



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 21, 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 November 21, 2017 in the Academy Building Council Chambers, 66 Central Square, Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

PRESENT:

Council members present were, Aisha Losche (arriving at 7:32 p.m.), William Wood, Kevin Perry, Edward Haley, Timothy Fitzgibbons, Francis Sousa, Dennis Gallagher, Peter Colombotos, and Shawn George. Assistant Town Manager Kimberly Williams and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins were also present.

ABSENT:

- Town Manager, Michael Dutton

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was held for all veterans who have passed including:

- Wilbur Boss

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- November 7, 2017

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

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

- Presentation of Korean War Peace Medals

Veteran's Agent Roddy Walsh came forward and gave history of the Korean War. He then asked Council President, Fitzgibbons to come forward and presented John Hickey's family to come forward and presented the Korean War Peace Medal. Mr. Walsh read the proclamation (included in materials).

Mr. Walsh then recognized, Mr. Luigi Primavera and presented him with the Korean War Peace Medal and read a proclamation.

President Fitzgibbons commented Mr. Hickey and Primavera dedicated much of their lives to the betterment of the Town and are true ambassadors for peace.

PROCLAMATIONS - None

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood to take agenda item E: Appointments out of order. The motion was seconded by Councilor Perry.

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

APPOINTMENTS (*Taken Out of Order*)

- Library Trustee – Jeff Rhind

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

Discussion: None

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

- Board of Health – Leslie Reed

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

Discussion: Councilor Wood asked if this appointment was filling a vacancy and who was on the board. Assistant Town Manager Williams responded it is filling a vacancy, but could not recall all members' names.

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

- Conservation Commission – Eileen Prisco



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

Discussion: Councilors Gallagher and Perry thanked Ms. Prisco for volunteering.

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

**Return to regular order of business: D: Citizen's Open Forum*

CITIZENS OPEN FORUM –

- Jennifer Smith, 225 Boxwood Lane: Expressed concerns with the proposed amendment to the banning of marijuana. Ms. Smith feels anything less than a full ban is bad public policy. Ms. Smith feels the Town should not bend to what the Medical Marijuana companies want.
- Matt Putnam, Pleasant Street: The Town voted against legalizing recreational marijuana. Mr. Putnam spoke against the proposed amendment to the ban on recreational marijuana. He asked the Council to honor the will of the people and vote for a ban.
- Ed Ivaldi, 10 Boxwood Lane: Recognized the Council for their time and dedication to the Town. Mr. Ivaldi pointed out that very little has been heard from anyone supporting the recreational sale of marijuana. Mr. Ivaldi discussed the CEDC/Planning Board meeting and the amendment put forward. Asked why the marijuana industry seems to not come forward to speak and seem to hold discussions behind the scenes. Reminded the Council they are here to represent the citizens.
- Dr. Kern, 77 South Street: Thanked the Council for their service. Brought up new information relative to the opioid crisis. Dr. Kern pointed out that data shows marijuana use leads to opioid use. He urged the Council to vote for a complete ban.
- John Matos, Concetta Drive: The Council is here to represent the citizens. If we had town meeting, this would no longer be an issue. Mr. Matos feels recreational sale of marijuana would be a disaster for the town. He urged the Council to do the right thing for the families in town.
- Taylor Sullivan, Norland Park: Ms. Taylor spoke about the proposed amendment. She feels it's the height of hypocrisy. Ms. Sullivan spoke about the revenues that would be brought in with the business and feels the math doesn't add up for this to be a good choice for the town. Ms. Sullivan feels the process of adding the amendment was not transparent.
- Aysah Hussain, Sofia Lane: Mrs. Hussin respects the Council and believes they are supposed to do what will improve the town. Allowing the sales on Elm Street will make her street unsafe. She is opposed to retail marijuana on Elm Street or any place else in town.
- Carol Brushani, Wynwood Circle: Mrs. Brushani addressed Councilor Wood's ordinances from 11/7/17 stating, Mr. Wood stated there was fear in the room. Mrs. Brushani stated that was not fear, but frustration. The turnout for the November election was so high because it was a Presidential election. Another vote wouldn't yield such a high turnout. The town had a vote and voted against the sale of retail marijuana. She has to wonder why he is trying so hard to get another vote. Is it to elicit a different result?
- Pat Neary, 225 Lakeside Drive: Realizes people say how great the revenues are in Colorado. However they are #1 in marijuana use. We don't want that for Bridgewater. We only want what's best for the town; which is not to have pot in the town. Viewed the CEDC meeting with the Planning Board. It was in total disarray. There was no guidance. Thinks there were several errors that night, she was shocked and disappointed at the amendment. Mrs. Neary challenges the validity of the amendment and vote.
- Keith Buhl 10 Fieldcrest Drive: Mr. Buohl spoke about Facebook threads, discussing the physical appearance of the town, referencing a photo of the old Friendly's. Mr. Buohl referenced former Councilor Pitta's Vacant &



