

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
December 16, 2019, Monday**

Present: Michael Smart, President  
Arthur Mathews, Vice President  
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor  
Jane Hackett, Councilor  
Fred Happel, Councilor  
Ed Harrington, Councilor  
Rebecca Haugh, Councilor  
Christopher Heffernan  
Maureen Kiely, Councilor  
Michael Molisse, Councilor

Also Present: Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor  
Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk  
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor  
James Malary, Chief Financial Officer  
Robert Luongo, Director of Planning  
Owen MacDonald, Traffic Engineer  
Keith Stark, Chief, Fire Chief

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

President Smart called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathleen Deree called the roll, with all members present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Heffernan announced that the Town of Weymouth Scholarship applications are available and how and where they may be obtained.

**Recognition of Councilor Brian McDonald-Councilors Michael Molisse and Rebecca Haugh, Mayor Robert Hedlund**

President Smart acknowledged Senator O'Connor and Jamie Murphy's representative (Carrie Palazzo). Councilor Molisse read the citation and presented it to former Councilor McDonald (during this, Councilor Hackett arrived, 7:34 PM). Councilor Haugh co-presented the citation to Mr. McDonald, who has dedicated half a century of his life to the town of Weymouth. Senator O'Connor thanked Mr. McDonald for his service and presented a citation on behalf of the state Senate. Mayor Hedlund commented on the newspaper article with Brian's picture. He reported that they were on the campaign trail together and were reunited at the state government level. He respects their different views on things. He also appreciates the support during his first term as Mayor and Mr. McDonald's combined 16 years as Selectman and Councilor. He also acknowledged his

family. Brian thanked everyone for the citations and the Weymouth tile. He reviewed how he became a politician and the fights he was involved in during his tenure on the Board of Selectmen, Council and state Senate. He received a standing ovation.

**Citation Issuance to Dennis Brooks of 2 Caldwell Street-Acknowledgment of Community Service- District Two Councilor Maureen Kiely**

Councilor Kiely presented Mr. Brooks a citation from the town, and from the state Senate for the impact he has made to those in need in the community. He responded that he appreciates the generosity of the residents.

**MINUTES**

**Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2019**

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2019 Ordinance Committee meeting, as amended, and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Town Council Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2019**

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2019 Town Council meeting and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Town Council Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2019**

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2019 Town Council meeting and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY COMMENT**

**Alice Arena of 6 Blueberry Street-Concerns at the Compressor Site**

Ms. Arena was invited to the table. She read the following prepared statement:

*“Thank you, Council President Smart and all Councilors, for this opportunity to address you concerning a very serious matter happening in North Weymouth.*

*As you know from the past five years of fighting Enbridge and their ill-conceived compressor project on the North Parcel of the Kings Cove Conservation Area, the State has given all permits and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has issued the Notice to Proceed with construction. However, before any construction can begin, Enbridge must remove approximately 10K tons of soil that is highly contaminated with arsenic. We also believe, due to the dumping of furnace bricks on the sight from the Edgar Coal Fired Plant for almost 50 years, that the soil contains asbestos. The Department of Environmental Protection has been alerted to this fact, but has ignored our call for further soil testing.*

*As Enbridge has begun digging in this soil already, even though they have not begun to haul this tonnage to waste sites in MA, NH, ME, and RI, trucks are entering and leaving*

*the muddy sight on a daily basis. This digging has brought up the following issues that we hope the Council can help to address:*

