

MINUTES OF THE TOWN Council  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
September 2, 2008 - Tuesday

Present: Michael Smart, President  
Arthur Mathews, Vice President  
Robert Conlon, Councilor  
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor  
Ed Harrington, Councilor  
Thomas Lacey, Councilor  
Brian McDonald, Councilor  
Michael Molisse, Councilor  
Patrick O'Connor, Councilor  
Victor Pap, III, Councilor  
Kevin Whitaker, Councilor

Also Present: Susan Kay, Mayor  
Franklin Fryer, Town Clerk  
George Lane, Town Solicitor  
Maureen Duffy, Town Auditor  
James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer  
Michael Gallagher, Director of Administrative Services  
Frank Burke, Director, Veteran's Services

Recording Secretary: Mary Briggs

President Smart called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Town Clerk Fryer conducted roll call with all members present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Molisse reported on behalf of Sue Barnes, Director of Weymouth Elder Services that senior citizens who do not file a tax return, but have income from Social Security or disability, are still eligible for the stimulus refund check, but must file a 1040A with the IRS by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Forms and assistance in filling out are available at the McCulloch Building, 182 Green Street.

Councilor Harrington reported that he is working with traffic engineers and requested a crosswalk at West Street and Ryder Road. This should take a few months to get in place. The marked congestion on side streets in District 5 caused by the work in widening Route 18 is easing.

Councilor O'Connor reported that a Public Safety Committee meeting has been scheduled for September 22, 2008, at 6:30 PM, prior to the scheduled Town Council meeting that evening. Adoption of the South Shore Disaster Mitigation Plan will be considered and Weymouth Fire and Police union members will be present to discuss how

current staffing levels and the FY09 budget impact public safety.

Councilor Mathews reported that the public hearing for measure number 08-094 - Community Preservation Committee- Committee Housing Request was postponed at the July 14, 2008 Special Town Council meeting and will be continued until September 22, 2008, at 7:35 PM.

Councilor Pap announced that following the success of the Irish Night, St. Jerome's School will host an Italian Night on October 18, 2008. Tickets are \$25 and will be limited to 200.

Councilor McDonald reported on the death of long time town activist Fran Tucci. Mr. Tucci was a veteran, past commander of the George Bean, American Legion and Martin Posts, and lifelong member of the Weymouth Elks. He also volunteered his time with the Veterans Memorial Committee and was active on the Veterans Council.

At the direction of President Smart, the council observed a moment of silence in Mr. Tucci's memory.

**Proclamation Recognizing "Family Day 2008" on September 22-Lyn Frano/Weymouth Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator**

Lynn Frano, Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator for the town addressed the Council regarding National Family Day. She noted children of families who spend family time together and who have parents who are engaged in their children's lives have a lower rate of drug abuse and other anti social behavioral problems.

Mayor Susan Kay read the proclamation. National Family Day will be held on the fourth Monday of every September and she encouraged all families to recognize and participate.

A MOTION to take the "Communities that Care" Survey results out of order was made by Councilor Mathews and seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Lynn Frano presented the results provided from the survey taken by students in grades 7-12 in 2007, in a power point format. Results have been presented to the School Committee and the survey will be administered again in a few weeks.

The survey was conducted to measure the level of risk from and the prevalence of certain anti social behaviors, including smoking, drinking, and prescription drug use and violence, in an effort to focus on prevention, acquire funding for education and track progress.

The survey is anonymous, self-administered, confidential and students are encouraged to respond to the questions honestly. There are safeguards built in to ensure validity of the responses.

The three substances most abused from the study were alcohol, tobacco and marijuana in Weymouth. Heroin has become prevalent among residents in their early 20's but is not registered on this survey. Prescription pain medication use was noted but alcohol is shown to be the drug of choice because of its accessibility.

A higher proportion of students who did not use marijuana within the last 30 days viewed the behavior as perceived wrong or very wrong by parents and siblings. Average age of onset was also studied. The full results of the study are available online, linked from the town's website.

Prescription pain medications- drugs that are available in many home medicine cabinets has seen in increase in use. Experimentation with oxycontin, which is an opiate and addictive, is on the rise. This leads to heroin addition. Heroin is far cheaper than oxycontin. Ms. Frano reviewed the statistics for onset and amount of use. Positive indications of the survey include that the schools offer a high level of structured activities. Teachers, administrators and coaches are doing a good job keeping kids involved in activities.

