

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL-COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**13 December 2010**

Present:               President Arthur Mathews  
                          Robert Conlon  
                          Ed Harrington  
                          Michael Molisse  
                          Brian McDonald  
                          Patrick O'Connor  
                          Victor Pap III  
                          Michael Smart

Not Present:         Kenneth DiFazio  
                          Thomas Lacey  
                          Kevin Whitaker

Also Present:        Franklin Fryer, Town Clerk  
                          Richard Swanson, Town Auditor  
                          George Lane, Town Solicitor  
                          Scott Bois, Coordinator of Financial Services

Recording Secretary:   Diane T. Hachey

Council President Mathews called the 13 December 2010 Town Council meeting to order at 7:36 P.M. Franklin Fryer conducted a roll call with Councilors DiFazio, Lacey and Whitaker not present. Council President Mathews noted that he spoke with his colleagues who were unable to attend this evening due to previous engagements.

Announcements were as follows: Councilor Smart noted the efforts and attendance at the recent Columbian Square Tree Lighting. He thanked his colleagues for attending.

Councilor Pap announced that there will be a public meeting on January 13 at 6:30 at the Fore River Club House, located on Nevada Road.

**Public Hearings**

**7:35 PM       10 126-Tax Amnesty Program-Ordinance Amendment**

Councilor O'Connor motioned to open the public hearing on the aforementioned measure, which was published on 3 December 2010, motion seconded by Councilor Smart and voted unanimously.

Mr. Bois announced that this measure seeks to amend section b of the code of ordinances and will replace the language to now read "The provisions of this section of the code shall be in full force and effect from January 1, 2011 and shall expire on June 30, 2011.

The key element in this statute provides the town with the ability to abate up to 50% of the accrued interest on tax title properties, making the effective rate of interest equal to 8% and extends the life of the amnesty program to June 30, 2011.

Councilor Harrington questioned the monies involved in this abatement. It was noted that in the past 3 years \$600k of cash flow has been abated and this feature is of benefit to both the town and its constituency. The town benefits from the receiving additional tax funding and constituents who may not have been able to stay in their homes have an opportunity to do so.

President Mathews asked if anyone from the public wished to speak, to which there was no response.

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

Councilor Smart noted that this measure is still in the Ordinance Committee and he plans on scheduling a meeting this coming Monday, prior to Town Council and requested that a representative from administration is available at that time.

**7:40 PM            10 130-National Grid Utility Pole Petition on Main Street**  
**Consideration of a vote under 2-9(b)**

Councilor O'Connor motioned to open the public hearing on the aforementioned measure, motion seconded by Councilor Smart and voted unanimously. It was noted that the abutters were notified on 6 December, via a letter versus the typical postcard.

Steve Breton of National Grid requested permission to install a new pole number 15-1 on the public sidewalk and a new pole number 15 1A on private property in order to allow a cellular company to have access to power on the opposite side of the street.

President Mathews asked if anyone from the public wished to speak, to which there was no response.

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

Councilor O'Connor motioned for consideration of the measure under 2-9(b), motion seconded by Councilor Smart and voted unanimously.

Councilor O'Connor motioned for favorable action on measure number 10 130, motion seconded by Councilor Smart and voted unanimously.

## **Communications and Reports from the Mayor, Town Officers and Town Boards**

### **10 131-Police Department Telecommunicators-Fiscal Year 2011 Retroactive Payroll**

Mr. Bois presented on behalf of the Mayor and requests that a reappropriation in the amount of \$17,550 from the reserve fund to the police department technical support salaries line item occurs for the purpose of funding an fy11 retroactive payroll in accord with the respective collective bargaining agreement.

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

### **10 132-Fiscal Year 2011 Snow Removal Additional Appropriation**

Mr. Bois presented on behalf of the Mayor and requests an appropriation of \$500,000 from free cash for the purpose of supplementing the fy2011 snow removal budget due to an anticipated shortfall.

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

### **Report of Committee-Environmental Committee-Chairman McDonald**

#### **Public Discussion and Input on the Fore River Bridge Replacement Project**

Councilor McDonald noted that he will be scheduling an additional meeting to discuss this subject. Tonight there were numerous interesting issues brought forth by representatives from two associations-who are favoring a bascule style bridge. He will report out in full at a later date.

Councilor McDonald motioned for addition of a late agenda item, motion seconded by Councilor Smart, and voted unanimously.

Councilor McDonald would like the Council to forward a letter to the Department of Transportation to repair exposed areas of bare metal which are located on the bridge and cause safety issues. He personally witnessed an accident on the bridge earlier in the evening. He motioned for drafting of the letter (offered to complete himself) motion seconded by Councilor Smart and voted unanimously.

Councilor O'Connor announced that the next Town Council Meeting will be held on Monday, 20 December 2011.

At 7:55 PM, there being no further business to attend to, Councilor O'Connor motioned to adjourn, motion seconded by Councilor Smart and voted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Diane T. Hachey

Approved by:

Council President Arthur Mathews