

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Weymouth Town Hall**  
**Council Chambers**  
**April 4, 2016, Monday**

Present: Patrick O'Connor, President  
Michael Smart, Vice President  
Robert Conlon, Councilor  
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor  
Jane Hackett, Councilor  
Rebecca Haugh, Councilor  
Thomas Lacey, Councilor  
Brian McDonald, Councilor

Absent: Ed Harrington, Councilor  
Arthur Mathews, Councilor  
Michael Molisse, Councilor

Also Present: Ted Langill, Chief of Staff  
Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk  
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor  
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

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 three members absent.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Lacey announced that the NE Wildlife Center at 500 Columbian Street is hosting a community evening, 6-8 PM on April 21, 2016 with Norfolk County District Attorney Michael Morrissey, Judge Marybeth Heffernan and Sheriff Michael Bellotti – "Stand Together to Beat Addiction."

Councilor Conlon announced his constituent hours to be held on Tuesday April 5, 2016, 10-11 AM in the Council Chambers. He is not holding afternoon office hours.

**MINUTES**

**Ordinance Committee Minutes of February 21, 2016**

A motion was made by Vice President Smart to approve the minutes from the Ordinance Committee meeting of February 21, 2016 and was seconded by Councilor Lacey.  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2016**

A motion was made by Vice President Smart to approve the minutes from the Budget/Management Committee meeting of March 21, 2016 and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2016**

A Motion was made by Vice President Smart to Approve the minutes from the Town Council meeting of March 21, 2016 and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **16 014-National Grid Gas Main Petition- Pond Street**

A motion was made by Vice President Smart to open the public hearing on measure 16 014 and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. Abutters were notified on March 25, 2016. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Dennis Regan, Permit Representative for National Grid, presented the request. He noted he has received a phone call from an abutter about restoration and has reached out to National Grid to address the problem. The petition seeks consent to install and maintain 850' of 4" gas main from the existing main on Pond Street at Galway Road, southerly to the Abington town line.

Vice President Smart asked if National Grid would notify residents prior to opening trenches and address any access issues. Mr. Regan responded that the small holes left each day will be plated, weather permitting. Crew will meet with the DPW Director before work commences.

The following were the comments from the public:

**Jennifer Costello, 609 Pond Street (corner of Galway and Pond)** reported that she is the resident who contacted Mr. Regan regarding the issue with reconstruction. The last project restoration is inadequate. She asked if the other side of the road will be repaved or patched after the job is complete and whether a police detail will be on duty while the work is underway. She does not have a problem with the gas line work, but the standards used to finish the road. Pond Street supports larger sized vehicle traffic and the poorly restored road has potholes that have already needed to be refilled several times. Vice President Smart responded that the lower end of the street was on the previous Mayor's repaving program list. The Council has been diligently trying to get the utilities to adhere to the town's standards. He explained the process and will check with the Mayor's office to see if this is on the repaving list. Ms. Costello asked if it is planned for the other side of Pond Street to be repaved? Councilor Smart noted that the lower end of Pond Street was on the previous administration's repaving program.

**Gerry Tirrell, 625 Pond (father of owner Jeff Tirrell)** asked if there is no gas on Pond Street currently? Mr. Regan responded that they will upgrade 2 to 4" pipe to adequately address the need. He reviewed the plan for Mr. Tirrell. Mr. Tirrell also suggested that if the weather were better, the public hearing might be better attended by the neighbors. He expected more were planning to attend.

Councilor Haugh asked who she should contact at National Grid for an update to the report a few months ago that addressed the number and severity of gas leaks throughout the town. Mr. Regan referred her to contact Dennis McCaffrey.

Councilor Lacey asked why the resident at Galway Road's concerns have not already been resolved. He noted the need to reinforce, per the ordinance, that it be addressed so residents don't have to come back to the Council to plead for resolution.

Councilor DiFazio suggested due to the weather keeping attendance low, the public hearing should be continued.

A motion was made by Vice President Smart to continue the public hearing on measure 16 014 to April 19, 2016 and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Spectra's Proposed Compressor Station Public Comment Letters**

- Mass DEP/Chapter 91 Waterways License**
- Weymouth Conservation Commission/Wetlands Protection Act**
- District One Councilor Rebecca Haugh**

Councilor Haugh provided an update and follow up; the project is in the open comment period. A meeting was held last Monday with Mass DEP. There are multiple agencies they can reach out to and is prudent they do so.

A motion was made by Councilor Haugh to draft a letter as a Council to Mass DEP, in opposition to granting a Chapter 91 Waterway License and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. Deadline for submitting comments is April 19, 2016. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Councilor Haugh to draft a letter as a Council to the Conservation Commission against issuing a license, in accordance with the Weymouth Wetlands Protection Act and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. Councilor Haugh provided a draft of the letter to the Council. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Councilor Haugh noted that Spectra came before the Council on September 21, 2015 and several questions were put forward and they were asked to visit the alternate sites and existing compressor stations and to report back to the Council. It was noted that there has not been a response to date. President O'Connor asked if the Council should formally request a response.

A motion was made by Councilor Haugh to draft a letter to Spectra formally requesting a response to the questions that were posed at the September 21, 2015 meeting and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. Councilor Lacey noted that the company has provided a 4-minute presentation for a project with a major impact to the South Shore and high risk to Weymouth. It's frustrating to him to watch the manner in which this company works and they need to demand they follow up on what they have committed to. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

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

### **16 030-CDBG and HOME Budget Authorization 2016-2017**

Nick Bulens requested on behalf of the Mayor that the Town of Weymouth accepts the fiscal Year 2016-2017 CDBG and HOME grants in the amounts of \$635,910 for CDBG and \$136,672 in HOME Investment Partnership Grant Funds. Furthermore, that the Director of Planning and Community Development, with the approval of the Mayor, be permitted to expend said grants in their entirety as described on the attached funding allocation list.

A motion was made by Vice President Smart to refer measure 16 030 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

### **Rules Committee-Michael Smart, Chairman**

#### **16 008 Review of the Town Council Rules and Regulations, 2016-2018**

Vice President Smart reported that the matter was referred to the Rules Committee on February 1, 2016. The committee met on to March 7, 2016 to review the Town Council Rules and Regulations for 2016-2018 and three proposed amendments were received. He reviewed the amendments for the Council.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, a motion was made by Vice President Smart to adopt the Rules and Regulations for 2016-2018, as amended, and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2016 due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

At 8:04 PM; there being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Smart to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary.

Approved by Council President Patrick O'Connor

Voted unanimously on 2 May 2016