

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Town Hall Council Chambers
September 2, 2014

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

Not Present: Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor
Brian McDonald, Councilor

Also Present: Mayor Susan M. Kay
Michael Gallagher, Director of Administrative & Community Services
George Lane, Town Solicitor
Kathy Deree, Town Clerk
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
William McKinney, Chief Financial Officer

Recording Secretary: Diane T. Hachey

President O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathy Deree called the roll, with Councilors McDonald and DiFazio absent. President O'Connor spoke with each Councilor who were unable to attend due to family commitments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Susan M. Kay/Announcement of Appointees to Southfield Redevelopment Authority Board of Directors

Mayor Kay announced that she has appointed Walter Flynn and Patricia O'Leary as the town's two appointees to the Southfield Redevelopment Authority (SRA).

She noted that Mr. Flynn is a community activist, Planning Board Member, Community Preservation Committee Member, Chair of the Master Plan Committee, retired for 20 years as a Lieutenant Colonel, and worked for the city of Boston as a Budget Analyst.

Pat O'Leary was on the Library Board of Trustees, past President of the East Weymouth Neighborhood Association, has a degree from Boston State, was a Management Analyst for the EPA, and was a Grant Specialist for the Corps. of Engineers.

The Mayor noted that the Southfield Redevelopment Authority consists of two members appointed by the Mayor of Weymouth, two by the Rockland Selectmen, one by the Abington Selectmen, one by the Southfield Neighborhood Association, one by the Norfolk County Labor Council and one by the

South Shore Chamber of Commerce. The ninth member must be a resident of Southfield, who is nominated by the Neighborhood Association, and appointed by both Weymouth and Rockland.

Mayor Kay stated that six members of the nine member board have been appointed, with the remaining members to be in place shortly. She further noted that Mr. McKinney is working closely with the Department of Revenue in order to meet all deadlines.

Walter Flynn was not in attendance, but Pat O'Leary stated that she appreciates the opportunity to serve on the Southfield Redevelopment Authority and looks forward to the challenges ahead.

Councilor Harrington commends the Mayor for her selection to the SRA, he considers this an opportunity which is akin to a new beginning. As Chair of the Economic Development and Long Range Planning Committees, he looks forward to future discussions on this subject.

Mayor Kay announced that the Advisory Board is meeting tomorrow evening, and Mr. Perry from Mass DOR will attend the meeting, with discussion around financial matters. The current SSTDC budget expires September 30th; all newly appointed members are invited to the meeting but will not vote.

An additional announcement was from Councilor Conlon. The Norfolk County Register of Deeds will hold office hours in Council Chambers on September 25, 2014 from 10-12. Members will be available to answer questions about the Massachusetts Homestead Act, as well as check the status of mortgage discharge, and print out deeds--no appointment is necessary.

Minutes

Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2014

A motion made by Councilor Smart to approve the Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2014, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Budget/ Management Committee Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2014

A motion made by Councilor Smart to approve the Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2014, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2014

A motion made by Councilor Smart to approve the Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2014, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY COMMENT

Francesco Hladysz of 35 Meredith Way

Commission on Disabilities Member-Special Education

Mr. Hladysz noted that he is a member of the Commission on Disabilities, he knows we all want what is best for our children and when budgets/funds are cut he asks himself if it is worth it. He stated that people with disabilities need more help than others, and we need to not give up on those with disabilities. He requests that when you see a disabled person you help them to achieve their dreams and goals -a disabled person doesn't need a hand out but a hand up.

President O'Connor thanked Mr. Hladysz and noted that he sees him often at the State House and confirmed that the Town Council is an advocate for additional funding for special education.

Public Hearings

7:35 PM 14 093-National Grid Utility Petition/Park Avenue East

Councilor Smart motioned to open the public hearing, which was published on 25 August, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

President O'Connor announced that after we had notified abutters, it was determined that the proposed work is not within the town's jurisdiction, as it is located on a state road, which falls under MASS DOT. The Town Council will hear from anyone present and forward comments to Mass DOT via correspondence.

Bill Davies was present from National Grid. He requests permission to install and maintain approximately 70 feet (more or less) of 2 inch gas main in Stephen Rennie Drive, easterly to house 247 for a new gas service.

Councilor Mathews hopes that the Washington Street project is completed first, as it has been going on for over a month. Mr. Davies will pass this request onto Dennis Regan.

Councilor Smart noted that a lot of effort has been expended in developing an ordinance which holds the utility companies responsible for making sure that roads are put back to the shape they were in prior to work being done. Mr. Davies again said he would convey this concern to Mr. Regan.

The following comments are from the public:

Michael Conners of 247 Park Avenue noted that he started the process of requesting gas installation to his home this past fall. Many of his neighbors have had gas installed, and he doesn't understand why National Grid forwarded his request to the Town of Weymouth for approval. He voiced his concern regarding the 5 year moratorium that the town has regarding opening of streets, as Park Avenue is currently being paved.