- *From page 27 of the Final Release Abatement Measure: **The Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that tracking of potentially contaminated soil onto public roadways is prevented.** Local contractors and trucking companies are delivering gravel to the sight. Their trucks are leaving the sight with mud on their tires and dragging this mud out onto the public access road and onto Bridge Street. There is no “cleaning pad” as described in the RAM plan. We highly doubt that should the hauling of soil begin before the spring that Enbridge will be able to clean off trucks in freezing temperatures.*
- *From page 5 of the RAM: **Health and Safety Plan (HASP). Prior to the commencement of any planned intrusive construction activity in the Work Area, a HASP will be prepared by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) or other qualified individual by all parties performing RAM activities, and then implemented for all persons entering the Work Area;** We have not seen the HASP. Workers are on site with no hazmat coverings, no boot coverings, and no breathing apparatus. There are foul odors coming from the disturbed soil. Workers are patronizing local restaurants and dragging mud from the site into public areas.*
- *There is no traffic plan in place to move 1100 truckloads of contaminated soil from the site and onto access roads through Weymouth, Quincy, and Braintree. At this time, contractors are taking illegal left hand turns in and out of the property on both sides of Bridge Street multiple times per day. A traffic plan was to be part of the project according the Environmental Assessment of the Atlantic Bridge.*
- *Private Security vehicles are following citizens, who have legally accessed the site by the public easement, out onto Weymouth and Quincy streets. We consider this to be harassment of our citizens who are exercising their rights to access the Parcel, as they have done for over thirty years.*
- *Further, Enbridge is responsible for having a public liaison for this project. Although Councilor Haugh has found a central number for complaints, we as yet do not have a person to contact with issues as we see them happening on the site. The burden of complaints should not fall on the Town. As there seems to be no oversight on this project, no laws or regulations that govern anything about this project that are enforceable, it must be the applicant who bears the brunt of complaints.*

*The North Parcel, a field in the middle of this peninsula, though contaminated, was filled with trees, wild sweet pea, marsh grasses, butterflies, dragonflies, and rabbits. Enbridge has already stripped all of the trees out, put down gravel roads, and dug up mounds of soil so contaminated with arsenic and other toxins that there is just no possible way that this will not affect the health of those who are working in it and those who live near it. It now lies as an industrial waste dump at the entrance to our fair Town.*

*While we, the citizens, will not relent in fighting this, we ask the Council to assist us while this destruction of our Town is occurring. Any help that you can provide by contacting the DEP, the Governor, or any other regulatory agency that might have some oversight on this would be most appreciated. The Town’s Solicitor, the Board of Health, and other*

*departments have made it clear that we have no laws, no regulations, no recourse to this invasion other than the multiple lawsuits that have been filed by the Town and the citizens. But we do not believe that we must sit idly by and be exposed to this hazard without alerting you, and the public, to the issues and asking for your help.*

*Thank you.”*

Councilor Haugh thanked her and the supporters in the audience. She noted the fight is five years in the works. Some have put in 40+ hours per week since January 2015. They've read through every page of the documents. She can attest to many of the things Ms. Arena brought up. She thanked the Council- this body was instrumental in delaying the project. If it remained on target, it would have been on line November 2020. As a council, she urged they write a letter as a FERC document to mass dep. She can help draft a letter in response to Ms. Arena's comments.

A motion was made by Councilor Haugh to draft a letter to MassDEP and was seconded by Vice President Mathews. President Smart thanked everyone working on behalf of prevention of the compressor station. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **19 114-Utility Petition- NGRID Pole Relocation- Madison Street, continued from December 2, 2019**

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to reopen the public hearing on measure 19 114 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. Abutters were notified on November 22, 2019. This was continued from December 2, 2019. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Simon Yeung presented the petition, to install a new pole on Madison Street.

Vice President Mathews asked if Mr. Yeung was aware of the recent correspondence from the DPW with concerns. Mr. Yeung was not aware.

President Smart asked if there were any questions or comments from the public, to which there was no response. They have not sufficiently answered the town's questions.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to continue the public hearing on 19 114 to January 21, 2020 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. Vice President Mathews noted that a resident, Mr. Sharp, was present at the prior meeting and had questions for National Grid, but no one was present then to respond. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to continue the public hearing on measure 19 114 to January 21, and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**19 116-Purchase of a New Fire Engine**

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to open the public hearing on measure 19 116 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. This was advertised on December 6, 2019. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Chief Stark provided a spreadsheet. They have a spare on loan from Boston while some of the apparatus is down. Pierce is the company of choice with maintenance. Negotiations are underway to get Station 2 reopened. Councilor Happel asked why this was changed from lease to purchase; is there any benefit either way? The chief responded that the last administration didn't like to lease equipment. Councilor Happel also commended the department on the receipt of four Safer Grants. President Smart noted that in the measure, the unused lease funding is part of the funding mechanism.

Councilor Molisse reported this is much needed and long overdue. Weymouth is an expanding community and the equipment is needed.

