



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

August 13, 2024

7:00 PM

66 Central Square

Academy Building

Council Chamber - Second Floor

MEETING AGENDA

Due to Massachusetts Open Meeting Law requirements, discussions will not take place during Public Comment periods. If appropriate, responses to questions and concerns will be given by the Town Manager at a future Town Council meeting.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) June 18, 2024 Meeting Minutes
- b) July 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes
- c) July 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

C. PROCLAMATIONS

D. CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

E. APPOINTMENTS

- a) Appointments to the Town Manager Preliminary Screening Ad Hoc Committee:
 - 1) Council President Kevin Perry
 - 2) Council Vice President Paul Murphy
 - 3) Councilor Fred Chase
 - 4) Councilor Susan Robinson
 - 5) School Committee Chair Timothy Fitzgibbons
- b) Reappointment Board of Assessors: Milton Morris (2024-2027)

F. HEARINGS

G. LICENSE TRANSACTIONS

H. PRESENTATIONS

I. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

J. DISCUSSIONS

K. COMMITTEE REPORTS

L. LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

M. OLD BUSINESS

N. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Order O-FY25-007: An Order Dedicating 46-48 Summer Street as a Public Park Pursuant to MGL Chapter 45, Section 3
- b) Proposed Ordinance D-FY25-002: Revisions to the Administrative Code
- c) Petition P-2025-001: State Primary Warrant - 2024

O. CITIZEN COMMENTS

P. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION

R. ADJOURNMENT



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

June 18, 2024

7:00 PM

66 Central Square

Academy Building

Council Chamber - Second Floor

The Town Council meeting is also aired via Facebook Live:

<https://www.facebook.com/bridgewaterma.org>

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Kevin Perry called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:00pm on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 in the Council Chambers.

Present: Fred Chase, Paul Murphy, Mary McGrath, Susan Robinson, Kevin Perry, Brad McKinnon, Mark Linde, Adelene Ellenberg and Sonya Striggles.

Also in attendance was Town Manager Michael Dutton and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) June 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Councilor Chase made a motion to approve the June 4, 2024 meeting minutes, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Council President Perry asked for a moment of silence for Robert LeClair a US Marine Corp Veteran who passed away on May 25th and William Owens, a US Army Veteran who passed away on June 10th.

PROCLAMATIONS

a) Margaret Wielhouwer Proclamation

Council President Perry read the proclamation into the record.

b) Quock Walker Proclamation

Councilor Chase read the proclamation into the record and extended thanks to the BCCR.

CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

- Beryl Domingo, 36 Saddle Drive: thanked the council for the Juneteenth Proclamation and the raising

of the flag.

- Ray Ajemian, 221 Aldrich Road: thanked Councilor Chase for the Quock Walker proclamation and noted that the Town was awarded as a 10 year Tree City.
- Sam Baumgarten, 60 Short Street: discussed the Juneteenth Proclamation and flag and noted that the DEI Committee is not at 2 people and would like to see more step up.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: noted that the Nip is important; wants to know why band does not perform in town parades; wants council to work on charter changes and should not have 5 stories.

Councilor Linde made a motion to take (H) Presentations, out of order. This was duly seconded by Councilor Striggles.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

APPOINTMENTS

- a) Appointment - Veterans Council:
Kate Anderson (2024 - 2027)

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve the appointment of Kate Anderson to the Veterans Council which was duly seconded by Councilor McKinnon.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- b) Reappointment - Board of Health:
Guillaume Dougados (2024 - 2027)

Councilor McKinnon made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Guillaume Dougados to the Board of Health, which was duly seconded by Councilor Robinson.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- c) Reappointment - Conservation Committee:
Wendy Smith (2024 - 2027)

Councilor Chase made a motion to approve the appointment of Wendy Smith to the Conservation Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor McKinnon.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- d) Reappointment - Cultural Council:
Nora Tarr (2024 - 2027)

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Nora Tarr to the Cultural Council, which was duly seconded by Councilor Murphy.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- e) Reappointment - Disability Commission:
David Frim (2024 - 2027)

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve the re-appointment of David Frim to the Disability Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Robinson.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – No; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 8-1-0.