Programs aimed at prevention are offered through grants to the Substance Abuse Prevention Team, education and activities in the schools. Programs include Did You Know? and Lock it Up sticker campaigns are aimed at local liquor stores, and commitments from three lodges in town and by coaching staff to not allow liquor to be served at any team functions. School-based programs are being offered through Michael P. Jackman, Norfolk County District Attorney's office and who is the co-chair of the Weymouth Coalition Substance Abuse team. Representatives from Mr. Jackman's office and the Weymouth Substance Abuse team received additional training in August in an oxycontin abuse prevention program.

Ms. Frano then reviewed the goals from the survey. Earlier onset of drug and alcohol use is related to other risky behaviors, so education in delaying the onset is one of the goals along increasing perception of disapproval by parents. It is economically more affordable to pay for prevention of abuse than it is for intervention of later substance abuse.

Continuing awareness, education with schools, youth community members, health providers, and law enforcement officials are building community resources in order to achieve goals and continuing to educate on the danger of abuse of prescription medication. They will continue to educate via the Did You Know? and Lock it Up! programs and apply for grant funding for opiate abuse education programs. Additionally, they promote leadership and implement community programs including the alternative schools. The prevention team will continue to analyze the data and evaluate the trends.

Several Councilors responded to the report. Councilor Molisse thanked Ms. Frano for the report. Councilor O'Connor noted he participated as a student at WHS in a previous survey. He noted the increase in the number of calls to the Mayor's office regarding the use of heroin and prescription drug use and his concerns. Councilor Harrington asked if

the survey has been administered in other towns and Ms. Frano noted that Plymouth and Stoughton have also participated. Councilor Whitaker asked if there are many prevention resources available and Ms. Frano noted prevention would rely on strengthening family bonds and is a strong factor with children ages 6-11; and strengthening community partnerships for teenaged children. Prevention resources can also be found online at the Substance Abuse site. Councilor Mathews thanked her for the presentation. Ms. Frano reminded Councilors that the full study is available at the Weymouth town website, and that the package she provided with the study results includes a bumper sticker.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to ACCEPT the minutes of the Budget/Management Committee meeting of June 16, 2008 and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

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A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to TABLE the minutes of the Economic Development Committee meeting of August 20, 2008 and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. Councilor Pap noted that technical corrections will be made and minutes available at the next meeting. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

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

### **08 103 – General Government Supplemental Fiscal Year 2009 Appropriation**

Mayor Kay read the following prepared remarks into the record:

*“Gentlemen- for at least a year, we have been reported to anyone that would listen that fiscal year 2009 would be a difficult year, and it has, especially in light of spiraling health insurance costs.*

*“That prediction has come true, and the supplemental budget I submit to you this evening will accomplish three important things:*

1. *It relies on realistic revenues for fiscal year 2009.*
2. *It will pay off two deficits from fiscal year 2008; that being snow removal and health insurance. They total over \$1,000,000.*
3. *Establishes a baseline for future budgets that will not rely on one-time revenues as recommended by DOR.*

*“We are now on solid footing. We know what we can afford and we have a plan. We can look at this budget season as using a zero-base budgeting format. We can only build up from that. We’ve hit the bottom, and we’ve done so by balancing the ability for the citizenry to pay against essential services, unfortunately. We know that the one cost that remains unchecked is health insurance, but my administration is reviewing all possible solutions and I am waiting for the Public Employee Committee’s report, which is due next week. It is unlikely that any events will impact on the current fiscal year 2009 budget, but certainly provides for a baseline for planning for fiscal year 2010 and beyond.*”

*“The only two expenditure increases you will see is health insurance and Workers Comp. insurance. Every department shows a reduction, but all reductions are reflective of those I outlined to you in my report and memorandum when we met on June 16, 2008. There are three specific increases in the budget:*

1. *Civil Defense – minor - \$178 - that was a salary typo*
2. *\$10,559 - increase for overlay abatements. There were many requests that behoove the new number.*
3. *\$1,010 – reserve fund (just to balance the account)*

*“The specifics of the supplemental budget, I’m sure, will be discussed in Budget/Management and Mr. Wilson will be outlining for you this evening. My staff will be available to review those specifics. To summarize, the reductions include:*

1. *furlough for certain non-union personnel*
2. *eliminating unfunded positions as a result of retirements and vacancies.*