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Abandoned Property ordinance stating he would like to see the ordinance enforced or even made stronger. Mr. Buohl reminded all that December 3rd, is Christmas on the Common. He noted we are having our first parade. Mr. Buohl asked if they can you post the agenda only? He also stated, as a hearing impaired person, with the podium in front of the Council it makes it more difficult to hear.

- Connor Brushani, Wynwood Circle: Been coming for months asking for a ban. Mr. Brushani hasn't seen any residents stand up for the sale of marijuana. If there are people who want marijuana sold recreationally, they should come forward and get their opinions before the Council.
- Robert Wood, Forrest Drive: Would like to see the Town Clerk as an elected position. Thanked the elected Town Clerk who has produced the Annual Town Report.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood to allow Mr. Werther to speak during citizens open forum. The motion was seconded by Councilor George.

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

- Stephen Werther, CEO of Alternative Compassion: Mr. Werther stated we are responsible business owners in town. We abide by all the laws. May not agree with everyone's opinion, but respect them. Does not understand putting a restriction in that prevents us from running our business. Mr. Werther has invested significantly in the business and has 50+ employees in Bridgewater. He respects a ban on retail sales, but feels he should still be able to maintain his business.
- Cameron Brushani, Wynwood Circle: Hears some councilors say they reason they don't want a ban is their district didn't vote it. Asked the Council to honor the citizens of Bridgewater's vote to ban.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood to hear Mr. Pollock. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haley.

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

- Brandon Pollock, Theory Wellness: Mr. Pollock stated; we are a legal business in MA. Cannabis is legal and safer than alcohol. We are a high-tech company and are looking to reinvest more into town. Doesn't see any practical reason to hinder our ability to cultivate cannabis for recreational or medical market.
- William Scannell, Stoneybrook Drive: There are several ordinances this evening. Mr. Scannell agrees with Ms. Neary's analysis of the amendment. Would like to see rather than taking the ordinances piece mail, take the ban first. He has no respect for an industry that seems to do things in a back-door fashion.
- Shirley Krasinski, Auburn Street: Regarding the Town Clerk, Ms. Krasinski feels that having an appointed Town Clerk is totally against the Town's principles. Strongly urges retaining the elected position.
- Evan Maras, Ledgewood Drive: Mr. Maras doesn't want the town to be controlled by an industry like marijuana. If councilors have an opinion, they should set it aside and vote their citizens wishes.

HEARINGS

- **7:40 p.m.:** Order O-2016-027 – Accept Changes to Home Rule Charter
President Fitzgibbons opened the hearing at 8:26 p.m.

At President Fitzgibbons' request, Councilor Losche provided a brief history of the process noting; we have posted the changes line by line, have had numerous hearings and had on the Council agenda numerous times.

President Fitzgibbons invited any questions from the public

- Keith Buohl, 10 Fieldcrest Drive: Mr. Buohl noted the proposed Councilor stipends will become part of operating budget. He then asked if the committee have the authority to cut or increase the stipend. Councilor Losche responded the change won't take place for three years; there will be time to implement policy on that. Councilor Wood also noted; the stipends amount to \$27,000 is really quite small compared to the overall budget. Councilor Gallagher pointed out; the Charter sets the salary at \$3,000. That can't be



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 21, 2017

changed unless the charter is changed. Town Attorney Rawlins confirmed; if it's in the charter at \$3,000 that's where it remains until there is another charter amendment.