- f) Reappointments - Elder Affairs Commission:
Nick Bagas (2024 - 2026)
Gloria Lemieux (2024 - 2027)

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Nick Bagas and Gloria Lemieux to the Elder Affairs Commission, which was duly seconded by Councilor Chase.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- g) Reappointment - Historical Commission:
Geoffrey Merriman (2024 - 2027)

Councilor Chase made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Geoffrey Merriman to the Historical Commission, which was duly seconded by Councilor McKinnon.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- h) Reappointment - Open Space Committee:
Maureen Minasian (2024 - 2026)

Councilor Ellenberg made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Maureen Minasian to the Open Space Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- i) Reappointment - Transportation Committee:

James Creed (2024 - 2027)

Councilor Chase made a motion to approve the re-appointment of James Creed to the Transportation Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor McKinnon.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

HEARINGS

- a) General Ordinance D-FY24-005: Amend Chapter 74, Article II, "Storage of New or Used Tires"
Public Hearing: Noticed in the 6/6/24 Enterprise. Rules & Procedures voted 3-0 to Recommend at their 3/18/24 Meeting.

Councilor Perry opened the Public Hearing at 8:11p.m.

Councilor McKinnon who is the sponsor of the Ordinance, noted that he is just trying to prevent future tire dumps. Current order allows, this will also make current dumps to have to clean.

Councilor Perry asked if there were any general questions from the public – None.

Councilor Perry asked if there was anyone that wished to speak in favor – None.

Councilor Perry asked if there was anyone that wished to speak in opposition – None.

Councilor Perry asked if there were any councilors that had any questions – None.

Councilor Perry closed the Public Hearing at 8:13p.m.

Councilor Robinson made a motion to approve the General Ordinance D-FY24-005, which was duly seconded by Councilor McKinnon.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS - None

PRESENTATIONS

- a) Vision to Reality Update - Bob Rulli, CED Director
CED Director Bob Rulli gave an update on Vision 2 Reality. Focused on objectives. Taping on BTV instead of newsletter, encouraged people to watch video. RFQ for Central Square Road and Pedestrian Improvements was sent out, 3 received.

Pasquale Property: highest land sale in many years. Bowling alley into a restaurant, mixed use on Broad Street. Nothing has been filed yet.

96 Main Street: noted that this project could be done before FBC zoning was passed. It has been on the market for over 600 days, beyond repair. Lenders will not lend for this property.

Perkins Foundry: approved by Planning. They have redone original plan. Was in front of Planning Board or 3 years. Costs were \$1M a year in delay costs.

Competitive Grants: 2 in DIF for approx.. \$100k. \$1.8M Wells Replacement for #5 and #9.

BID are to improve a specific commercial area and Central Square is no where near being a BID. Town cannot buy a piece of property.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

a) Addressing Prior Public Comment Items (*No Council Discussion*):

1) Bridgewater Raynham High School Band - Memorial Day Parade

Town Manager Dutton noted that he spoke with Veteran's Agent Greg Martin and was informed that the reason the marching band was not in the parade was because of timing and nothing to do with funding.

2) Summer Recreation Program Update

Town Manager Dutton noted that the Summer Program was phased out from Parks & Recreation but the school was offering the same program with better opportunities and buildings. The program was shrinking in numbers, had no indoor space, no bathroom facilities and the Town has had to subsidize the program. This decision was based on the best interest of the entire town.

3) Charter Violations - What Happens

Town Manager Dutton noted that if a resident feels there are charter violations, then they can file a lawsuit, vote people out of office and start a recall.

b) Fire Station Update

Town Manager Dutton noted that the work started yesterday and everything is moving along.

c) Update on Businesses in Residential Areas in Town

Town Manager Dutton noted that he spoke with the Building Inspector and he is not aware of any complaints. If there are some areas in town with businesses in residential areas it could be that it pre-dated zoning or they have a home business. Noted that if someone feels that there is a business in a residential area they should file a complaint.

d) Veterans District Update

Town Manager Dutton noted that Raynham decided to hire their own Veteran's officer. Will proposed better amendments to the admin code.