*“My department is spending overtime at a celebrated rate due to long-term illness and shortages of personnel where trying to maintain a 3/2 structure is very difficult. We’re watching it carefully, and may have to reduce the services even further. We cannot go to any of our departments any longer. There will be nowhere to go if the supplemental isn’t funded. There are layoffs in both the school and police departments.*”

*“We have also recognized a \$200,000 savings as a result of bidding the rubbish removal contract, collectively with Braintree, Weymouth and Quincy.*”

*“In addition, there is a 3.4% reduction in the School department’s budget. That reduction represents approximately \$1.8 million. School department budget includes retroactive raises for teachers in Unit A and non-union administrative staff; however these retro raises have not yet been paid as the school department is still calculating*

*salary allotments due to continued hiring.*

*“No other budget contains raises, and that will become one of the most outstanding issues of my administration, and we are working hard to accomplish that.*

*“We work cooperatively, you and I, not to resort to the public for additional funding. I don’t know about you, but I receive at least weekly requests from citizens not to take their homes. We’ve been able to work with these owners through the Tax Amnesty program, which you have supported.*

*“In reading the Sunday newspapers just this weekend, I noticed in the Globe-South section, attached to the front page was a sticker letting everyone know that 55 homes around the Boston area were up for auction, and that was for one auctioneer. In the Boston Herald’s real estate section, there were eight pages of listings for auctions. In contrast, there was only one page of help wanted ads.*

*“These are difficult times. I look forward to preparing a fiscal year 2010 budget. I know we plan to resolve collective bargaining agreements so as to treat all employees equally. I’m looking to increase our capital expenditures for equipment, vehicles, building repairs and parks. We don’t have any new capital items for fiscal year 09; that’s a travesty. All areas were not able to address this fiscal year. We’ll be able to, knowing the sale of the Fulton School concludes this month. Southfield’s land transfer should conclude this fall and be given payments under the Host Community Agreement, which have been earmarked for capital improvements.*

*“I must temper this optimism with the fact that there is on the ballot a binding referendum to repeal the state income tax. Although that may look appealing initially, I don’t need to remind you that the town receives one third of its revenue from the state and if that is repealed the town will suffer in proportion to the size of that cut.*

*“I would ask you to enact this measure, this supplemental budget, knowing that it sets the town on a solid financial course and provides us with the ability to be optimistic going into the next budget season. I thank you for your consideration.”*

Following the Mayor’s remarks, President Smart asked that comments and questions from the Council wait until after Mr. Wilson presents the specifics on the measure.

Mr. Wilson distributed a handout for his power point presentation. The measure seeks to appropriate \$129,257,208, an increase of \$744,006 from measure **08 026**, and which also accommodates two deficits- snow removal- \$567,299 and the health insurance from- \$437,686. He outlined the three components of the supplemental budget; the operational budget for FY09, deficit in snow removal for FY08 and deficit in health insurance for FY08.

Measure 08 026 -operational budget was approved on 6/16/08 by Town Council for \$128,513,202. In that presentation it was made known that there were three outstanding

issues, the two deficit accounts as well as unsettled Collective Bargaining. In addition to these three items it also included a promise to eliminate the reliance on one-time revenues, provide for increases in utility costs, and a realistic projection of revenue in accordance with the DOR guidelines.

April 1, 2008, the Mayor sought and Council approved an operational budget of \$128,513,202. Included in that were deficits in the health insurance account of \$11,202,398, in the workers compensation fund of \$525,000 and all revenues were based on February 1<sup>st</sup> projections.

September 2, 2008 the operations budget has been reduced to \$128,525,223, with deficits now in the health insurance fund of \$14,266,525 and in the workers compensation fund of \$650,000 and accommodates the two FY08 deficits of \$1,004,985, for total requests of \$129,257,208.

He then reviewed revenues, which all are in accordance with DOR guidelines and reflect the actual collection rate from FY08. This includes increases in services provided to Southfield , approximately \$200,000 in Medicare reimbursement by the school department, in tax title due to tax amnesty program, and reflects actual growth analysis, a decrease from the State by \$80,000 and a decrease in earnings on investments due to decline in interest rates.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the change in expenditures. All departments except Civil Defense and all department budgets were reduced in accordance with the Mayor's memorandum to Council in June. Additionally, reductions were completed due to furloughs, unfunded positions which were a result of vacancies and retirements, and layoffs within the school and police departments, the rubbish removal contract and a 3.4% reduction in the school department budget.

