



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday October 17, 2017

CALL TO ORDER:

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Timothy Fitzgibbons called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:30 pm, on October 17, 2017 in the Academy Building Council Chambers, 66 Central Square, Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

PRESENT:

Council members present were, Aisha Losche, William Wood, Kevin Perry, Edward Haley, Timothy Fitzgibbons, Francis Sousa, Dennis Gallagher, Peter Colombotos (arriving at 7:33 p.m.), and Shawn George. Town Manager Michael Dutton and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins were also present.

ABSENT: *No Councilors were absent*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

- October 3, 2017

Motion: A motion to approve was made by Councilor Losche. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sousa.

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 8-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT - None

PROCLAMATIONS - None

CITIZENS OPEN FORUM –

- Dr. Kern, 77 South Street: Dr. Kern referenced a flier (included with materials) spoke about “Drug Take Back Day”. Spoke about Bridging Lives and “Social Host Law” which prohibits serve alcohol to minors in your home or procure alcohol for minors. Dr. Kern spoke about an article in the Cape Cod Times quoting concerns expressed by officials on the Cape.

APPOINTMENTS

- Treasurer/Collector – Scott Bois

Motion: A motion to approve was made by Councilor Haley. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sousa. Town Manager Dutton spoke about the rigorous interview process Mr. Bois has gone through, and then spoke about Mr. Bois’ experience and skills. Mr. Dutton thanked Angela Chandler for her hard work.

Discussion: Councilor Colombotos has only heard only good things about Ms. Chandler; if she recommends Mr. Bois, he will take that recommendation. Councilor Gallagher agrees the recommendations are noteworthy. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

HEARINGS -

- **7:35 p.m. HEARING:** Order O-FY18-006: Loan Order – Water Meter Replacement Project

President Fitzgibbons opened the hearing at 7:37 p.m.

Mr. Dutton explained this s the second phase of a pilot project. He spoke about the features of the upgraded system.

President Fitzgibbons invited any questions from the public – None

President Fitzgibbons asked if there was anyone speaking in favor - None

President Fitzgibbons asked if there was anyone speaking in opposition - None

President Fitzgibbons entertained any questions from councilors:

- Councilor Colombotos asked what the expected terms of the loan to be. Mr. Dutton responded he is projecting a five-year payback at this point.

President Fitzgibbons closed the hearing at 7:40 p.m.

President Fitzgibbons noted the favorable dispositions of Budget & Finance and Finance Committees.

Motion: A motion to approve was made by Councilor Wood. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sousa.



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Discussion: None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Losche – YEA; Wood – YEA; Perry – YEA; Haley – YEA; Fitzgibbons – YEA; Sousa – YEA; Gallagher – YEA; Colombotos – YEA; George – YEA. The motion passed 9-0.

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS

- Petition P-2017-027: Hidden Treasures, Better Bean & Co. Request for One Day Entertainment License for October 28, 2017 - Municipal Lot/Rear 50 Central Square

Motion: A motion to approve was made by Councilor Perry. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sousa.

Discussion: Mr. Dutton explained Hidden Treasures and Better Bean have joined to do some open-air entertaining. Councilor Perry expressed his support.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

- Petition P-2017-028: Transfer of Common Victualler License to Village P & S Inc. DBA the Final Score Sports Café from Crispi's Inc. dba The Final Score Sports Café, 350 Bedford Street (The Dome)

Motion: A motion to approve was made by Councilor Perry. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haley.

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS - None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Dutton reported on information about various activities happening around town and highlighted meetings and events. Items of note included: They received one RFP submission for the McElwain School, which was a bit of a surprise to only receive one. However, it is a relatively small project from a developer standpoint. Mr. Dutton will ask CEDC to review the proposal and make some recommendations. The Mitchell School Building Committee has been meeting. They had their final meeting before being invited into the eligibility phase. The committee will issue an RFP for an Owners Project Manager (OPM). Once the OPM is hired, they will develop an RFP for developers' services. The meetings will now be held in the Council Chambers. Regarding Skips Liquors; despite recent activity on the property, we have issued notice for license revocation hearing for 12/5/17. The Council held a hearing about two years ago and the Council decided not to revoke the license. Today we received the free cash certification. Free Cash was certified at \$1.3MM. Mr. Dutton then explained there are a whole host of things included in that number. The number reflects good financial practices. Mr. Dutton also noted Water & Sewer Retained Earnings was about what was expected, Golf Course just about broke even, and Transfer Station had an expected deficit. Mr. Dutton briefly spoke about complaints about not lowering flags to half staff on some occasions; noting there have been some staff illnesses recently, so that's probably why. Finally, Mr. Dutton pointed out there are some busy Council meetings coming up.

