

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Town Hall Council Chambers
Zoom # 862 0129 9028
5 September 2023--Tuesday

Present: Arthur Mathews, President
Michael Molisse, Vice President
John Abbott, Councilor
Lisa Belmarsh, Councilor
Pascale Burga, Councilor
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor
Fred Happel, Councilor
Christopher Heffernan, Councilor
Maureen Kiely, Councilor
Gary MacDougall, Councilor

Absent: Greg Shanahan, Councilor

Also Present: Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk
Richard McLeod, Town Solicitor
Brian Connolly, Town Auditor
James Malary, Director of Municipal Finance

Recording Secretary: Diane Hachey

President Mathews called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. He announced that WETC was having audio technical difficulties and that viewers could sign into ZOOM to access the meeting. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathleen Deree called the roll, with Councilor Shanahan absent. President Mathews announced the he was unavailable due to a work commitment

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Burga announced Weymouth Day to be held at Town Hall on 16 September from 2:30-7:30. There will be live music, food trucks and games. She encouraged all to attend.

MINUTES

Vice Chair Molisse motioned for favorable action on the Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 26, 2023, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

23 112-National Grid Underground Electrical-94 Puritan Road

Vice Chair Molisse motioned to open the public hearing, noting that the abutters were notified on 25 August 2023; motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

Socrates Perez of National Grid presented in request that National Grid construct a line of underground electric conduits, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, under and across the public way for new service at 94 Puritan Road—connected to an existing pole. This is approximately 10-15 feet to the centerline of the intersection of Puritan Road.

President Mathews asked for comments from the public in the Chambers and on ZOOM and there were none.

Vice Chair Molisse motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

Vice Chair Molisse motioned for action under 2-9(b), motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

Vice Chair Molisse motioned for favorable action, motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and voted unanimously.

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

23 113-CPA Funding Request-Additional Funding for the Construction and Restoration of Beals Park

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, James Malarly requested that that \$150k is appropriated from the unreserved fund balance account for additional funding for the restoration of Beals Park.

Vice President Molisse motioned to refer the measure to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 114-Appointment to the Board of Assessors-Steven Whalen

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, James Malarly requested, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, to submit Stephen Whalen of 25 Lincoln Street for appointment to the Board of Assessors, term to expire on June 30, 2025.

Vice President Molisse motioned to refer the measure to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 115-Appointment to the Planning Board-Charles Young

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, James Malary requested in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, to submit Charles Young of 39 Apple Tree Lane for appointment to the Planning Board, for a term to expire on June 30, 2025.

Vice President Molisse motioned to refer the measure to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 116-Appointment to the Cultural Council-Lisa McCrosson

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, James Malary requested in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, to submit Lisa McCrosson for appointment to the Cultural Council, with a term to expire on June 30, 2025.

Vice President Molisse motioned to refer the measure to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 117-Appointment to the Waterfront Committee-Frank Singleton

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, James Malary requested in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, to submit Frank Singleton for appointment to the Waterfront Committee, with a term to expire on June 30, 2026.

Vice President Molisse motioned to refer the measure to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 118-Appointment to the Commission on Disabilities-Norman Tetreault

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, James Malary requested in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, to submit Norman Tetreault for appointment to the Commission on Disabilities, for a term to expire on June 30, 2026.

Vice President Molisse motioned to refer the measure to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 119-Appointment to the Scholarship Fund Committee-Sheri Eldridge

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, James Malary requested in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, to submit Sheri Eldridge for appointment to the Scholarship Fund Committee, for a term to expire on June 30, 2025.

Vice President Molisse motioned to refer the measure to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 120-Proposed Amendment to Zoning Ordinance Article II, s.120-6 and Article IV, s.120-13, Concerning In-Law Residence Structures

On behalf of Mayor Hedlund, James Malary requested to amend the Zoning Ordinances Article II section 120-6 and Article IV section 20-13 as indicated.

Vice President Molisse motioned to refer the measure to the Ordinance Committee and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Ordinance Committee-Chair Kenneth DiFazio

23 111-Proposed Amendment to Union Point Zoning District Map at Exhibit A of Zoning and Land Use By-Laws for Naval Air Station-South Weymouth

Chair DiFazio reports that on June 14, 2023 the measure was filed with the Town Clerk. On June 20 the measure was referred to both the Ordinance Committee and Planning Board. The request is from Mosaic Lending Trust, affiliates of Endeavor Capital, who owns parcels 58-598-45 and 58-598-46. They are seeking a zoning revision of the zoning map for Union Point to have the area rezoned into the Shea Village Commercial District and Town Center Overlay District. This is the site of the former gym at the NAS and land that is proposed to be redeveloped by the SRA's designated master developer.

On July 18, 2023 the Planning Board held their hearing and the Town Council subsequently held theirs on July 21. On August 2 the Planning Board rendered their recommendation for unanimous unfavorable action. Chair DiFazio read the recommendation into the record (attached).

The Ordinance Committee met initially on August 7 and the SRA held their public hearing on August 16. The Ordinance Committee met again on August 28 and voted unanimous unfavorable action.

On behalf of the Ordinance Committee, Chair DiFazio motioned for unfavorable action on measure 22 111, motion seconded by Councilor Molise and voted unanimously for unfavorable action.

NEW BUSINESS

Oversight of Redevelopment of Former NAS South Weymouth
MEPA Notice of Project Change
Town of Weymouth Peer Review Consultant
Infrastructure (Water, Sewer, Transportation, Town Services)
-John Abbott, District 6 Councilor

Councilor Abbott noted that at the end of June, a new committee, named Southfield/Union Point was formed to act as a voice for redevelopment of the base, for both the Council and public. This is the first item of business and the Planning Director will introduce the Peer Review Consultant in addition to providing an overview.

He motioned for referral of the aforementioned issues to the Southfield/Union Point Committee, motion seconded by Councilor Molisse and voted unanimously.

President Mathews noted that he named Councilor Abbott as chair of this committee, with members Councilors MacDougall, Heffernan, Happel and himself. A meeting will be planned in the next few weeks, once all schedules can be finalized.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for 18 September 2023. At 7:59 PM; there being no further business, Vice President Molisse motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Burga. Unanimously voted.

Attachments: Planning Board Recommendation

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Hachey as Recording Secretary

Approved by Arthur Mathews as President of the Town Council
Voted unanimously on 18 September 2023