Councilor DiFazio noted the \$4,000 trade in value for an antique pumper. The chief responded that the older trucks are more difficult to keep up with the technology. Councilor Haugh asked if they use in house mechanics? The chief responded they average \$100,000 for maintenance per year. DPW has 5 mechanics, but they do have to outsource some repairs. Councilor Kiely asked how long engine 3 is out of service. The chief responded that it's just a couple of days. She also commended the work and efforts to get Station 2 open. Councilor Heffernan noted it's important to maintain the vehicles and to have the technology. He supported the measure.

President Smart asked if there were any questions or comments from the public, to which there was no response.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to close the public hearing on measure 19 116 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**19 117-Utility Petition –NGRID/Verizon-Joint Pole Relocation-Stetson Street**

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to open the public hearing on measure 19 117 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. Abutters were notified on December 5, 2019. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Simon Yeung, Engineer with NGRID presented the petition for Tufts Library. Vice President Mathews reported they received correspondence back from DPW, which had no comments.

President Smart asked if there were any questions or comments from the public, to which there was no response.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to close the public hearing on measure 19 117 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to consider measure 19 117 under 2-9(b), same night action, and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to approve measure 19 117; that the Town of Weymouth grants NGRID/VERIZON permission for the relocation of poles, wires, cables and fixtures, including anchors, guys and other such necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way or ways:

P7 Stetson Street<sup>[1]</sup>Relocating JO P7 Stetson St to be located 60ft. NW of P1 Stetson St. Pole relocation is required due to the removal of overhead lines in front of Tufts Library.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**19 118-Utility Petition-NGRID-Conduit Installation-Washington/Weston Street**

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to open the public hearing on measure 19 118 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. Abutters were notified on December 5, 2019. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Simon Yeung presented the proposal.

President Smart asked several questions about the work. President Smart noted they must take appropriate precaution and follow all regulations, and coordinate with the residents. NGRID must take responsibility that the job is done right.

President Smart asked if there were any questions or comments from the public, to which there was no response.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to close the public hearing on measure 19 118 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to consider measure 19 118 under 2-9(b), same night action, and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to approve measure 19 118; that the Town of Weymouth grants NGRID permission to locate manholes, wires, and ducts, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along the following public way:

Weston St. Install 2-4” conduits from stub at Washington St 420ft. W on Weston St. to property at 143-145 Washington St. New conduit will be required to serve new building.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**19 119-Utility Petition-NGRID/Verizon-Joint Pole Installation –Washington Street**

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to open the public hearing on measure 19 119 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. Abutters were notified on December 5, 2019. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. Mr. Yeung was unaware of this petition.

Vice President Mathews urged they please call the office ahead to get everything before the meeting.

President Smart asked if there were any questions or comments from the public, to which there was no response.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to close the public hearing on measure 19 119 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to consider measure 19 119 under 2-9(b), same night action, and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Vice President Mathews to approve measure 19 119; that the Town of Weymouth grants NGRID/VERIZON, each having locations in certain of the streets of the municipality, permission to locate and erect in said locations poles, wires and fixtures thereto attached, along and across the following public way or ways:

Washington St.<sup>[SEP]</sup> Install new P13-1 26ft. SW of P13. New pole required to provide electric service to new building @ 143-145 Washington St.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. 9/0 (JH

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**Budget/Management Committee-Chair Michael Molisse**

Councilor Molisse reported that the Budget/Management Committee met on December 16, 2019 and deliberated the following:

**19 115-Appointment/Contract of Town Auditor**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on December 2, 2010. The committee met on December 16, 2019 and voted to forward the measure to the full town council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 19 115; that the Town of Weymouth, in accordance with 2-8(a) of the Town Charter, appoint Richard Swanson of 53 Clough Rd. Dedham as the Internal Auditor for a term to expire on December 31, 2020. The motion was seconded by Vice President Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**19 116-Purchase of a New Fire Engine**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on December 2, 2010. The committee met on December 16, 2019 and voted to forward the measure to the full town council with a recommendation for favorable action. A public hearing was held on December 16, 2019.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Molisse to approve measure 19 115; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$120,000 from account 12320007-585001 (Measure 19-063 Fire Engine Lease) and \$546,345 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding costs associated with the purpose of a new fire engine for the Weymouth Fire Department. This was identified as item #26 on the FY2019-2023 Capital Improvement Plan. This new engine would replace a 1994E-ONE Typhoon (Engine 2). The motion was seconded by Vice President Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Ordinance Committee- Chair Kenneth DiFazio**

**19 111-Safety Zone (20 Mile per hour speed limit) on a Portion of Pleasant Street**

This measure was referred to the Ordinance Committee on November 12, 2019. The committee met on November 25, 2019 and December 2, 2019, and on December 9, 2019, the committee voted to forward to the full town council with a recommendation for favorable action. A public hearing was held on December 2, 2019.