Brad Vinton of 260 Park Avenue stated that he has attempted to have gas installed at his home to no avail-National Grid initially did not return his calls, and eventually promised to come out and never showed. Several of his neighbors also want to install gas and he noted that his home is in close proximity to the Fire House, which he believes has gas.

Mr. Davies didn't know why these constituents weren't contacted, distributed a National Grid business card, and will ask Dennis Regan to get back to them.

Councilor Lacey motioned for follow-up correspondence to Mass DOT, including public comments and requesting that a priority is placed on the work request. Motion seconded by Councilor Mathews, and voted unanimously.

Brad Vinton of 260 Park Avenue asks when his responsibility as a resident begins and ends, as related to gas main installation.

Mr. Davies did not know but would ask Mr. Regan.

Councilor Smart noted that the only responsibility from a resident standpoint is to pay for the costs incurred in bringing the gas from the street to their personal property.

Council President O'Connor asked Mr. Davies to convey to Mr. Regan that the Council and public are frustrated and requested answers to their inquiries.

Councilor Hackett requested Mr. Regan's business card and it was provided.

Councilor Smart motioned to close the public hearing, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

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

14 095- Human Resources Department Transfer Request-

Mr. McKinney presented on behalf of the Mayor's Office and requests the transfer of \$23,500 from the salary line item to the miscellaneous expenses item. Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Budget/Management Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously

14 096-Appointment to the Youth Coalition- Rev. Dion Maeda

Mr. McKinney presented on behalf of the Mayor's Office and requests in accordance with section 2-10 of the charter, to appoint Rev. Dion Maeda to the Youth Coalition-term to expire June 30, 2017.

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

14 097-Community Preservation Committee-Brad Hawes Park

Mr. McKinney presented on behalf of the Mayor's Office and requests that the town raise and appropriate \$60,000 from the Community Preservation Fund (open space) to serve as a local commitment for \$200,000 in state funds to renovate Brad Hawes Park, in particular the children's play area, basketball court, tree planting and handicap accessibility.

Councilor Hackett noted that she and Councilor Mathews attended the neighborhood meeting and the grant needs to be expended by the end of this year. Furthermore, she requested that the public hearing and committee meeting are given priority. It was noted that the public hearing and Budget/Management Committee meeting have been scheduled for September 15, 2014.

14 098-Appointment to the Planning Board-B.D. Nayak

Mr. McKinney presented on behalf of the Mayor's Office and requests in accordance with section 2-10 of the charter, to appoint B.D. Nayak to the Planning Board-term to expire on June 30, 2015.

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

14 099-Ordinance Revision-Section 4-209 Police Department

Mr. McKinney presented on behalf of the Mayor's Office and requests amendment of the code of ordinances, section 4-209 by deleting section 4-209 (c)(1) School Traffic Supervisors in its entirety and renumbering section 4-209(c).

Councilor Smart motioned for referral to the Ordinance Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously

14 100-Appointment to the Community Events Committee-Paul Quintiliani

Mr. McKinney presented on behalf of the Mayor's Office and requests in accordance with section 2-10 of the charter, to appoint Paul Quintiliani to the Community Events Committee-term to expire June 30, 2017.

Reports of Committees

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Committee/Chair Rebecca Haugh

Highlights of August 25, 2014 Meeting

Councilor Haugh noted that the committee met for the first time since it was established, and thanked the committee members for meeting over summer recess. Lyn Frano, Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator, gave a detailed and informative presentation on the efforts the town has taken in regards to prevention, addiction and helping those in recovery. She cited the programs in place (Substance Abuse Prevention Team, Weymouth Youth Coalition, Weymouth Family Addiction Support Team). The entire community is working collectively to reduce substance abuse and it is an honor for the committee and Council to be a part of these efforts.

Ms. Frano supplied the committee members and Council Office with a manual which outlines not only the facts of substance abuse, but the resources which are available.

Chair Haugh believes that raising community awareness is key. Funding of prevention efforts are through federal and state grants, which expire in 2016, looking forward we either need to secure additional funding or absorb this important effort to the town's budget. She extended her gratitude to all volunteers and town workers who work diligently on committees, and noted that the town of Weymouth has a very strong collaboration in comparison to our surrounding communities.

Future "Mental Health and Substance Abuse" Meetings will discuss mental health issues and will be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:06 PM, with no further business to attend to, Councilor Smart motioned to adjourn, to meet next on Monday September 15, 2014, motion seconded by Councilor Mathews and voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Hachey as Recording Secretary

Approved by Council President Patrick O'Connor
Voted unanimously on 6 October 2014