Councilor McKinnon asked that the following items be added to the next agenda: 1) Stiles & Hart Update; and 2) Status of Perkins Self Storage.

DISCUSSIONS - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

a) Order O-FY24-041: Town Clerk's Salary

Budget & Finance meeting 6/18/24. Finance Committee meeting 6/17/24.

Town Manager Dutton noted that this sets the Town Clerk's salary. Only position that is set by the Council.

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve Order O-FY24-041, which was duly seconded by Councilor

McKinnon.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- b) Order O-FY24-042: Transfer Order - Capital Appropriation Items
Budget & Finance meeting 6/18/24. Finance Committee meeting 6/17/24.

Town Manager Dutton noted that there are 2 capitals order a year.

Councilor Chase made a motion to approve Order O-FY24-042, which was duly seconded by Councilor Striggles.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- c) Order O-FY24-043: Employee Liability Transfers - Contractual Payments
Budget & Finance meeting 6/18/24. Finance Committee meeting 6/17/24.

Town Manager Dutton noted that this is for past contract sick time payout.

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve Order O-FY24-043, which was duly seconded by Councilor Murphy.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- d) Order O-FY24-044: End of Year Transfers
Budget & Finance meeting 6/18/24. Finance Committee meeting 6/17/24.

Town Manager Dutton noted that this is done at the end of every year, transfers are done from one department to another to balance the budget.

Councilor Chase made a motion to approve Order O-FY24-044, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

- e) Order O-FY24-045: Acceptance of Grant: Council on Aging - Massachusetts Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)
Budget & Finance meeting 6/18/24. Finance Committee meeting 6/17/24.

Town Manager Dutton noted that this is the second grant for dementia help at the Senior Center.

Councilor Robinson made a motion to approve Order O-FY24-045, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

f) **Order O-FY24-046: Transfer Order - Rebinding of Death Records Book**

Budget & Finance meeting 6/18/24. Finance Committee meeting 6/17/24.

Town Manager Dutton noted that this was CPC funding for the rebinding of some of the older books.

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve Order O-FY24-04, which was duly seconded by Councilor McKinnon.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Ray Ajemian, 221 Aldrich Road: thanked Councilor Chase for his proclamation.
- Gina Guasconi, 35 Ball Avenue: spoke about the summer program and requested a cost analysis for the last 5 years and who made the decision.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: noted that MBTA not a done deal, needs to be investigated further. Central Square improvements, residents don't get a say. Where does the golf money go.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor McGrath: congratulated the 8th grade class for their moving on ceremony.
- Councilor Striggles: happy Juneteenth tomorrow. 1-6pm on Saturday for Freedom Day at BSU.
- Councilor Chase: noted that the Juneteenth flag raising was a great event. Wished everyone a Happy 4th.
- Councilor Linde: also noted that the Juneteenth flag raising was a great event. Wished everyone a Happy 4th and noted that the committee is still raising money.
- Councilor Murphy: thanked BCCR for the Juneteenth event. Noted that the council hears lack of communication from the council to the residents, need to find ways to get information to people.
- Councilor Ellenberg: wished everyone a happy Juneteenth and 4th of July and wants to change all boards to ministerial.
- Councilor Robinson: congratulated the new re-appointments and thanked them for volunteering. Thanked BCCR for the Juneteenth flag raising.
- Councilor McKinnon: thanked the veterans agent for a great Memorial Day parade.
- Councilor Perry: thanked appointees, BCCR for their work. Noted that the 4th of July committee is still looking for funds.