On behalf of the Ordinance Committee, a motion was made by Councilor DiFazio to approve measure 19 111; on behalf of Mayor Hedlund that the Town of Weymouth, through Town Council, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40, §22, and Chapter 90, §18B, and the Town of Weymouth Code of Ordinances, Section 13-104(a), authorize the placement of markings and signs regulating motor vehicle movement as follows:

Safety Zone, Speed Limit 20 Miles per Hour	
Street	Location
Pleasant Street	Between Torrey Street and a point 270 feet southwest of Chauncey Street

And cause the above restriction to be listed in the Town of Weymouth code of Ordinances, Chapter 13, Regulations Affecting Motor Vehicles, Attachment 1 – Appendix A under Schedule V, Safety Zones. The motion was seconded by Vice President Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**19 112-Traffic Regulations-Bus Stops, New Bus Route 226**

This measure was referred to the Ordinance Committee on November 12, 2019. The committee met on December 2, 2019 and on December 9, 2019, the committee voted an amended version to forward to the full town council with a recommendation for favorable action. A public hearing was held on December 2, 2019.



On behalf of the Ordinance Committee, a motion was made by Councilor DiFazio to approve measure 19 112; that the Town of Weymouth, through Town Council, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40, §22, and the Town of Weymouth Code of Ordinances, Section 13-106(a), authorize placement of markings and signs regulating motor vehicle movement and parking as follows:

Bus Stop		
Street	Side	Location
Columbian Street	Southwest	Between points 55 feet and 155 feet southeast of Burton Terrace
Washington Street	Southwest	Between points opposite Prospect Street and 55 feet to the northwest
Washington Street	Southwest	Between points 120 feet and 170 feet southeast of Richmond Street

and cause the above restriction to be listed in the Town of Weymouth Code of Ordinances, Chapter 13, Regulation Affecting Motor Vehicles, Attachment 1, Appendix A under Schedule VII, Bus Stops. The motion was seconded by Vice President Mathews. President Smart thanked the committee and Councilor Kiely for representing her district. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

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

**Overview of Draft Town of Weymouth Open Space Plan- Robert Luongo, Director of Planning and Community Development**

Mr. Luongo noted the plan is 240 pages. He thanked the mayor and council for support. They will need a plan in place to qualify for federal and state funding. It is on schedule to have a plan to the state by end of 2020. Inventories parks, evaluates community needs and Yeoman’s work was done by the town’s own people so the cost was greatly reduced. Through the process, they heard from users, etc.; folks were invited to receive updates. A survey was conducted on creating and maintaining open space. In May, over 50 participated in a workshop. The plan is in draft form, and will be presented to the state for review. It’s available on the town website. Established a dedicated website- [Weymouthoutdoors.com](http://Weymouthoutdoors.com). On December 18, 2019, there will be a presentation then questions/comments to be incorporated into the final plan. While he knows it’s a busy time of year, it’s important they get comments back. Part of the plan certain boards will be asked to review. Planning Board and Mayor’s office, but are asking several other including Town Council to draft a letter – endorsing the plan (it will be discussed in the January meetings).

There are seven goals and objectives:

- Improve management to meet all the needs
- Improve accessibility
- Maintain water assets

- Protect and preserve natural resources
- Incorporate healthy living concepts
- Consider the impact of natural hazards and climate change
- Identify and protect historical, scenic, cultural resources

Councilor Hackett urged that the bathrooms at Libbey Field are made a part of it. She hears frequently from users. They also need to make more strides in permitting/scheduling of maintenance of fields. They're invested all the money and now need to improve the coordination. Mr. Luongo responded they he will make sure it's incorporated. Councilor Kiely thanked the departments involved. She hoped to continue to do great things.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting of the Town Council Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, January 6, 2020.

At 8:53 PM; there being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Mathews to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Molisse.  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary.

Approved by Michael Smart as President of the Town Council.  
Voted unanimously on 21 January 2020