



Town of Bridgewater
Special Town Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 29, 2019

CALL TO ORDER:

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Dennis Gallagher called the special meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:30 pm, on October 29, 2019 in the Academy Building Council Chambers, 66 Central Square, Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

PRESENT:

Council members present were, Francis Sousa, Fred Chase, William Wood, Shawn George, Dennis Gallagher, Aisha Losche, and Timothy Fitzgibbons. Town Manager Michael Dutton and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins were also present.

ABSENT:

Councilor Colombotos

Councilor Rushton

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - *None*

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

PROCLAMATIONS - *None*

CITIZENS OPEN FORUM - No citizens came forward.

APPOINTMENTS - *None*

HEARINGS - *None*

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS - *None*

PRESENTATIONS - *None*

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - *None*

DISCUSSIONS

• October 19, 2019 Ballot Vote Results and Next Steps

Mr. Dutton briefly reminded all that the ballot vote passed. He noted the tax effects and clarified it was a debt exclusion - not an override. Mr. Dutton then outlined a timeline of next steps, which include: MSBA prepares the finalized funding agreement and sends to school district for execution. Next step for the school building committee would be to execute the OPM contract extension and the design contract extension. Mr. Dutton briefly spoke about construction oversight based on citizen concerns with the previous school building. We now move into Module 6; the detailed design phase (on MSBA website) – which will take approximately 10 months. We will get to 60%, then 90% design. Bidding takes approximately two months. Module 7 is the construction phase; we are looking at November 2020 and completion of June 2022. Demolition will tentatively take place this spring and the town would be looking at a completion date of Spring, 2022.

Councilor Questions:

Councilor Wood asked if vacancies on the School Building Committee will be filled. Mr. Dutton responded; other than the seats required by MSBA, he intends to fill the citizen seats created by resignations. Mr. Wood also asked if construction vehicle access would be limited to South Street; Mr. Dutton will look into that. Mr. Wood then referenced the City of Taunton going through a similar process and ended up saving money. He wondered how we will look for those opportunities. Mr. Dutton explained; that's part of the remaining design process. One of the responsibilities of the OPM is to find ways to keep the project within budget and identify cost cutting measures. Taunton's success came through a clean bidding process and clear plans. Mr. Dutton also answered questions relative to the issuance of the final occupancy permit stating that is always issued by the Building Inspector, however there will be affidavits and sign offs along the way by the OPM, Commission Agents, Engineers and Architect.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: - *None*



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LEGISLATION FOR ACTION - *None*

OLD BUSINESS - *None*

NEW BUSINESS - *None*

CITIZEN COMMENTS - *None*

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor Sousa: None
- Councilor Chase: None
- Councilor Wood: Thanked the Town Clerk and her staff for the work on the Annual Town Report. These are important documents. Mr. Wood stated he mis-spoke about the travel rule (in the schools) at the last meeting. The rules are a lot more flexible now. Spoke about the importance of students getting out and learning.
- Councilor George: None
- Councilor Rushton: Absent
- Councilor Losche: Thanked all for coming out to vote
- Councilor Colombotos: Absent
- Councilor Fitzgibbons: None
- Councilor Gallagher: Thanked the voters for coming out last week. This is a big deal for the town in a positive way.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – *No Executive Session was held.*

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: A motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons. The motion was seconded by Councilor Losche. A voice vote was taken, and the motion passed 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 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 19, 2019, to approve the aforementioned minutes, as submitted by a voice vote (7-0-1) (Councilor Losche absent, Colombotos abstained).

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Ann M. Holmberg
Town Council Clerk