Other reductions include state assessments of \$379,554 and \$200,000 in rubbish removal as a result of new contract with Braintree and Quincy.

Increases as indicated by the Mayor include \$3,064,127 in the health insurance, \$125,000 in Workers compensation, \$10,559 in overlay for abatements, and \$178 to correct a typo in the Civil Defense budget originally submitted.

Deficits include \$567,299 for FY08 snow removal \$437,686 and health insurance FY08.

All are to be paid from FY09 available revenues.

There are other steps that must be completed, after the DOR sets the town's reimbursement rate, which is anticipated to be less than what has been budgeted. The Community Preservation Budget presents its supplemental budget in late September or early October. Anticipated free cash is \$650,000, increased from \$180,800 in FY08 and the tax classification measure will be presented in early October.

There was a brief discussion with the Council. Councilor O'Connor asked if anticipated \$700,000 from unfunded positions remained the same. Mr. Wilson noted that layoffs could not be accurately estimated until the school department concluded its hiring.

Councilor DiFazio asked for clarification on the amounts of health insurance deficits. President Smart noted the health insurance update can be covered more in depth once it has been referred to committee.

Councilor Harrington asked if the amount of time the town will provide services to Southfield will be in line with the pledge to eliminate reliance on one time revenue sources. Mayor Kay and Mr. Wilson provided a response. The type and scope of services provided will change as the project scope evolves. While now it is essentially administrative services that the town is providing, it will gradually be changing in the future to public safety venues, as infrastructure becomes vertical construction. It will be a contributing revenue source for the foreseeable future.

Councilor Whitaker asked that line item detail be provided for review. Councilor Whitaker reminded the members that in the interest of reviewing each department, scheduling will need to be made appropriately.

Councilor Lacey asked if the books were closed on free cash for FY09 and Mr. Wilson noted that although they traditionally are by this time in the year, this year is pending the completion of a transitional audit, which must be conducted with the treasurer/collector having left. Councilor Lacey additionally asked if it is appropriate to operate on a budget that has yet to be voted, but is instead based on a memorandum. Mr. Wilson noted the Council votes on the actual maximum spending. Councilor Lacey also asked if any additional funds are appropriated, will they be applied in the same manner as the cuts. Mr. Wilson noted that any increase in accommodations in the budget went to fund deficits.

Councilor Mathews requested a detailed analysis of the services provided to Southfield, per employee, rate and time. Mr. Wilson will provide a report by department, hourly rate, and number of hours at the Council's request.

Councilor Pap requested that any free cash figure takes into consideration devaluation of assessed property. Mr. Wilson noted the DOR is reviewing the values set January 1<sup>st</sup>, and utilizes the valuation in setting the tax shift. As values increase, tax rate comes down, and the inverse is true.

Councilor O'Connor asked if each department is cut 3.4% and spendable cash becomes available will it be returned to the departments evenly? Mr. Wilson noted that any free cash within a year will not be reallocated within that year. Mayor Kay noted that any excess money will likely go where it is needed at the time.

Councilor Conlon noted his concern with the cuts to public safety departments and that any surplus go to those departments. Mayor Kay responded that although she understands the concern with public safety, cuts have been felt equally in every department.



Councilor DiFazio requested clarification on the sale of Fulton School. Mayor Kay noted that although the property closing will occur in September, those funds are not available for use until FY10. He also asked if there is an anticipated wage increase expected within all other collective bargaining groups. Mayor Kay noted that there is no funding currently for increases not yet voted. Councilor DiFazio also recommended that any excess funds recompense those workers who were voluntarily furloughed.

President Smart asked for clarification of the Medicaid reimbursement process requested of the school department and whether it is exercised on the general government side. Mr. Wilson noted that effective in 1996, there was an increase in the scope of students who qualify for services provided pursuant to an Individual Education Plan and which are reimbursable to the town. Mr. Wilson noted that this budget reflects the maximum allowable reimbursement. Without it, the tax rate cannot be set.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. Councilor Lacey requested that with the referral a memo to the Town Auditor requesting information specific to the discussion of this measure be distributed. Councilor DiFazio noted a meeting will be scheduled on Tuesday, September 9, 2008, and requested the information be provided prior to that meeting. President Smart noted that the committee may want to figure out what information it will need before scheduling a meeting. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 104 – Reappointment to the Board of Assessors-Jill Reddish**