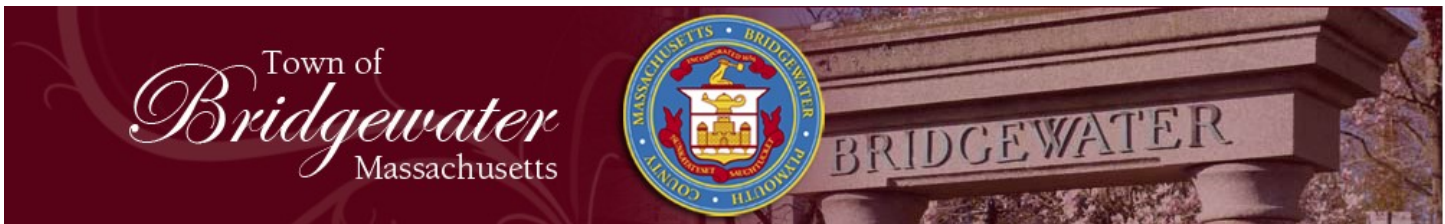
EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

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

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43pm.



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

July 16, 2024
7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Kevin Perry called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:00pm on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 in the Council Chambers.

Present: Fred Chase, Paul Murphy, Mary McGrath, Susan Robinson, Kevin Perry, Brad McKinnon, Mark Linde, Adelene Ellenberg and Sonya Striggles.

Also in attendance was Town Manager Michael Dutton and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) June 18, 2024 Town Council Meeting Minutes

Councilor Perry noted that there was an error on the meeting minutes and asked that they be corrected and put on the next agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Councilor Perry recognized the following veterans who have passed and asked for a moment of silence:

- Charles Murphy, US Army, Korea – June 18, 1934 to May 5, 2024
- Gary Varnum, US Army, Vietnam – October 4, 1942 to June 17, 2024
- Robert Pierce, US Marine Corps, Vietnam – February 22, 1945 to June 29, 2024
- Robert Thomas, US Army Vietnam – September 21, 1948 to July 1, 2024
- Henry Tousignant, US Army, WW2 – March 18, 1924 to July 2, 2024

PROCLAMATIONS

Councilor Perry read the 100th Birthday Proclamation naming July 27, 2024 as Loretta Pistone Day in the Town of Bridgewater on the occasion of her 100th Birthday.

CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

- Attorney John Norris, Vernon Street: spoke about Michael Mezzini and the Town taking of land by eminent domain.
- Melissa Ramondetta, 317 Lakeside Drive: noted that on 1/24/23 a 55+ ordinance was tabled 4 to 3 and now today an ordinance is in front of Town Council, does not agree with it.
- Ed Ivaldi, 10 Boxwood Lane: wants to know how much revenue was gained so far with recreational marijuana.
- Jean DiBattista, 260 Lakeside Drive: spoke about water and changes to 55+ zoning, wants clarity.
- Bernice Morrissey, Lakeside Drive: discussed jet skis on The Nip, wants them banned.

APPOINTMENTS – None

HEARINGS – None

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS – None

PRESENTATIONS

a) Water Resources Presentation: Environmental Partners

Town Manager Dutton introduced Helen Gordon from Environmental Partners.

Ms. Gordon discussed capital costs, operations and maintenance, technology upgrades, financial stability. Current bond rating is A3.

Water plan quantity – 9 wells. Current demands – 2.56MGD max limit. Supply deficits – 0.53MGD.

Potential additional sources: Plymouth Street wells; Vernon Street wells; Taunton – wholesale purchase; Brockton – wholesale purchase.

Discussed FY25 Capital Projects – Well 9 and Well 5A in process. Capital projects FY2031 to FY2035.

Councilor Ellenburg asked what the cost would be if water was purchased from Taunton. Ms. Gordon noted that Taunton has extra water and looking for users. Mr. Rulli noted that they were still waiting on information from Taunton to determine costs.

b) Specialized Code Presentation: Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources

Town Manager Dutton introduced Lisa Sullivan and Michael Rossi from the MA Department of Energy Resources.

Ms. Sullivan noted that the Town has been a green community since 2011, has received \$1.1M in grants. A stretch code community which is a climate act signed in 2021 to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. Base code = 50 towns; Stretch code = 256 towns; Specialized code = 45 towns (new buildings only – no effect on existing or historic). HERS rating = miles per gallon for a house; the lower the better.

Councilor McGrath asked how long solar panels last. Ms. Sullivan noted that they can be recycled and last approx. 15 to 20 years.

Councilor Robinson asked 1) more costly?; 2) what does the Town need to do?; 3) cost benefit to the town?