President Fitzgibbons asked if there was anyone speaking in favor -

- Ed Ivaldi, 10 Boxwood Lane: Mr. Ivaldi is pleased to see the majority of updates will tighten up and enhance the language in the Charter. Mr. Ivaldi is concerned about the removal of term limits. He explained the original intent of the term limits and offered several reasons why term limits are important. Mr. Ivaldi strongly recommends reinstating the section.
- Keith Buohl, 20 Fieldcrest Drive: Mr. Buohl is very much in favor of the stipend and is hoping it will promote other people who may not have run.

President Fitzgibbons asked if there was anyone speaking in opposition

- Keith Buohl, 10 Fieldcrest Drive: Mr. Buohl is adamantly against the Town Clerk being appointed. He thanked the original members of the Charter Review Committee and spoke about the speech the former Town Clerk made originally at Town Meeting to keep the position elected.
- Robert Wood, 60 Forest Drive: Mr. Wood is against appointing a Town Clerk. He thinks the position should be held by a town resident. Mr. Wood stated we are losing history and need to preserve it. An elected Town Clerk from within the town will help preserve history.
- Warren Minasian, Hayward Street: Mr. Minasian would like to retain an elected Town Clerk position.
- President Fitzgibbons read a memo submitted by the Town Clerk. The full memo was read into the record (*memo attached to minutes*).

President Fitzgibbons entertained any questions from councilors:

- Councilor Perry asked for clarification on the point relative to filling Council vacancies, brought up in the Town Clerk's memo, about number of months. Councilor Losche responded; the committee didn't see it as an issue. Councilor Wood also affirmed he has no recollection of this ever coming up as an issue.
- Councilor Gallagher asked about the effective date for Councilor stipend. He stated his belief that there is a three year wait because the Council cannot vote their own salary. However, Mr. Gallagher does not see the need for a three year wait as the Council is not voting their own stipends. Attorney Rawlins offered his opinion that by going through a Special Act, these Charter revision changes don't technically need a town-wide vote, the Town Council has chosen to put them before the voters by sending it to the ballot. Mr. Rawlins feels it's safer to wait the three years. Councilor Gallagher stated his opinion that the Town Clerk should be elected. He explained; he chaired the Charter Review Committee and the committee recommended an appointed Town Clerk, however, he wasn't on the Council then and sees it differently now.
- Councilor Wood addressed the comments of the Town Clerk relative to terms starting the day after the election, he noted it was discussed in committee and confirmed with the Town Attorney that a new councilor couldn't effectively take their seat until they are sworn in.
- Councilor Colombotos asked about the process for the ballot question. Councilor Losche responded; the Rules & Procedures committee recommends a single question. She clarified voting on crafting the ballot question is a separate process and comes later.

President Fitzgibbons closed the hearing at 9:04 p.m.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Losche to accept the Order. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Discussion: Councilor Losche explained, the town can submit these changes to the legislature then move to a town-wide vote.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Losche to amend the language of the Order as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.

Discussion: Councilor George confirmed that after voting this amendment, Councilors could still propose amendments to the Charter. President Fitzgibbons confirmed.
A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 9-0.

Discussion (on main motion): Councilor Losche recapped the previous vote on the Elected vs. Appointed Town Clerk and briefly reviewed the history of the process. Councilor Wood spoke about Councilor term limits. He further addressed an appointed Town Clerk, stating in the Administrative Code we specified the appointed Town Clerk be filled by a resident. A good Town Clerk shouldn't have to fight for their job every few years. As a Department Head we need to select qualified people. It shouldn't be a political position.

Motion: A motion to amend was made by Councilor Gallagher to keep the Town Clerk elected. The motion was seconded by Councilor George.

