

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL
Town Hall Council Chambers
January 26, 2006

Present: Michael Smart, President
Paul J. Leary, Vice-President
Kenneth DiFazio
Sue Kay
Arthur Mathews
Patrick O'Connor
Gregory Shanahan
Kevin Whitaker

Not Present: Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
Michael Molisse
Jack Carey
T.J. Lacey

Also Present: Franklin Fryer, Town Clerk
Jane Hackett, Chief of Staff
George Lane, Town Solicitor
James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer

Recording Secretary: Janet Murray

President Smart called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:30pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor DiFazio stated that the Mayor will give his State of the Town address at the Humanities Center at Weymouth High School on January 30 at 7:00 PM.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Budget Management Committee – Chairman DiFazio

06 002 – Appointment to Health Study Advisory Committee – Judith McTiernan

This Item was referred on 01/03/06. The Committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #06 002 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 003 – Appointment to Health Study Advisory Committee – Karen Acerra

Ms. Acerra was present this evening. She stated that she is new to Weymouth and looks forward to serving on this advisory committee.

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This Item was referred on 01/03/06. The Committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #06 003 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 005 – Appointment to Health Study Advisory Committee – Patricia Henley

This Item was referred on 01/03/06. The Committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #06 005 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 006 – Appointment to Health Study Advisory Committee – Patricia Goodwin

This Item was referred on 01/03/06. The Committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #06 006 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 007 – Appointment to Health Study Advisory Committee – Kathleen Lavery

This Item was referred on 01/03/06. The Committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

It was noted that Ms. Lavery is an employee of the Town of Weymouth.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #06 007 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 008 – Appointment to Health Study Advisory Committee – Janet Brooks

This Item was referred on 01/03/06. The Committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

It was noted that Ms. Brooks is an employee of the Town of Weymouth.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #06 008 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

05 171 – Home Rule Petition – Randall Avenue Water Tower

This Item was referred on 12/19/05. The committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action as amended – in the second paragraph the word “act” was misspelled “at”.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #05 171 and was seconded by Councilor O’Connor and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 009 – Tax Title Request – Reserve Fund Transfer

This item was referred on 01/03/06. The committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

Councilor DiFazio noted that within the past one (1) year period, the town has collected over \$1.3 million in uncollected taxes as a result of this program.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #06 009 and was seconded by Councilor Leary and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 010 – Fiscal Year 2005 Unpaid Bills – Clerk’s Office

This item was referred on 01/03/06. The committee met on 01/23/06. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE Item #06 010 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 014 – Expanding Technology in Weymouth Government

This item was referred on 01/11/06. The committee met on 01/23/06. The committee reviewed the memorandum submitted by Councilor Whitaker. After review, the committee believed that the idea was a good one; however, the cost caused several Councilors concern. Another concern was that there had been no comments received from constituents that this information was needed. The committee voted unanimously to recommend no action.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to take NO ACTION on Item #06 014 and was seconded by Councilor Kay.

Councilor Whitaker objected to a vote taken tonight. Councilor Smart asked on what grounds. Councilor Whitaker stated that under the Charter any issue coming before the Council for the first time for a vote, that any Councilor can object to that vote being taken that evening. He respectfully asked that this vote not be taken this evening.

Councilor Smart stated that the vote has been postponed until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Review/Discussion of Draft Letter containing comments from the Council – to Secretary Pritchard/MEPA Office

Councilor Smart stated that Councilors should have a copy of a draft letter, which is the cover letter to MEPA in front of them. He asked for comments.

Councilor Mathews asked Councilor Smart to read the letter for the benefit of the audience. Councilor Smart did so.

Councilor DiFazio questioned how many Councilors submitted responses at this time.

Councilor Leary stated that he would suggest the addition of “contaminated and” Superfund sites in the second paragraph.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to APPROVE the cover letter to be sent as amended and was seconded by Councilor Mathews and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Councilor Mathews stated that 01/31/06 was the deadline for the submission of comments.

Councilor Whitaker stated that an Exhibit A was to be included in the packet regarding an agreement between LNR and South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation regarding the fact that occupancy permits will not be issued until the traffic signals on Route 18 are completed. He noted that he has removed reference to this exhibit as the letter has not yet been received.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:55 there being no further business, Councilor Leary MOTIONED to adjourn and Councilor Kay seconded and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Approved by: _____
Michael Smart, President