Jill Reddish of 25 Cobblestone Rd., Weymouth MA for reappointment. Her term will expire on June 30, 2011

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 105 – Appointment to the Tri-Town Board of Directors-Joseph Connolly**

Joseph Connolly, of 31 Merilyn Rd., Weymouth MA for appointment. His term will expire on August 31, 2012.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 106 – Appointment to the Commission on Disabilities-Ron Evans**

Ron Evans of 94 Broad Reach, #106, North Weymouth MA 02191 for appointment. His term will expire on June 30, 2010.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 107 – Appointment to the Commission on Disabilities-Matthew J. Ciavittieri**

Matthew J. Ciavittieri of 61 Burns Way, South Weymouth, MA 02190 for appointment. His term will expire on June 30, 2010.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 108 – Appointment to the Historical Commission-Joan Rotondo**

Joan Rotondo of 3 Argyle Court, Weymouth, MA 02189 for appointment; this is to fill the vacancy created by the death of Richard Pattison. Her term will expire on June 30, 2010.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 109 – Appointment to the Planning Board-Dave Chandler**

Dave Chandler of 47 Andrew Rd., Weymouth MA 02190 for appointment; this is to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Frank Hawkins. His term will expire on June 30, 2010.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 110 – Appointment to the Recreation Commission-Steve Reilly**

Steve Reilly of 107 Old Country Way, Weymouth MA 02188 for appointment; this is to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of John Killeen. His term will expire on June 30, 2009.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 111 – Appointment to the Scholarship Committee-Hank Goldman**

Hank Goldman of 33 Old Country Way, Weymouth, MA 02188 for appointment; to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Dennis Shea. His term will expire on June 30, 2011.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 112 – Appointment to Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate member-George Berg**

George Berg of 74 Summer Street, Weymouth, MA 02188 for appointment; this is to fill a vacancy created by moving Francis Kenneally to a permanent appointment. His term will expire on June 30, 2010.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 113 – Appointment to Community Preservation Committee-Daniel Condon**

Daniel Condon of Zero Albert Road, Weymouth, MA 02189 for appointment; this is to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Brian O’Halloran. His term will expire on June 30, 2009.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O’Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 114 – Appointment to Community Preservation Committee-Laura Harbottle**

Laura Harbottle of 123 High Street, Weymouth, MA 02189 for appointment; this is to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Lawrence Lambrose. Her term will expire on June 30, 2010.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to Budget Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O’Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**08 115 – Appointment to the Board of Elder Services-Judy MacDonald**

Judy MacDonald of 29 Sargent Road, Weymouth, MA 02190 for appointment; this is to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mildred Johnson. Her term will expire on June 30, 2009.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer the matter to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor O’Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Councilor Molisse asked Chairman DiFazio to invite the new appointees under consideration to the next Budget/Management meeting.

**Update on Health Insurance-James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer**

Mr. Wilson reviewed the status of health insurance in a power point presentation. This was last updated in July. Included was the FY08 closing numbers and projection for FY09 town’s portion. He will also update on the status of the Workers Compensation fund. As of August 25, 2008, all claims have been finalized, IBNR has been issued, the last bills have been paid and the deficit is recognized on the town books.

New rates for FY09 were effective June 1, 2008, for coverage effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. July claims of \$1.4M have been received. Other administrative costs have been incurred and the FY09 administrative costs have been estimated. The town’s contribution has been calculated and the increase, which was estimated at \$3.2m in June, now stands at \$3.04M.

Although the PEC is expected to submit its report and recommendations shortly, and the town is reviewing all other avenues for controlling health insurance costs, these will not impact on the FY09 budget.

Mr. Wilson then provided balance sheet comparison with a month-by-month comparison of costs from 2007 and 2008 and an analysis of the expenditures for FY07, FY08 and projected for FY09, including paid claims, administrative costs, IBNR, stop loss

insurance, and Cook & Co. contract costs. This analysis included both active/retired town employees and retired teachers which is charged at a different rate than the rest of the town, and the amount of claims paid to catastrophic illness. Figures were based on enrollment as of 5/31/08.

