

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Town Hall Council Chambers
February 5, 2007

Present: Michael Smart, President
Paul J. Leary, Vice-President
Jack Carey
Kenneth DiFazio
Sue Kay
Thomas Lacey
Arthur Mathews
Michael Molisse
Patrick O'Connor

Not Present: Kevin Whitaker
Greg Shanahan
Jane Hackett, Chief of Staff
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
George Lane, Town Solicitor

Also Present: Franklin Fryer, Town Clerk
James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer

Recording Secretary: Janet Murray

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

Councilor Smart stated that Councilor Shanahan had a previous work commitment, Councilor Whitaker was called away for a family emergency, and Solicitor Lane had a prior family commitment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Molisse invited all residents to a Valentine's Day Celebration on Sunday, 2/11/07 at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center from 2-5pm. Admission is Free. Donations for the Weymouth Food Pantry are very much needed and appreciated.

Councilor Mathews stated that the Community Preservation Committee will hold a public hearing this Thursday at 7pm in the Council Chambers.

MINUTES

Town Council Meeting - 01/02/07

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to ACCEPT the minutes from 01/02/07 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Town Council Meeting - 01/16/07

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to ACCEPT the minutes from 01/16/07 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

CITIZEN'S CONCERN/COUNCIL RESPONSE

Proposed Ordinance Relative to Illegal Aliens - Richard Connolly

Mr. Connolly appeared before the Council. He stated that he was asking what the status was of the proposal that he and Mr. Casimiro had made at the previous Council meeting.

Mr. Connolly stated that he has spoken with each of the Councilors and appreciated the time he was given. He stated that he has a proposal to stimulate public debate regarding respect for the laws of our community. Mr. Connolly noted that some Councilors had not had the opportunity to review the additional information.

President Smart stated that he had spoken with Mr. Connolly regarding his request to appear before the Council to check on the status of his proposal. President Smart stated that he had explained to Mr. Connolly that any additional information which Mr. Connolly had submitted would be forwarded to the Ordinance Committee if a motion with a favorable vote was taken to refer the measure to that Committee. President Smart stated that Mr. Connolly's additional information would be available in the Council Office for review by the Councilors.

COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR, TOWN OFFICERS, AND TOWN BOARDS

07 005- Appointment to the Recreation Commission - Rachel Bickford

This appointment is to fill a current vacancy.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to REFER item number 07 005 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Senior Citizens Committee - Chairperson Susan Kay

07 001 - Home Rule Petition/Fulton School Property

This item was referred to the Committee on 01/02/07. The Committee met on 02/05/07. The committee voted unanimously to recommend favorable action.

This Home Rule Petition would allow an exemption from the Massachusetts Regulation 151 B which prohibits age discrimination as it relates to senior housing.

Councilor Kay stated that the elderly population of Weymouth is approximately 33%. She noted that this population is projected to continue to increase.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to APPROVE item number 07 001 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

NEW BUSINESS

07 004 Proposed Ordinance Amendment to Section 13-105 (bus stops) - Councilor DiFazio

Councilor DiFazio stated that a private bus company has been advertising pick up locations to transport people to Foxwoods, and designating stops at inappropriate locations in town.

Councilor DiFazio noted that the current ordinance is not enforceable as there is neither enforcement nor penalties associated with the current ordinance.

President Smart asked if this applies to school buses or MBTA buses. Councilor DiFazio stated that it was not the intention of this proposal to apply to school buses.

A MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to REFER item number 07 004 to the Rules Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kay and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Massachusetts Motorcycle Association Awareness Program - Wendell Davis, Jr.

Mr. Davis stated that as a result of a \$15,000 grant received by Plymouth Rock Assurance Corporation, his not-for-profit volunteer membership Association is seeking to erect a 2' x 8' "Check Twice – Save a Life, MOTORCYCLES ARE EVERYWHERE" framed sign at high traffic volume locations in each city and town in Massachusetts, during the State's Motorcycle Safety Awareness Period-- the last week of March and through the last week of April. This project, similar to the "click it or ticket program," would be at no cost to the Town of Weymouth. Mr. Davis noted that Braintree and Brockton have agreed to allow the signs to be erected.

Councilor O'Connor read a proclamation announcing MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS PERIOD IN MASSACHUSETTS.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay and was seconded by Councilor Leary to request Administration to arrange to have the sign installed at a location of their discretion at no cost to the town and was seconded by Councilor Leary and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:00pm there being no further business, Councilor Leary MOTIONED to adjourn and Councilor Kay seconded and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Town Council – February 5, 2007

Approved by: _____
Michael Smart, President