

**Town Council Minutes
Town Hall Council Chambers
September 18, 2023**

Present: Arthur Mathews, President
Michael Molisse, Vice President
John Abbot, Councilor
Lisa Belmarsh, Councilor
Pascale Burga, Councilor
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor
Fred Happel, Councilor
Maureen Kiely, Councilor
Gary MacDougall, Councilor
Greg Shanahan, Councilor

Not Present: Christopher Heffernan, Councilor

Also Present: Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk
Richard McLeod, Town Solicitor
Brian Connolly, Town Auditor
James Malary-Chief Financial Officer

Recording Secretary: Janet P. Murray

President Mathews called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathleen Deree called the roll. Councilor Heffernan was not present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Happel stated that this Sunday September 24, 2023, will be the Weymouth Irish Heritage Day Parade and Festival. It will kick off at 11:00 a.m. at the Hamilton School and proceed down Union Street and end at Columbian Square. This year's grand marshal is Coach Pat O'Toole from Weymouth High School. Following the parade there will be a festival from 12-3 p.m. at Stella Park with music, dance, and vendors. The event will be held rain or shine.

Councilor Burga stated that there will be a Welcome to Weymouth Community Fair for new residents held on Saturday September 30, 2023, from 11am to 3pm at the Tufts library at 46 Broad Street in Weymouth. Residents can meet community members, and organizations looking for participants and volunteers. Staff from Weymouth town departments will also be on hand to answer questions about Weymouth government. This is presented by the Mayor's office in partnership with the Weymouth public libraries.

MINUTES

Vice President Molisse motioned for approval of the **Budget/Management Committee meeting minutes of July 31, 2023**. Motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and passed 10-0.

Vice President Molisse motioned for approval of the **Special Town Council Meeting minutes of July 31, 2023**. Motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and passed 10-0.

Vice President Molisse motioned for approval of the **Town Council Meeting minutes of September 5, 2023**. Motion seconded by Councilor Kiely and passed 10-0.

RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY COMMENT

Janet Murray, 1805 Commercial Street, reported about her trip to Weymouth, England, and shared a basket of goodies for the Councilors from the Mayor and staff of Weymouth England.

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

23 121-Early Voting Hours for November 7, 2023, Election - Action requested under 2-9(b)

Town Clerk Kathleen Deree stated that she submits the following measure for consideration that the Town Council follow the recommendation of the Town Clerk and set the early voting hours for November 7, 2023, town general election as follows Monday, October 30, 2023, through Friday, November 3, 2023, 8:30am to 4pm at the Town Clerk's office at 75 Middle Street.

Vice President Molisse made a motion to take measure 23 121 under 2-9(b) same action which was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Motion passed 10-0.

Vice President Molisse made a motion to approve measure 23 121 which was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Motion passed 10-0.

23 122-Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate) Michael Pizziferri

James Malary stated that measure 23 122 is hereby submitted on behalf of Mayor Hedlund for consideration by Town Council. In accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, Mayor Hedlund respectfully submits the name of Michael Pizziferri of 45 Durant Road for appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals filling a two year term due to expire on June 30, 2024.

Vice President Molisse made a motion to refer measure 23 122 to the Budget/Management Committee which was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Motion passed 10-0.

23 123-Appointment to the Board of Assessors-Stella Mach

James Malary stated that measure 23 123 is hereby submitted on behalf of Mayor Hedlund for consideration by Town Council. In accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter Mayor Hedlund respectfully submits the name of Stella Mach of 78 Whitman Street, for appointment to the Board of Assessors filling a three year term due to expire on June 30, 2026.

Vice President Molisse made a motion to forward measure 23 123 to the Budget/Management Committee which was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Motion passed 10-0.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Budget/Management Committee - Chair Michael Molisse

Vice President Molisse stated that the Budget/Management Committee met 9/18/2023.

23 090 – Free Cash for Riley Field Pickleball Courts

Vice President Molisse stated that this measure was referred to the committee on May 15, 2023. The committee met on June 12, 2023. There was a favorable public hearing held. It was then tabled in the committee on June 12, 2023, to June 26, 2023 as there were concerns by residents in the Roosevelt Road area.

Vice President Molisse stated that he, Councilor Happel, Councilor Kiely, and Councilor Burga met with residents at Riley Field. However, the residents are not yet satisfied, so the committee did not feel good about moving forward.

Steve Reilly has agreed to meet with the residents. He will have community meetings possibly on Saturday the 23rd. They will meet first at the Whipple Center to observe soundproofing installed at the pickleball courts located there.

The committee tabled this until the October 16, 2023, meeting to see where things are at that point and how the residents feel about what has transpired. He added that they are not against pickleball--they just want to have it done right.

