



Town of Bridgewater
Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 6, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Kevin Perry called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:33 pm, on October 6, 2015 at BTV Studios, 80 Spring Street, Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

PRESENT:

Council members present were, Sandra Wright, William Wood, Peter Colombotos, Aisha Losche, Kevin Perry, John Norris and Timothy Fitzgibbons. Town Manager Michael Dutton and Town Attorney Mark Gildea were also present.

ABSENT:

- Councilor Dennis Gallagher

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was held for all who have passed since our last meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

- September 22, 2015

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

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

- Condolences were offered to the families of:
 - o Edmund Goodhue
 - o Lester Hamilton
 - o Paul Annese
- Senator Pacheco district office hours: 10/22, Bridgewater COA 10-2

PROCLAMATIONS - None

CITIZENS OPEN FORUM – No citizens came forward

APPOINTMENTS – None

HEARINGS - None

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS

- Petition #P-2015-020: New Common Victualler License - TFS Newco LLC dba Tedeschi Food Shops #37424
Mr. Dutton explained this license is for Tedeschi on Bedford Street. It's needed because they intend to increase their food preparation and offerings.
Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons. The motion was seconded by Councilor Norris.
Discussion: None
A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

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: Mr. Dutton attended the Community Preservation Act's 15 year anniversary celebration. BSU will not be going ahead with developing sites on Maple and Bedford Streets this year. Autumnfest appeared to be a great success. Mr. Dutton spoke with Rick Palmeri who said it was great and is looking forward to Christmas on the Common. It was a busy day in Bridgewater with Autumnfest, the Martin Richards statue dedication and the Bridgewater Police Department 5K, but all events went well. Mr. Dutton noted that the Council's Rules & Procedures committee will hold a public hearing tomorrow night to review the draft Administrative Code at 7:00 p.m. here at BTV. Mr. Dutton has received a proposal from the Collins Center to take a look at the Building Office to look at the structure and staff and how that department will end up relating with other departments under the proposed Administrative Code. The Recreational Needs Study survey is on the website. Mr. Dutton has been made aware it



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doesn't include anything about parks or the trail system. Mr. Dutton has spoken with Representative D'Emilia regarding the Oak Street Bridge. He's been very helpful in trying to get the bond bill money released. Letters of support can be written to M. Dutton with a copy to Representative D'Emilia. The ICMA conference was great. It was good to hear about best practices across the nation. Mr. Dutton is looking forward to putting some of the best practices to use. Chief Delmonte has been elected to represent on the state 911 task force.

Council Questions:

- Councilor Norris asked if there is a metric/measure for turnaround time for Inspectional Services. Mr. Dutton responded; he is working on a metric to adopt it should be applicable to all departments. There needs to be performance measurements.

DISCUSSIONS - None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS - None

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION -

- Order #O-2015-028: Acceptance of a Gift – Bridgewater State University
Mr. Dutton explained this order is for the cash portion of the gift that BSU made in honor of its 175th anniversary and it will be split between the Highway, Police and Fire departments, according to the terms set in the gift letter.
Motion: A motion to accept was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons. The motion was seconded by Councilor Norris.
Discussion: None
A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:
Wright – YEA; Colombotos – YEA; Wood – YEA; Losche – YEA; Perry – YEA; Norris – YEA; Gallagher – ABSENT; Fitzgibbons - YEA. The motion passed 7-0.
- Resolution #R-2015-005: FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption
Mr. Dutton briefly explained this Resolution is relative to the presentation held at the previous meeting.
Motion: A motion to adopt was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons. The motion was seconded by Councilor Norris
Discussion: None
A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

- Ordinance #D-2013-015: Personal Property Tax Assessment
Mr. Dutton explained; this will essentially exempt from personal property tax, personal property, with a value less than \$5,000. This was a recommendation made by our auditors several years in a row.
Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to amend as in front of us. The motion was seconded by Councilor Norris.
Discussion: Thanked Mr. Dutton for his assistance with the ordinance.
A voice vote was taken and the motion to amend passed 7-0.
Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to send to advertising as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilor Norris.
Discussion: Councilor Fitzgibbons explained this does not increase taxes because of this.
A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- Resolution #R-2015-006: 2016 Town Council Meeting Dates
Councilor Wood explained this was to establish meeting dates for 2016; it's something we do every year. Dates that are exceptions to the Charter are noted with an asterisk.
This measure was not referred to any committee.
- Resolution #R-2015-007: FY2017 Budget Resolution
Councilor Wood explained this is also something we do every year. It's conservative. He noted there are 2 major changes: the Town Manager recommended bumping up new growth from \$250,000 to \$300,000 and ambulance receipts is at \$1MM to stay consistent with the Ordinance in place.
Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to refer to the Budget & Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Norris.
Discussion:



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A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

- Transfer #T-2015-020: Prior Year Invoices

Mr. Dutton explained these are not uncommon items that sometimes come in after the fiscal year ends. They will require a 9/10 vote.

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

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

- Transfer #T-2015-021: Departmental Transfer – Community & Economic Development

Mr. Dutton explained Lisa Sullivan from the Town Manager's office will be reporting into the Community & Economic Development Department.

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

Discussion: None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor Fitzgibbons: Nothing
- Councilor Gallagher: Absent
- Councilor Norris: No comments.
- Councilor Losche: Thanked everyone for Autumnfest. Mrs. Losche and her family had a great time.
- Councilor Wood: Thanked all involved in Autumnfest. It was a great event.
- Councilor Colombotos: Nothing
- Councilor Wright: Nothing
- Councilor Perry: Autumnfest was in record numbers this year. Dr. Perry congratulated BBA and all vendors who participated. Congratulated BSU on the dedication of the Richard Martin statue.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to move into Executive Session under: MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) (2): To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. The motion was seconded by Councilor Norris.

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

Fitzgibbons – YEA; Gallagher – ABSENT; Norris – YEA; Perry – YEA; Losche – YEA; Wood – YEA; Colombotos – YEA; Wright - YEA. The motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Open session adjourned at 8:00 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, October 20, 2015, to approve the aforementioned minutes, as submitted, by a voice vote (7-0).

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Ann M. Holmberg
Town Council Clerk