bundle measures 16 066 through 16 079; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously:

Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Measures:

16 066-General Government Annual Appropriation (segregated by department and coded alphabetically)

Nick Bulens requests on behalf of Mayor Hedlund, that the town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$155,506,272 to provide for all expenses for the maintenance and operation of the town's several departments and activities for the fiscal year 2017, and that the several sums herein set forth are hereby approved for the several purposes and are subject to the conditions specified. The sources of funding for said expenditures are as outlined in the revenue projections. Furthermore, that the sum of \$50,000 is appropriated from the waterways fund to meet some of the costs of the Harbormaster's program.

16 067-Revolving Accounts Annual Authorization

16 068-Gift Accounts Annual Authorization

16 069-Unpaid Bills

16 070-MTBE Settlement Transfer for Fiscal Year 2016 Snow Removal

16 071-Free Cash for Fiscal Year 2016 Snow Removal

16 072-Sewer Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

16 073-Sewer Department-MWRA I/I Phase 9 Allocation

16 074-Sewer Retained Earnings-Capital Equipment

16 075-Water Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

16 076-Water Retained Earnings-Water Main Improvements

16 077-Water Retained Earnings-Capital Equipment

16 078-Water Retained Earnings-Water Treatment Plant

16 079-Community Preservation Committee Annual Appropriation

Councilor Smart motions for referral of measures 16 067-16 079 to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

16 080-CPA Request for Funding-Real Estate Appraisal Services

Nick Bulens requests that \$3,000 is raised and appropriated from the unreserved fund balance account for real estate appraisal services to determine the value of a parcel in North Weymouth.

Councilor Smart motions for referral of measure 16 080 to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Budget/Management Committee/Chairman Michael Molisse

16 011-General Fund Reserve Transfer for Department of Municipal Licenses and Inspection Expenses

Councilor Molisse noted that this was referred on February 16, the committee met on March 21 and tabled for more information. The committee met again this evening and voted unanimous favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 011; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

16 023-Reserve Fund Transfer for Special State Senate Election

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure was referred on March 21 and the committee met this evening and voted unanimous favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 023; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

16 024-Reserve Fund Transfer for Special Pension Payment for Military Service

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure was referred on March 21 and the committee met this evening and voted unanimous favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 024; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

16 025-Overlay Surplus and Free Cash Transfer for Improvements to the John F. McCulloch Building

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure was referred on March 21 and the committee met this evening and also held a public hearing.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 025; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

16 026-Free Cash for Guardrail and Fencing Improvements

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure was referred on March 21 and the committee met this evening. It was noted that an amendment to the measure was made regarding the line item referenced--it is for a professional account and should be the street maintenance account number 14104460-531106.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 026 as amended; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

16 027-Free Cash for a Public Works Aerial Lift Vehicle

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure was referred on March 21 and the committee met this evening and voted unanimous favorable action. A public hearing was also held this evening.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 027; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

16 028-Free Cash for Green and East Streets Traffic Signal

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure was referred on March 21 and the committee met this evening and voted unanimous favorable action. A public hearing was also conducted this evening.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 028; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

16 029-Free Cash for Sidewalk Repairs

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure was referred on March 21 and the committee met this evening and voted unanimous favorable action-a public hearing was held tonight.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 029; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

16 016-Contract for Independent Audit-FY16 through FY18

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure still remains in committee.

16 030-CDBG and Home Budget Authorization 2016-2017

Councilor Molisse noted that this measure was referred on April 4 and the committee met this evening and voted unanimous favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 16 030; motion was seconded by Vice President Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

NEW BUSINESS

16 032-Call of the Special State Election on May 10, 2016 -action requested under 2-9(b)-Vice President Michael Smart

Councilor Smart requests that in the name of the Commonwealth, the town of Weymouth is hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, who are qualified to vote in the Special State Election, to vote on Tuesday May 10, 2016.

Councilor Smart motions for action under 2-9(b), motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Councilor Smart motions for favorable action on measure number 16 032; motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Smart announced that the next regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting will be held on **Monday, May 2, 2016.**

At 9:26PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Smart to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor McDonald. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Hachey as Recording Secretary.

Approved by Council President Patrick O'Connor

Approved unanimously on 15 August 2016