Discussion: President Fitzgibbons asked the Town Attorney if this change would require re-advertisement. Attorney Rawlins responded probably. Councilor Gallagher acknowledged we had the vote before and it failed; however he thinks the voters of Bridgewater will always look at the candidates and puts his faith in the voters. If this motion fails, he at least hopes the ballot question will be broken out into two questions. Councilor George stated the Town Clerk is a very good check and balance. He thinks the voters should decide.

Point of Interest: Councilor Wood asked Councilor George if he would give an example where the Town Clerk provides a check/balance to the legislative body. President Fitzgibbons discontinued the point.

Discussion (Cont'd): Councilor Colombotos suggested it would be useful to enumerate the areas to be amended. Attorney Rawlins concurred stating the amendment needs to be specific. Councilor Gallagher stated he did not see the need to be more specific and withdrew his motion.

Councilor George did not withdraw his second.

Motion: A motion to amend the main amendment was made by Councilor Colombotos by striking changes under sections 3-1, 3-4, delete section 3-A, the second part of Article VIII, Article 1 10.7 remove 2nd bullet point. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gallagher.

Discussion: None

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

Losche – NAY; Wood – NAY; Perry – NAY; Haley – NAY; Fitzgibbons – NAY; Sousa – YEA; Gallagher – YEA; Colombotos – YEA; George - YEA. The motion to amend the main amendment failed 4-5.

Discussion (on main motion to amend): None

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

George – YEA; Colombotos – YEA; Gallagher – YEA; Sousa – YEA; Fitzgibbons – NAY; Haley – NAY; Perry – NAY; Wood – NAY; Losche - NAY. The motion failed 4-5.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Perry to amend Section 2-5, Subsection A by changing "18 months" to "30 months". The motion was seconded by Councilor Colombotos.

Discussion: Councilor Perry explained he thinks the math makes greater sense this way. Councilor Colombotos confirmed with Attorney Rawlins that this change will not require another hearing.

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

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood to correct the scriveners errors in Article III-A. The motion was seconded by Councilor Losche.

Discussion: It was noted that the changes are outlined in the Town Clerk's memo.

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

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Colombotos to amend by changing the day of term beginning to the next business day. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.



Discussion: Councilor Wood stated he is not going to support this amendment as he does not really think it's necessary. Discussion followed briefly as Councilor Colombotos explained his reasons. Councilor Wood stated he will support the amendment.

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

Discussion (Cont'd on Main Motion to Accept): Councilor Colombotos expressed concern that we haven't addressed the accountability of the Town Clerk per her letter. Councilor Gallagher asked; if the vote to make the position appointed goes through, the Administrative Code could set parameters? Councilor Wood responded; by ordinance we can set parameters. We would need to set up a procedure. President Fitzgibbons clarified the process going forward as: we accept changes and approve tonight, then it goes to the state legislature.

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 - None

PRESENTATIONS - None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mrs. Williams reported; if the Town Council moves forward with the McElwain Order Mr. Dutton will continue his due diligence. He has reached out to Mass Housing Partnership. If the Town Council approves, he will convene meetings with various town committees. Mrs. Williams advised the Mitchell School Building Committee will be submitting an RFP for an OPM (Owners Project Manager).

Councilor Questions:

- Councilor Wood spoke about his concerns with downtown traffic safety.
- Councilor Sousa stated he met with Transportation committee. He has seen plenty of vehicles run the light in the center of town. He stated his opinion that we need enforcement.

DISCUSSIONS - None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Budget & Finance: Budget & Finance Committee met, but none of the items are on the agenda this evening.
- Community & Economic Development Committee: Councilor Losche stated the Committee does have the Vacant & Abandoned Property ordinances that are being looked at by Town Attorney.

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

- Order O-FY18-014: Town Council Acceptance of Proposal & Authorization for the Town Manager to Negotiate a Purchase & Sale for the McElwain School

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

Discussion: Councilor Perry explained, the Community & Economic Development Committee took it up at their last meeting. They had a presentation by the developers. While they didn't agree with everything in the proposal, the committee wants to let the town manager move forward.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Losche to amend as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gallagher.