Mr. Wilson then provided a review of the Workers Compensation account. It encompasses town, school, enterprise fund, fire 111F, and police 11F employees. There were \$620,311.73 in FY05 actual claims, \$578,069.32 in FY06, \$632,584.87 in FY07, \$591,214.25 in FY08 and an appropriation request of \$650,000.00 for FY09, an increase of \$125,000.00 which is a projection based on available information.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **Economic Development Committee-Chairman Victor Pap, III**

-Discussion Concerning Expansion of Bus Routes to South Weymouth- Vote on Letter to MBTA for public hearing

Councilor Pap reported that the committee last met on August 20, 2008. First on the agenda was a discussion of expanding bus routes to S. Weymouth. He thanked Councilor Mathews for his expertise on the subject and input. He also thanked Dan Murphy for his help. A working draft was provided to the Council of a letter to the MBTA outlining the community's broad-based unified list of recommendations, specifically routes 222 and 225 from East Weymouth and the landing be expanded to include South Weymouth.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Pap to take a working draft and turn it into a letter to the MBTA regarding the expansion of bus routes into South Weymouth, and was seconded by Councilor DiFazio.

Councilor Mathews noted that several others were instrumental in helping, including Mayor Kay and Senator Hedlund.

Councilor O'Connor noted he would not support the motion as he is concerned about public safety and the financial disarray of the MBTA.

Councilor Whitaker supported; he is looking forward to service in light of the growth in the area.

Councilor McDonald noted the area is in need of more public transportation, and believes it is up to the MBTA to determine whether they can afford to provide expanded service. It will make very little impact on their deficit.

Councilor Mathews noted as a point of interest that a public hearing on the matter is scheduled for September 15, 2008 at 7PM at Adams Auditorium.

Councilor Harrington noted the MBTA's financial straits should not have an affect on

Weymouth's requesting additional service.

President Smart noted he will support; the residents and ridership will ultimately determine the need for the expansion and that it may take additional vehicles off the roads.

Councilor McDonald AMENDED the MOTION to include in the letter that expansion further into south Weymouth for bus routes 222 & 225, including stops at the Old Colony commuter rail station.

Councilor Molisse thanked Councilor Pap for bringing this forward. The residents in South Weymouth have asked for this.

MOTION PASSED (Councilor O'Connor- NO).

-Discussion on North Weymouth Revitalization Plans

Councilor Pap noted the second discussion for residents of North Weymouth is to bring forward their concerns about conditions along the "gateway to Weymouth" area, particularly the cleanup of the greenery along Route 3A, and the general revitalization of in Bicknell Square.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **08 102 – Order No. 08 102, Ordered: Town Clerk - Call of the State Primary, September 16, 2008-Vice President Arthur Mathews**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to consider item 08 102 under same night action (2-9b) and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to forward for approval- 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 state primary election to vote on Tuesday, September 16, 2008. Motion was seconded by Councilor O'Connor and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **Request for Referral to Education Committee: Update from School Administration on Upcoming School Year and Budgetary Impacts- Councilor Thomas J. Lacey**

Councilor Lacey noted that the Superintendent of School's report on the upcoming school year and budgetary impacts be referred to the Education Committee. President Smart asked that notification be sent through the administration prior to next week's meeting. Councilor DiFazio asked him to consider a joint meeting at the September Budget/Management meeting as the school budget will be discussed.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to REAFFIRM the vote taken on item 08

102, and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. ROLL CALL VOTE was taken by the Town Clerk with the following responses: Councilor Conlon – YES, Councilor DiFazio – YES, Councilor Harrington – YES, Councilor Lacey – YES, Councilor Mathews – YES, Councilor McDonald – YES, Councilor Molisse– YES, Councilor O'Connor – YES, Councilor Pap – YES, Councilor Whitaker – YES, President Smart – YES.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to allow a late agenda item and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Councilor Mathews reported he received two letters from Susan DiCristofero requesting an investigation into advertising of cash versus credit pricing policies at local gas stations. He noted that a review of the ordinances and further research of jurisdiction of signage and pricing differences between cash and credit transactions warrants further discussion.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to refer this item to the Ordinance Committee for further discussion and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor.

Councilor Mathews asked that Solicitor Lane be invited to the discussion in committee.

Councilor Whitaker noted for the audience that this was an investigation into possible “bait and switch” techniques regarding pricing at gas stations.

MOTION PASSED 7/4 (Councilor DiFazio, Harrington, Molisse, and Pap – NO).

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:50 PM, there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to ADJOURN and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**Mary Briggs-Recording Secretary**