Mr. Rossi noted that there would be added upfront costs and over time would benefit the consumers. There is a template and grants could be more.

Town Manager Dutton noted that it is a Council decision, listen to presenters and builders and make the decision.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that she believes this will be a burden on builders.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

a) Fire Station Update

CED Director Bob Rulli noted that the site clearing is taking place. Addressed concerns about starting before 7am. Abutters meeting being planned.

Councilor Ellenberg asked where is this happening and CED Director Rulli noted that the new Fire Station is being built on Pleasant Street.

b) Stiles & Hart Update

Town Manager Dutton noted that work is continuing and kiosks will be placed once work is done.

c) Perkins Self Storage Update

CED Director Bob Rulli noted that this was approved 8 months ago and nothing received by the buyer, their approval could expire.

d) Golf End-of-Year Report

Town Manager Dutton noted that Troume runs the golf portion and Barretts runs the food portion. FY23 closed with \$1.6M and Town netted \$150K after obligations. FY24 closed with \$404k and Town netted \$291k after obligations.

Councilor McKinnon would like the following items on the next agenda:

1. Flagg Street
2. National Grid Poles
3. Parthenon Frieze Installation

DISCUSSIONS - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION – None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

a) Ordinance D-FY25-001: Proposed Zoning Order Amendment - Senior Village Housing Development

CED Director Bob Rulli noted that this should be referred to Planning Board and CED. This does not include Lake Shore. Create opportunity for land that could be converted to 55+

Councilor Linde noted that it would be good to see a current and new version ordinances

Councilor Striggles made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY25-001 to Planning Board and CED, which was duly seconded by Councilor Robinson.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon –Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Bernice Morrissey, Lakeside Drive: noted again that Lake Nip was being abused. Ban jet skis, emissions leave oil slicks in the water.
- Jean DiBattista, 260 Lakeside, Lakeside Drive: thanked the Town Manager, heard he was leaving.
- Melissa Randella: would like more transparency with water projects.
- Gina Guasconi, 35 Ball Avenue: would like to know who paid for the golf cart paving and noted that there is overgrown trees at the Nip. Asked if it could be cleared.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor McKinnon: thanked Al Lacerda for his work at Town River Landing. Also noted that he may miss meetings and wanted people to understand why.
- Councilor Robinson: no comments
- Councilor Ellenberg: noted that the country music festival was great.
- Councilor Murphy: no comments
- Councilor Linde: noted that it has been more difficult to make comments.
- Councilor Chase: no comments
- Councilor Striggles: thanked the 4th of July Committee for a great event.
- Councilor McGrath: noted that there should be two public meetings a year and encouraged people to watch the 6/26 Planning Board meeting.
- Councilor Perry: thanked the 4th of July committee for a great even.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Striggles made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Councilor Robinson.

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:46pm.



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

July 23, 2024
7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Kevin Perry called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:00pm on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 in the Council Chambers.

Present: Fred Chase, Paul Murphy, Mary McGrath, Susan Robinson, Kevin Perry, Brad McKinnon, Mark Linde, Adelene Ellenberg and Sonya Striggles.

Also in attendance was Town Attorney Jason Rawlins.

Council President Perry noted that this meeting was being held because of the Town Manager leaving.

Councilor Linde noted that the Town had an amazing Fire Department after being in an accident earlier in the day.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Ed Ivaldi, Boxwood Drive: spoke about Town Manager search in 2010, noting selection new Town Manager is important. Form search committee – 7 people; recruitment important; create candidate profile and Bridgewater resident or search.
- Gina Coco, 25 Trailwood Drive: wanted Town Council to introduce themselves as she was not familiar with the councilors.
- Tim Fitzgibbon, 238 South Drive: noted the importance of the council hiring a new Town Manager and offered his help, noted to keep candidates confidential and search for the best.
- Sam Baumgarten, 60 Short Street: thanked the council for holding the meeting but noted that publicity was not great about the meeting. suggested adding the agenda to the website and Town Facebook page.
- Ray Ajemian, 221 Aldrich Road: suggested considering other things in town when looking for a new Town Manager.
- David Moore, 54 Flagg Street: echoed Mr. Ivaldi, emphasize local input, poll people.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: citizens need to be part of the process, current Town Manager should not make big changes.
- Jean Dibattista, 260 Lakeside Drive: wants local candidate with experience. Noted that the current Town Manager has done an excellent job.
- Michaela Jessie Spagone, 5 Lakeshore Drive: worked in Town Manager's office and Mr. Dutton was great to work for; need someone who is up to the task, do research.
- Marilee Hunt, Austin Street: Boards are very weak, no training/connection, look for someone who

values Boards.

