



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

March 7, 2023

7:00 PM

66 Central Square
Academy Building
Council Chambers

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Fred Chase called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:00pm on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Fred Chase, Dr. Kevin Perry, Mark Linde, Shawn George, Dennis Gallagher, Susan Robinson (via Zoom) and Erik Moore (via Zoom)

ABSENT

Bill Wood

A moment of silence was held for Mr. Bruce Novak, United States Navy veteran who passed away on February 27, 2023.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) February 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Councilor George made a motion to approve the February 21, 2023 meeting minutes, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Abstained; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Absent at the time of the vote. Motion passed 6-0-1

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

PROCLAMATIONS - None

CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

Lou Stone, 9 Briarwood Circle: Discussed the brown water issue in town.

APPOINTMENTS - None

HEARINGS – None

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS

- a) Petition P-2023-025: Change of Manager - Bridgewater Citizens Club

Councilor Perry made a motion to approve Petition P-2023-025, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Absent at the time of the vote. Motion passed 7-0-0

PRESENTATIONS

- a) Energy Aggregation Presentation (Carlton Hunt)

Carlton Hunt gave a presentation to the Town Council on energy aggregation.

Councilor Moore thanked Mr. Hunt for the presentation and noted residents were hit with big spikes, need a predictable budget.

Councilor Linde noted that he lives in a condo and cannot do solar, not sure if there would be restrictions with energy aggregation. Mr. Hunt noted that his understanding is there is no restrictions.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Fire Station Update

Town Manager Dutton noted that the NOI is being prepared and that Fire personnel met with team for a day long meeting to go over needs.

- b) High Street Bridge Closure

Town Manager Dutton reminded residents that the road will be closed for 4 months starting in June.

DISCUSSIONS – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

- a) Order O-FY23-048: Acceptance of LWCF Grant - Stiles & Hart Parkland Project
Budget and Finance Meeting 3/7/23. FinCom voted 5-0 to recommend at their 2/27/23 meeting.

Councilor George made a motion to approve Order O-FY23-048, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

- a) EMERGENCY ORDER – Resolution R-FY23-005: A Resolution to Apply for, Accept, and Expend a Grant from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund as Administered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services

Councilor McKinnon made a motion to declare and define Resolution R-F23-005 as an emergency, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

Councilor George made a motion to suspend the Council Rules & Procedures Section 18 – Readings for Order Resolution R-FY23-005, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

Councilor George made a motion to approve Resolution R-FY23-005, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

- b) Order O-FY23-049: Release of Trustee and Acceptance of Funds, Release of All Restrictions and Covenants, and Declaration of Restrictions for 1185 Pleasant Street

Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Order O-FY23-049 to Budget & Finance and FinCom, which was duly seconded.

Councilor George made a motion to also refer Order O-FY23-049 to Rules & Procedures, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken on Councilor George's motion with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

A voice vote was taken on Councilor Linde's motion with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

c) Order O-FY23-050: Capital Plan Leasing Obligation

Councilor George made a motion refer Order O-FY23-050 to Budget & Finance and FinCom, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken on Councilor George's motion with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

d) Order O-FY23-051: Transfer Order: Restoration of Parthenon Frieze

Councilor George made a motion to refer Order O-FY23-051 to Budget & Finance and FinCom, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken on Councilor George's motion with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

e) Petition P-2023-024: Town Election Warrant - April 22, 2023

Councilor George made a motion to keep Petition P-2023-024 in Town Council, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken on Councilor George's motion with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Lou Stone, 9 Briarwood Circle: Added input on energy aggregation.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor McKinnon: No comment

Councilor George: Thanked Mr. Hunt for his presentation.

Dr. Perry: Thanked Mr. Hunt for his presentation.

Councilor Moore: Thanked Mr. Hunt for his presentation.

Councilor Robinson: Thanked Mr. Hunt for his presentation.

Councilor Linde: Thanked Mr. Hunt for his presentation, good information.

Councilor Gallagher: No comment

Councilor Chase: Thanked Mr. Hunt for his presentation and Mr. Stone for his input. Also noted that the Annual State of the Town Address is taking place on Tuesday, March 14th at 6:00pm at the Library.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor McKinnon made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded.

A voice vote was taken on Councilor George's motion with the results recorded as follows:

Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; George – Yea; Moore – Yea; Chase – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; McKinnon – Yea; Wood – Absent; Robinson – Yea. Motion passed 8-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

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, March 21, 2023, to approve the aforementioned minutes, as submitted.