

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Town Hall Council Chambers**  
**October 19, 2009**

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

**Not Present:** Thomas J. Lacey, Councilor  
Maureen Duffy, Auditor  
Frank Fryer, Town Clerk  
James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer

**Also Present:** Mayor Susan Kay  
Michael Gallagher, Director of Administrative Services  
Chief Richard Grimes  
George Lane, Town Solicitor  
Kathy Deree, Assistant Town Clerk

**Recording Secretary:** Diane T. Hachey

President Smart called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Assistant Town Clerk, Kathy Deree, conducted the roll call with Councilors Lacey and Whitaker not present.

Council President Smart noted that Councilor Lacey contacted him to advise that he had a prior work commitment and was unable to attend this evening. Additionally, Councilor Whitaker will be late.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council President Smart acknowledged a moment of silence for Bruce McDonald (Councilor McDonald's brother) and Frank Lagrotteria who both recently passed away.

Councilor Harrington announced that the second quarter tax bills are due on November 2. Both the first and second quarter bills were mailed together in July, in an effort to save the town postage. Constituents with questions can either call 781-340-2401, or come to the tax office, Monday through Friday from 8:30 -4:30. Additionally, one can pay their

bill on line at [www.weymouth.ma.us](http://www.weymouth.ma.us).

Councilor Molisse announced the hours for trick-or-treating on Halloween-- between the hours of 4:30 and 7:30 PM. Additionally, the Friends of the Weymouth Public Libraries are hosting “Caddy Stacks” –at which time the Tufts Library will be transformed into a miniature golf course, with proceeds to benefit library programs. A round of miniature golf will be \$5.00 per person.

Councilor McDonald noted the “Old Kids on the Block Swing Band” will be performing at the Whipple Center on November 4 from 1-3:30 PM—for an admittance fee of \$5.00 per person. Please contact the Senior Center to reserve your place.

Solicitor Lane announced that as a result of an amendment to M.G.L. Chapter 268 Sections A and B, mandatory certification is required of all public employees for the State Ethics Commission. This requirement is inclusive of all elected officials, committee and board members. Diane Hachey distributed an email to all Councilors with the detail and the link in order to complete the required exam. The deadline for completion has been extended to April.

Councilor Mathews noted that yard waste collection will begin the week of October 19 and continue weekly into November, ending in December. The Hollis Street Station is available Monday through Friday as well.

#### **Appointment of New Police Chief-Richard Grimes** **-Mayor Susan Kay**

Mayor Kay and Chief Grimes approached the Council. Mayor Kay noted the Chief’s extensive education and work experiences which include: a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice and a Bachelors Degree in Human Services; member of the Divers Alert Network, tactical training completion, motorcycle law enforcement training, and canine and marine training. Additionally, Chief Grimes was awarded the Robert Dana Distinguished Service Award, for bravery, on three occasions. The Chief’s tenure with the town commenced in 1982 and Mayor Kay feels confident that his experience, education and visions for the town will serve us well.

Chief Grimes extended his gratitude to the Mayor and Council and stated his pleasure in serving the town as a member of the Police Department. He has issued numerous, well-deserving promotions in his first few weeks, as many officers took over managing the department during the past several years of influx. He extended his open-door policy to the Council.

Councilor Pap congratulated the Chief and impressed that drug trafficking and graffiti in North Weymouth are major issues. The Chief assured the Council that these issues, across the town, will be proactively addressed.

Councilor Conlon additionally extended his congratulations and noted the importance of

the recent promotions made by the Chief, as we need to promote from within for effective management of the department.

Councilor McDonald has watched the Chief's career develop and announced that the town is fortunate to have him as Chief and he is most confident in his abilities.

Council President Smart, in closing, thanked the Mayor and Chief for appearing this evening, and expressed his gratitude, on behalf of the Council, and noted that the Council looks forward to working with him in the future.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2009**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to ACCEPT the minutes of the Public Works Committee Meeting of September 21, 2009, and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### **Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2009**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to ACCEPT the minutes of the Ordinance Committee Meeting of September 21, 2009, and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### **Town Council Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2009**

Councilor Mathews motioned for a correction to page 8, Reports of Committees to add the following language: "to appoint George E. Lane, Jr. as liaison to the State Ethics Commission." The motion seconded by Councilor Molisse and voted unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to ACCEPT the minutes, AS AMENDED, of the Town Council Meeting held on September 21, 2009, and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### **Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of October 5, 2009**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to ACCEPT the minutes of the Budget/Management Committee meeting of October 5, 2009 and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### **Town Council Meeting Minutes of October 5, 2009**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to ACCEPT the minutes of the Town Council Meeting of October 5, 2009 and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY COMMENT**

### **Tribute to Frank Lagrotteria by Greg Hargadon**

Mr. Hargadon noted the recent unfortunate passing of Mr. Lagrotteria who served the town for numerous years and in several capacities. His 27 year tenure with the town includes: Past Director of Public Works, Retirement Board, Korean War Veteran, Rotary Club, and the Board of Trustees for South Shore Hospital.

Mr. Lagrotteria grew up in Cohasset, but relocated to Weymouth in order to assume the position of Director of Public Works. His hard work, dedication and sense of humor are to be noted.

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

### **09 113-CALL OF THE SPECIAL STATE PRIMARY ON DECEMBER 8, 2009 -COUNCILOR ARTHUR MATHEWS**

Councilor Mathews motioned for consideration of this measure under 2-9(b) same night action, seconded by Councilor Molisse and voted unanimously.

Councilor Mathews motioned that 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 Special State Primary Election, to vote on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, motion seconded by Councilor O'Connor and voted unanimously.

Councilor Mathews announced that due to the election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the next Town Council Meeting will be held on November 9, 2009.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:05 PM, there being no further business to conduct, a MOTION was made by Councilor Mathews to ADJOURN, seconded by Councilor O'Connor and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by: Diane T. Hachey

Approved by: Council President Michael Smart