Discussion: Councilor Gallagher supports the amendment but not the order. Councilor Perry acknowledged the committee had concerns too however; within the community of developers who does this work, they are the only one who submitted a proposal. This just gives the Town Manager the authority to move forward. Councilor Colombotos noted he needed to ask the Town Manager what we do if this doesn't work out. Discussion continued briefly as Councilors continued to express opinions and ideas.

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

Discussion (on main motion cont'd): Councilor George asked how many were requested and stated he would like to know why more responses were not received. Mrs. Williams responded she will get the list for Councilor George. Councilor Perry added the biggest factor for the lack of response is the cost factor to get the job done. Councilor Colombotos added; Mr. Delonno made the decision to leave the RFP extremely open so it wouldn't be



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 21, 2017

restrictive at all. Councilor Gallagher asserted his belief that the RFP was not broad enough. Councilor Colombotos did not see any evidence to support that opinion. Councilor Wood stated he supports the order. A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – YEA; Colombotos – YEA; Gallagher – NAY; Sousa – YEA; Fitzgibbons – YEA; Haley – YEA; Perry – YEA; Wood – YEA; Losche - YEA. The motion passed 8-1.

**10:12 p.m. Councilor George briefly stepped out of the meeting.*

- Resolution R-FY18-003: Bridgewater's FY2019 Budget Policy Guidelines

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood to postpone. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haley.

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 8-0 (Councilor George not present)

OLD BUSINESS

- Ordinance D-FY18-005: Zoning Ordinance - Prohibiting the Retail Sale of Recreational Marijuana

Motion: A motion to approve for advertising was made by Councilor Perry. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gallagher.

Discussion: Councilor Perry stated his support of a ban, but noted he also supports local businesses. He was unable to be at the first part of last weeks' Community & Economic Development Committee meeting, but he sent along an amendment. The amendment was not intended to create anything to get in the way of the ban itself but not restrict their (medical marijuana dispensary) business. Councilor Perry is in support of the ban with the amendment. Mrs. Williams projected the Order with a proposed updated amendment which will accomplish Councilor Perry's intent.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Perry to amend as presented by Mrs. Williams. The motion was seconded by Councilor Colombotos.

Discussion: President Fitzgibbons confirmed the procedure for adopting the updated amendment was correct. Attorney Rawlins clarified stating what comes out of the committees is a recommendation and is typically a report. Councilor Gallagher asked if the measure would need to go back to committee should the amendment pass. Attorney Rawlins responded, no. In response to a follow up question by Councilor Gallagher, Attorney Rawlins advised the new amendment language was carefully crafted based on the most recent statute from July, 2017. Discussion continued while Councilors expressed opinions on the amendment. At Councilor Wood's request, Attorney Rawlins clarified the amendment; stating it (recreational marijuana) may not be sold to consumers, but can be sold to other retailers and read the legal definition. Councilor Gallagher finally stated he cannot support the amendment as he feels it is industry driven.

Seeing no further discussion, President Fitzgibbons called for a roll call vote on the amendment with results recorded as follows:

Losche – YEA; Wood – YEA; Perry – YEA; Haley – YEA; Fitzgibbons – NAY; Sousa – NAY; Gallagher – NAY; Colombotos – YEA; George - YEA. The motion to amend passed 6-3.

President Fitzgibbons then reminded all that the next vote would be on the motion to approve for advertising and called for a roll call vote 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 to send to advertising passed 9-0.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to delay action and postpone to next meeting on the remainder of Old Business (Ordinances D-FY18-002, 008 and 009). The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.

Discussion: President Fitzgibbons explained; if there is ever a situation where the state comes in and says retail shops have to be allowed, we need to these other things in place. Councilor Colombotos asked Mr. Fitzgibbons to clarify. Mr. Fitzgibbons clarified he feels we should be clear about what we want, but have this ready in case it's needed.

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

- Ordinance D-FY18-002: Zoning Ordinance - Temporary Moratorium on the Sale and Distribution of Marijuana



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Postponed to next meeting per motion above.

