

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Town Hall Council Chambers
Zoom # 860 7426 1055
August 15, 2022, Monday

Present: Arthur Mathews, President
Michael Molisse, Vice President
Pascale Burga, Councilor
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor
Fred Happel, Councilor
Christopher Heffernan, Councilor
Greg Shanahan, Councilor

Absent: John Abbott, Councilor
Lisa Belmarsh, Councilor
Maureen Kiely, Councilor
Gary MacDougall, Councilor
Richard McLeod, Town Solicitor

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

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

President Mathews called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathleen Deree called the roll. President Mathews reported that Councilors Abbott, Belmarsh, Kiely and MacDougall were absent due to commitments made prior to the scheduling of this meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Burga announced that the voluntary temporary water conservation restrictions are in effect, as a result of the drought caused by the recent record lack of rain, and in order to prevent future mandatory restrictions.

Councilor Shanahan announced early voting hours in advance of the September 6, 2022 primary election.

Councilor Heffernan announced the annual overdose awareness candlelight ceremony and remembrance vigil will be held August 31, 2022 at Brad Hawes Park, 6:30 PM.

President Mathews welcomed the new Town Auditor, Brian Connolly.

MINUTES

Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2022

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2022 Budget/Management Committee meeting. Councilor DiFazio seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2022

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve the minutes from the May 25, 2022 Ordinance Committee meeting. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2022

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve the minutes from the May 25, 2022 Public Works Committee meeting. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Auditor Selection Committee Meeting- Open Session Minutes of June 6, 2022

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2022 Auditor Selection Committee meeting Open Session. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Auditor Selection Committee Meeting – Executive Session Minutes of June 6, 2022

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2022 Auditor Selection Committee meeting Executive Session. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2022

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2022 Town Council meeting. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2022

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2022 Budget/Management Committee meeting. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2021

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2022 Town Council meeting. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

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

22 117- Police Details at Elections

On June 22, 2022 the election reform law (the “VOTES act”) was signed into law by Governor Baker. The VOTES act makes many of the changes from the pandemic permanent (i.e., Vote by Mail and Early In-Person Voting). In addition, the assignment of police officers at polling places now requires a vote of the Town Council.

Town Clerk Kathy Deree requested that the Town Council delegates the authority given to them in Chapter 92, Section 72 of the act of 2022 to detail a sufficient number of police officers or constables for each building that contains the polling places for one or more precincts at every election therein to preserve order and to protect the election officers and supervisors from interference with their duties and to aid in enforcing the laws relating to elections to the Chief of Police.

Vice President Molisse motioned to consider the measure under 2-9 (b), same night action. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve measure 22 117, that the Town Council delegates the authority given to them in Chapter 92, Section 72 of the act of 2022 to supply a sufficient number of police officers or constables for each building that contains the polling places for one or more precincts at every election therein to preserve order and to protect the election officers and supervisors from interference with their duties and to aid in enforcing the laws relating to elections to the Chief of Police. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

22 118-Call of the State Primary

Town Clerk Kathy Deree requested; 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 state primary election to vote on Tuesday, September 6, 2022.

Vice President Molisse motioned to consider the measure under 2-9 (b), same night action. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

Vice President Molisse motioned to approve measure 22 118; 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 state primary election to vote on Tuesday, September 6, 2022. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

22 119- Reserve Fund to Library Overtime

On behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, CFO Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$12,000 from the FY23 Reserve Fund to the following line items:

\$4,000 to the Library Building & Grounds Maintenance Overtime line item and \$8,000 to the Library Main Library Overtime line item

It was noted that an explanation of need from Library Director Rob MacLean is attached.

Vice President Molisse motioned for the referral of the measure to the Budget/Management Committee. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

22 20- CPA Funding Request-Improvements at Osprey Overlook Park

On behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, CFO Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth appropriate the sum of \$370,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance, for improvements at Osprey Overlook Park

Vice President Molisse motioned to forward the measure to the Budget/Management Committee. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

22 121- Reserve Fund for Accounting Services

On behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, CFO Malary requested that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$30,000 from the FY23 Reserve Fund for the purpose of paying accounting services following the retirement of the town accountant.

Vice President Molisse motioned for referral of the measure to the Budget/Management Committee. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

22 122- Appointment to Board of Registrars-Linda Rorie

On behalf of Mayor Robert Hedlund, CFO Malary requested that; in accordance with Section 2-10 of the Town Charter, appoint Linda Rorie of 693 Commercial Street to the Board of Registrars. This is a 3-year term due to expire on June 30, 2025.

Vice President Molisse motioned for referral of the measure to the Budget/Management Committee. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Council is Monday, September 12, 2022 (due to the state primary election). At 7:41 PM; there being no further business, Vice President Molisse motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Burga seconded the motion and it was unanimously voted.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Arthur Mathews as President of the Town Council

Voted unanimously on 12 September 2022