Councilor Questions:

- Councilor Gallagher asked about the offer on the RFP for the McElwain. Mr. Dutton explained; it is done in two pieces, proposal and price proposal. In an abundance of caution, Mr. Dutton has not opened the price proposal yet. Councilor Gallagher spoke briefly about the \$1.3MM in Free Cash; noting it's good, but he thinks over the past couple of budget cycles, have been a little conservative in funding departments. Mr. Gallagher suggested; maybe the Town can be a little more flexible in our revenue projections.
- Councilor George asked for an update on RFP for old Town Hall. Mr. Dutton has drafted an RFP and are ready to issue. We have been going back & forth about how restrictive we want to be. Councilor George asked if the RFP be out by next meeting. Mr. Dutton responded; probably not until we know what the Council wants.

DISCUSSIONS - None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Budget & Finance: Councilor Wood noted the committee voted on the Sewer Enterprise Fund transfer. They were all in agreement to move forward.

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

- Order O-FY18-008: Transfer Order – Sewer Enterprise Transfer for Emergency Repairs
This measure was not taken up.



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- Resolution R-FY18-002: 2018 Town Council Meeting Dates

Motion: A motion to approve was made by Councilor Losche. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.

Discussion: Councilor Wood noted his opinion that it is a good routine to set up dates well in advance.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

- Order O-FY18-009: Trust Fund Transfer – Senior Center Folding Partition

Mr. Dutton explained, traditionally we have deferred to Senior Center Board of Trustees for these matters, but our Auditors are not in agreement. They have advised that the Town Council should approve.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Haley to refer to the Budget & Finance Committee and Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilor George.

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

- Order O-FY18-011: Ratification of Collective Bargaining Contract -AFSCME

Mr. Dutton explained some of the highlights of the contract. He noted we now have one contract from several MOU's. Moves employees to from a 3-step system to a 12-step system and updates the grievance procedures to reflect current form of government. We have granted day after Thanksgiving as holiday and eliminated a ½ day Christmas Shopping Day. Converted longevity rates to be consistent across the board. Councilor Wood requested a clean copy of the contract be emailed. At Councilor Gallagher's request, Mr. Dutton briefly explained the increases. President Fitzgibbons noted his appreciation of the compensation matrix.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood to refer to the Budget & Finance Committee and Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Losche. B

Discussion: Councilor Wood agreed with President Fitzgibbons.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 9-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor Losche: Welcomed Mr. Bois. Mrs. Losche reminded all the Gala for the Well is this Thursday. She noted the Drug Takeback is next weekend.
- Councilor Wood: Noticed some other Towns are having an annual hazardous waste day and suggested maybe that's something we want to think about as a town. Mr. Wood has heard there's a flier going around with his name on it relative to the marijuana issue. Finally, Mr. Wood referenced article printed in Washington Post which was handed out.
- Councilor Perry: Attended the Health Fair at the Senior Center. It was a great event. He congratulated Lorraine Carrozza and her staff.
- Councilor Haley: Nothing
- Councilor Sousa: Nothing
- Councilor Gallagher: Nothing
- Councilor Colombotos: Nothing
- Councilor George: Implored the Town Manager to accelerate the RFP Process on Town Hall. Mr. George will be serving on public service committee at BSU. South Shore Brew Fest was a good time last weekend. The drug disposal is very timely.
- Councilor Fitzgibbons: Gave a brief update on the School Building Committee. Mr. Fitzgibbons is the representative there and we're moving along with all diligence. As the Superintendent says, it's a hurry up and wait situation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Losche to move into Executive Session under MGL, Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(6) To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting



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may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body and to adjourn from Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilor George.

Discussion: None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – YEA; Colombotos – YEA; Gallagher – YEA; Sousa – YEA; Fitzgibbons – YEA; Haley – YEA; Perry – YEA; Wood – YEA; Losche - YEA. The motion passed 9-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Open session adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Ann Holmberg

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, November 8, 2017, to approve the aforementioned minutes, as submitted by a voice vote (9-0).

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Ann M. Holmberg
Town Council Clerk