- Ordinance D-FY19-008: Zoning Ordinance - Elm Street Retail Overlay Usage

Postponed to next meeting per motion above.

- Ordinance D-FY18-009: General Ordinance - Amend Tax Fees Table - Retail Tax on Marijuana Sales

Postponed to next meeting per motion above.

- Ordinance D-FY18-003: Zoning Ordinance - Rezone Lots on Easy Street to Residential A/B.

Motion: A motion to send to advertising was made by Councilor Losche. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haley.

Discussion: Councilor George expressed concern looking at the map that there are now other areas being changed from industrial to residential, which was not his understanding of the original intent. Councilor Losche explained; the homes are in industrial zones. There's one part of the road that's part industrial, part residential. Mr. George again expressed a major concern between what was presented, specifically lot 39-4. Mr. George asked if there are no residents there, why the change of zone.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Losche to postpone this measure to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haley.

Discussion: None

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

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood to take up item N: New Business after 10:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haley.

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ordinance D-FY18-011: Zoning Ordinance – Amend Elm Street Retail Overlay (ERO) District

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Haley to postpone to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Perry.

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

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood to take up agenda item O: Citizen's Comments 10:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Perry.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Robert Wood, Forest Drive: Regarding the residential zoning A/B ordinance, recently Mr. Wood has recently a deed for a recently land locked parcel, which may be helpful to the Council when they next take this up.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor George to take up agenda item P: Councilor Comments after 10:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.

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

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor Losche: Mrs. Losche clarified anyone can request information from Town Council Clerk if they have a question about correspondence. Nobody will buy her integrity. The implications that we're getting something that we shouldn't is incorrect.
- Councilor Wood: This Saturday decorations will go up around the common.
- Councilor Perry: Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Echoed Mrs. Losche's comments. He heard comments this evening that were pointed and a little aggressive. We're volunteers here. Take the position seriously and with integrity. Dr. Perry is looking to find some middle ground.
- Councilor Haley: Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Regarding comments about pot running the show and backdoor conversations, Mr. Haley thinks the Council is a moral group of people. He does not believe the pot industry is holding the cards. There was a lot of animosity this evening which Mr. Haley wasn't expecting.



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 21, 2017

- Councilor Sousa: Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Mr. Sousa looked at all the different ordinances. Since July he has been trying to do something, to set up a committee to look at rezoning, which was in committee for months. Businesses have to jump through hoops for zoning to get their business going.
- Councilor Gallagher: We had healthy discussion tonight and will continue to have healthy discussions. Mr. Gallagher pointed out that if the ordinance to ban marijuana passes it will reflect a compromise. Mr. Gallagher Congratulated Korean War Peace Medal recipients. Thanked citizens for their comments. Finally, Mr. Gallaher wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.
- Councilor Colombotos: Echoed comments about character attacks on the council. Thinks we all act with integrity. In terms of Zoning Mr. Colombotos asserted we need experts to look at it.
- Councilor George: Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Mr. George is very excited about the Christmas Parade. He echoed the fact that he believes everyone on council does things for the good of the town. It doesn't mean we all have to agree. Mr. George understands people's passion, but ask people to be respectful. Mr. George doesn't discount anybody's opinion if they bring it to him.
- Councilor Fitzgibbons: Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Wished good luck to B-R against Brockton on Thanksgiving. The B-R Cheerleading Team won state championship. Would like to do a proclamation. Mr. Fitzgibbons thanked his Council colleagues for their conduct tonight. Mr. Fitzgibbons has served with a lot of different councilors and has never once thought any of them have done anything that wasn't meant to be in the town's best interest. Finally, Mr. Fitzgibbons stated it was an honor to present the Peace Medals tonight.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – *No Executive Session was held.*

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: A motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Losche. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haley. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 9-0.

The meeting adjourned at 11:11p.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, December 5, 2017, to approve the aforementioned minutes by a Roll Call vote (8-0) (Councilor Colombotos not present).

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Ann M. Holmberg
Town Council Clerk