



Town of Bridgewater, Massachusetts

Town Council
Community and Economic Development Committee

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Community and Economic
Development Committee

Peter Colombotos
Chairman
District 5 Representative

Aisha Losche
District 1 Representative

Kevin Perry
District 4 Representative

Meeting Agenda
December 4, 2017, 7:15 p.m.
Academy Building, Room 201B
66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

- Approval of minutes
- Order O-FY18-007: Transform Town Hall into an Arts and Commerce Center
- Amendment the existing vacant and abandoned properties ordinance to include residential properties
- Resolution -FY18-001: Directing the Town Manager to Explore Acquiring Specific Land - Summer Street

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Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Council Order: O-FY18-007

Introduced By: Councilor Peter Colombotos
Date Introduced: October 3, 2017
First Reading: October 3, 2017
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY18-007

CREATION OF THE TOWN HALL ARTS AND COMMERCE CENTER

Whereas Bridgewater center suffers from disinvestment and a lack of overall economic vibrancy, and

Whereas the performing arts, artist studios and art galleries and other public and community events stimulate positive community and economic development, (see [The Artistic Dividend: The Arts' Hidden Contributions to Regional Development](#)), and

Whereas shared workspaces, business incubators, and small-scale retail generate positive economic development (see [Why People Thrive in Coworking Spaces](#) and [Baker-Polito Administration Announces Inaugural Round of Collaborative Workspace Program Awards](#))

Whereas the Town Hall's proximity to Bridgewater State University and residential neighborhoods make it accessible to a large market accessible by foot, and

Whereas the Music Alley music series has been extremely successful in its first two seasons, thus demonstrating significant public enthusiasm for community-oriented performing arts (see [Bridgewater's Music Alley Tunes Up a Second Season](#)), and

Whereas the Town Hall building has traditionally served as a the center of community life in Bridgewater, and

Ordered: that the Town Manager shall develop a Requisition for Proposals (RFP) for the re-use of the Town Hall that strongly encourages uses that will draw people to the center of town, namely: the arts, community functions, and small businesses development.

Explanation: While the Town Council has already endorsed the issuance of an open-ended RFP for the reuse of the Town Hall, the author of this measure suggests the town seek a more specific set of uses which will better leverage the opportunities the site offers for capturing market demand and creating a multiplier effect for widespread community and economic development.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Council Resolution: R-FY18-001

Introduced By: Councilor Dennis Gallagher
Date Introduced: September 19, 2017
First Reading: September 19, 2017
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Date Adopted:
Effective Date:

Resolution R-FY18-001

DIRECTING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPLORE ACQUIRING SPECIFIC LAND – SUMMER STREET

BE IT RESOLVED: The Town Council assembled approves the directing of the Town Manager to explore the possibility of acquiring the parcel of land on Summer Street, formerly occupied by the Mobile Station by eminent domain.

Explanation:

The purpose would be for redevelopment for public or private use.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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