



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

May 23, 2023

7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Erik Moore called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:00pm on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Fred Chase, Dr. Kevin Perry, Mark Linde, Shawn George, Dennis Gallagher, Erik Moore, Brad McKinnon, and Paul Murphy Also in attendance was Town Manager Michael Dutton and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) May 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Councilor George made a motion to approve the May 9,, 2023 meeting minutes, which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

A moment of silence was held for those in the armed services who have passed away.

PROCLAMATIONS

- a) Father William Divine

Dr. Perry read the proclamation into the record.

CITIZEN OPEN FORUM – None

APPOINTMENTS – None

HEARINGS

- a) Order O-FY24-006: CPA Reserve Accounts – FY2024

Opened at 7:05

Closed at 7:08

Councilor George motioned to approve O-FY24006 which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

- b) Order O-FY24-007 Supplemental Appropriation

Opened at 7:08 p.m.

Closed at 7:11 p.m.

Councilor George motioned to approve Order O-FY24-007 which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

- c) Order O-FY23-056: Capital Plan Transfers

Opened at 7:11 p.m.

Closed at 7:20 p.m.

Councilor George motioned to approve Order O-FY23-056 which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS

- a) Petition P-2023-028: The Granting of One Day Entertainment Permits

Councilor McKinnon motioned to approve P-2023-028 which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

- b) Petition P-2023-029: Change of Manager – 99 Restaurants of Boston, LLC

Councilor McKinnon motioned to approve P-2023-029 which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

- a) Annual Water Department Report

Director Azu Etoniru gave a presentation on the new High Street Water Treatment Facility. The plant officially opened in April 2023 and sets the stage for the implementation of distribution system improvements moving forward as well as allowing aggressive flushing programs to be carried out regularly. The flushing schedule will help remove sediment and debris to improve the quality of the water throughout the town. Discolored water may be present during the flushing, if a main breaks or construction is occurring in the area. All Bridgewater residents should have consistently clear water by October 2023.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Councilor McKinnon motioned to take the Town Managers report out of order which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

High Street Bridge Closure

The timeline for the closure is still slated for June 15th to October 15th, a 4 month timeframe without access. Direct mail to those that will be affected by the closure will be sent out shortly. A website update will also be posted with detour information.

Summer 2023 Roadways Projects

Maple street has been repaved along with the sidewalks. Springhill will get new walkways and paving, Park terrace will be completed by Bridgewater state university, Church St and Union St, Winter St drainage work and rebuilt later summer/early fall, library driveway will be paved and coated, the portion of south street has been deferred due to drainage work that needs to be completed, Flag St also needs drainage work and will be started next year. Deerfield neighborhood has had a survey completed and drainage easements are being researched.

Truck Exclusions

The town is aware of the increased truck traffic and is looking into possibly adopting a truck exclusion with the DOT. This may include the adoption of speed tables and exclusion zones. A traffic study is being considered to target the high traffic areas. Because the MA DOT funds improvements to all town roads, the town must get their approval before any restrictions can be put in place.

DISCUSSIONS – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

a) Order O-FY23-053: Town Clerk's Salary

At the Town Council Budget and Finance Committee meeting, the committee reviewed the surrounding town clerks and found that the grade 13, step 8 would be appropriate for the order as an amendment.

Councilor George motioned to approve the amendment to the O-FY23-053 which was duly seconded. With a vote of 7 yea and 1 councilor abstaining, the motion was approved.

Councilor George motioned to approve Order O-FY23-053 as amended which was duly seconded. With a vote of 7 yea and 1 councilor abstaining, the motion was approved.

b) Order O-FY23-055: Jenkins Pond Dam Removal and Bridge Replacement Grant Acceptance

Councilor George motioned to approve Order O-FY23-055 which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

c) Order O-FY23-057: Acceptance of Donation

Councilor George motioned at amend O-FY23-057 to include "A donation of \$200" which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Councilor George motioned to approve Order O-FY23-057 as amended which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

- d) Order O-FY23-058: Transfer Order – Water Enterprise Fund Carver’s Pond Filtration
Councilor George Motioned to approve Order O-FY23-058 which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- e) Resolution R-FY23-007: A Resolution of the Town Council in Support of Downtown Revitalization Initiative
Councilor George motioned to approve Resolution R-FY23-007 which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Order O-FY23-059: Laying Out and Accepting a Private Way – Trinity Circle
- b) Order O-FY23-060: Adoption of a 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan

CITIZEN COMMENT - None
COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Chase – shared comments on the upcoming Memorial Day Celebration and Pride Flag raising on June 1st.

Councilor George – shared comments on the upcoming Memorial Day Celebration.

Councilor Gallagher – shared comments on the upcoming Memorial Day Celebration.

Councilor Perry – shared comments on the proclamation for Father William Divine, the upcoming Memorial Day Celebration and the 4th of July celebration.

Councilor Linde – shared comments on the upcoming Memorial Day Celebration.

Councilor Moore – shared comments on Memorial Day, Juneteenth, and the 4th of July celebration.

Executive Session

- a) MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) (3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; and to adjourn from Executive Session.

*Councilor George motioned to move to executive session at 8:35 p.m. which was duly seconded.
A roll call vote was taken:*

*Chase – Yes, Murphy – Yes, George – Yes, Gallagher – Yes, Moore – Yes, Perry – Yes, McKinnon – Yes,
Linde – Yes*

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor George made a motion adjourn at 9:25 p.m., which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.