

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

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Budget & Finance Committee Meeting Agenda

Committee Members:

William Wood, Chair
District 6 Councillor

Dennis Gallagher, Member
At-Large Councillor

Edward (Ted) Haley
At-Large Councillor

Location: Academy Building
66 Central Square
Room 201A
Bridgewater, MA

Date & Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m.
Agenda

- A. Call to Order
- B. Approval of minutes – 8/7/17
- C. Measures Referred
 - a) Ordinance D-FY18-004: Senior Work-Off Abatement Program
 - b) Order O-FY18-003: Acceptance of a Gift - Estate of John Chruniak
 - c) Order O-FY18-006: Loan Order - Water Meter Project
- D. Public Comment
- E. Adjourn



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Council Ordinance: D-FY18-004

Introduced By:	Town Manager
Date Introduced:	September 5, 2017
First Reading:	September 5, 2017
Second Reading:	September 19, 2017
Amendments Adopted:	
Third Reading:	
Date Adopted:	
Date Effective:	

Proposed Ordinance D-FY18-004

SENIOR ASSOCIATES VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (SAVE)

WHEREAS, The Senior Associates Volunteer Program (SAVE) provides a mechanism to reduce the tax bills of seniors over the age of 60 in return for volunteer services to the Town of Bridgewater, and;

WHEREAS, The Town voted to accept MGL c. 59, section 5K to implement the program, and added additional language which has now become in conflict with amendments to MGL c. 59, section 5K, and;

WHEREAS, The program has provided a valuable source of volunteer labor to the Town, and a valuable reduction in tax obligation to the volunteers;

ORDERED, that the Town Council assembled votes to repeal acceptance of MGL c. 59, section 5K as adopted on November 8, 2010 and accept MGL c. 59, section 5K as effective November 7, 2016.

Explanation:

*The re-adoption of this Ordinance will include those changes that were incorporated as part of the Municipal Modernization Act. This allows the Town to increase the maximum amount that real property tax obligations can be reduced under MGL c. 59, section 5k by taxpayers over 60 years old who are participants in the senior work-off abatement program. The restriction previously adopted was based on a 125-volunteer service hour (currently equal to \$1,375 or \$11.00 per hour * 125 hours) in each tax year. This will increase that amount to \$1,500. The minimum wage will continue to be used in the calculation of the total eligible benefit. In addition, the re-adoption will ensure that the Town is can administer the program to conform to state law.*

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
- Budget & Finance Committee - Finance Committee - This measure may not be finally considered this evening as it requires advertising.	- Meet 9/19/17. Will provide disposition to full Council. 9/11/17: Vote 6-0 to approve.



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Council Order: O-FY18-003

Introduced By:	Town Manager <i>(at the request of the Finance Director)</i>
Date Introduced	September 5, 2017
First Reading:	September 5, 2017
Second Reading:	September 19, 2017
Amendments Adopted:	
Third Reading:	
Date Adopted:	
Date Effective:	

Order O-FY18-003

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT – ESTATE OF JOHN CHRUNIAK

WHEREAS: Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, §53A, states as follows:

“An officer ... of any city or town ... may accept grants or gifts of funds from ... from the commonwealth ... or an agency thereof, ... and may expend such funds for the purposes of such grant or gift ... with the approval of the city manager and city council...,” and

WHEREAS: The Town of Bridgewater has received a financial gift from the Estate of John Chruniak for use in the Fire Department;

Now, therefore, in accordance with Chapter 44, §53A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Town Council votes to take the following action:

ORDERED that the Town Council of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to accept the gift of \$20,244.21 from the Estate of John Chruniak to expend the gift in accordance with stated purpose thereof.

Explanation:

The Estate of John Chruniak has donated monies to the Town of Bridgewater to be expended under the direction of the Fire Chief to benefit the department as he deems appropriate. The funds may be expended without further appropriation.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
Budget & Finance Committee	Meet 9/19/17. Will provide disposition to full Council.
Finance Committee	9/11/17: Vote 6-0 approve.

ROLL CALL VOTE – REQUIRES MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING.



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Council Order: O-FY18-006

Introduced By:	Town Manager <i>(at the request of the Finance Director)</i>
Date Introduced	September 5, 2017
First Reading:	September 5, 2017
Second Reading:	September 19, 2017
Amendments Adopted:	
Third Reading:	
Date Adopted:	
Date Effective:	

Order O-FY18-006

LOAN ORDER – WATER METER REPLACEMENT PROJECT

ORDERED, that \$3,625,000 is appropriated to pay costs of replacing water meters throughout the Town, and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto (the “Project”), and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Town Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(6) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and that the Town Manager is authorized to contract for and expend any grants, aid or gifts available to pay costs of the Project and to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out the Project.

Explanation:

This is the second phase of the project that began in the summer of 2016. It is referred to as “advanced metering infrastructure”. It is a cellular based system that uses software to interface with the water departments billing system. It allows continuous flow measurements and stores data for fifteen years. It is not necessary to visit or drive by a property to get meter readings. Data on any meter can be viewed and monitored by the water department and the customer if requested. There are an estimated 7,300 meters to be replaced and tied into the new system. It is expected that work will be completed within 18 months.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
- Budget & Finance Committee - Finance Committee	- Meet 9/19/17. Will provide disposition to full Council. 9/11/17: Vote 6-0 approve