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

Vice President Molisse stated that this was referred to the committee on 9/5/2023, and the committee met on 9/18/2023, and voted favorable action; Mr. Whalen is not present because on June 5, 2023, he was appointed as an alternate on the Board of Assessors and has already met with the committee. He is now being forwarded as a full member of the Board of Assessors.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse recommended favorable action on measure 23 114 to the full Town Council. He hereby submitted, on behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, the name of Steven Whalen, 25 Lincoln Street, for appointment to the Board of Assessors. This is filling a three year term due to expire June 30, 2025. Councilor Kiely seconded. Motion passed 10-0.

23 115-Appointment to the Planning Board-Charles Young

Vice President Molisse welcomed Charles Young and asked him to explain why he applied for this position.

Mr. Young stated that he is looking to give back to his community. He works for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a resident engineer and is on the board of two nonprofits.

Vice President Molisse stated that this measure was referred to the committee on 9/5/2023. The committee met 9/18/2023 and voted favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse recommended favorable action on measure 23 115 to the full Town Council. He hereby submitted, on behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, the name of Charles Young, 39 Appletree Lane, for appointment to the Planning Board. This is filling a two year term due to expire June 30, 2025. Councilor Kiely seconded. Motion passed 10-0.

23 116-Appointment to the Cultural Council-Lisa McCrosson

Vice President Molisse welcomed Lisa McCrosson and asked her to explain why she applied for this position.

Ms. McCrosson stated that she has been a resident of Weymouth for 24 years with her kids who attended school here. She stated that she wants to become more involved in Weymouth. She noted that she applied for and received a cultural grant a few years ago for the Weymouth marching band. She also noted that she is a project manager and works with grants as part of her job.

Vice President Molisse stated that this measure was referred to the committee on 9/5/2023. The committee met 9/18/2023 and voted favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse recommended favorable action on measure 23 116 to the full Town Council. He hereby submitted, on behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, the name of Lisa McCrosson, 25 Georgia Road for appointment to the Cultural Council. This is filling a three year term due to expire June 30, 2025. Councilor Kiely seconded. Motion passed 10-0.

23 117-Appointment to the Waterfront Committee-Frank Singleton

Vice President Molisse welcomed Frank Singleton and asked him to explain why he applied for this position.

Mr. Singleton stated that he has been on the Conservation Commission for several terms as well as involved with the waterfront and various issues. He grew up here and is concerned with the changes in climate. He added that they need to look at infrastructure and to see whether or not there are issues that can be adjusted since the existing report is 40 years old.

Vice President Molisse stated that this measure was referred to the committee on 9/5/2023. The committee met 9/18/2023 and voted favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse recommended favorable action on measure 23 117 to the full Town Council. He hereby submitted, on behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, the name of Frank

Singleton, 60 Bluff Road, for appointment to the Waterfront Committee. This is filling a three year term due to expire June 30, 2026. Councilor Kiely seconded. Motion passed 10-0.

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

Chair Molisse welcomed Norman Tetreault and asked him to explain why he applied for this position.

Mr. Tetreault stated that he has been a resident of Weymouth for 56 years and currently serves at the Whipple Center as a Shine Counselor serving health insurance needs of everyone. He stated that he thinks he would bring a level of experience as far as what he has gone through. He added that he wants to help people reach their potential.

This measure was referred to the committee on 9/5/2023. The committee met on 9/18/2023 and voted favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse recommended favorable action on measure 23 118 to the full Town Council. He hereby submitted, on behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, the name of Norman Tetreault, 45 Pleasant Street, Unit 15, for appointment to the Commission on Disabilities. This is filling a two year term due to expire June 30, 2026. Councilor Kiely seconded. Motion passed 10-0.

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

Vice President Molisse welcomed Sheri Eldridge and asked her to explain why she applied for this position.

Ms. Eldridge stated that she has been a resident of Weymouth for the last 15 years. She has volunteered in the Idlewell district as well as at the library. She has been a school counselor for 25 years and during that time was on a scholarship committee. She added that she would like to lend her experience to Weymouth and give back to the community.

This was referred to the committee on 9/5/2023. The committee met 9/18/2023 and voted favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, Vice President Molisse recommended favorable action on measure 23 119 to the full Town Council. He hereby submitted, on behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, in accordance with section 2-10 of the town charter, the name of Sheri Eldridge, 60 Georgia Road, for appointment to the Scholarship Fund Committee. This is filling a three year term due to expire June 30, 2025. Councilor Kiely seconded. Motion passed 10-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Mathews announced that the next regularly scheduled Town Council meeting will be held on Monday, 10/2/2023

At 7:50 p.m., there being no further business, Vice President Molisse motioned to adjourn the meeting, and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Motion passed 10-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Janet P. Murray as Recording Secretary

Approved by Arthur Mathews as President of the Weymouth Town Council

Voted unanimously on 16 October 2023