- Carlton Hunt, Austin Street: Boards are non-functional, search committee should be 7 or 9, the more people the better.

DISCUSSION

a) Discussion of Town Manager Recruitment

Council President Perry noted that the RFP has been sent out with a return deadline of 8/1/24.

Councilor Linde asked the Town Attorney Rawlins where in the Charter does it say that the Council President has the authority to set a process.

Town Attorney Rawlins noted that the decision should be discussed among the Town Council. The Town Manager is the Procurement Officer so he started the process by submitting an RFP. He also noted that the Town Manager appoints the Ad Hoc Committee and it is ratified by the Town Council.

Councilor Perry noted that the first step in the process is to discuss and come up with a plan. An Ad Hoc Committee of 4 Councilors will be formed. He noted that in early August there will be a Zoom meeting with the Ad Hoc Committee to decide on a search firm. The firm chosen will then meet with the Town Council in September to outline the job description and salary.

Councilor Linde asked Town Attorney Rawlins if the firm with the lowest bid has to be chosen. Attorney Rawlins noted that it is not necessary if it is blind bidding, experience would be first.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that more Councilors and Citizens should be on the search committee.

Councilor Striggles noted that more should be added now to choose the search firm.

Town Attorney Rawlins noted that the agenda line item should be "Preliminary Screening Ad Hoc Committee" having less than a quorum, and include Executive Session on the agenda. Once the Town Manager is hired and process is over, Executive Session minutes get voted and made public.

Council President Perry noted that candidates will want confidentiality in the beginning process. Top candidates are interviewed in front of council and public.

Councilor Ellenberg made a motion for 9 members to be added to the Ad Hoc Committee. This motion was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

Councilor Murphy asked how the council could vote on this motion not knowing who the 9 members would be made up off.

Councilor Ellenberg withdrew her motion and Councilor Linde withdrew his second.

Councilor Chase made a motion to create a Preliminary Ad Hoc Screening Committee for a period of One Year. This motion was seconded by Councilor Robinson.

A roll call vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath –

Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

Council President Perry noted that once committee is together, resumes will be submitted September/October. 3 or more will be submitted to the Town Council and interviewed.

Councilor Linde asked if the Ad Hoc Committee would be trained by the Search firm.

Town Attorney Rawlins noted that the Town will not represent a resident if employment laws are broken.

Council President Perry noted that Councilor Murphy and himself met with Blythe Robinson about her role and willingness to take on the interim Town Manager position. Suggested that the councilors call and meet with her.

Councilor Murphy asked if posting an interim Town Manager job description would be best.

Councilor Chase noted that it would be beneficial that we have someone in the role that is qualified and the council does not have the bandwidth for hiring.

Council President Perry noted that a meeting will be scheduled for August 6th and Blythe and any other candidates would be discussed. An executive session will also be included.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Jean Dibattista, 260 Lakeside Drive: great discussion, simple process for interim. Focus on permanent candidate, need for confidentiality.
- Ed Ivaldi, Boxwood Lane: develop plan with tasks and document plan for the public. Used Collins Center for last search. Call MMA for other interim Town Manager candidates.
- Michaela Jessie Spagone, 5 Lakeshore Drive: eye opening, refer back to history, make it simple, implement plan and stick to it.

ADJOURNMENT

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

A voice vote was taken with the results recorded as follows: McKinnon – Yea; Robinson – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Chase – Yea; Striggles – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Motion passed 9-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Kevin Perry, Councilor
Date Introduced: 8/13/2024
First Reading: 8/13/2024
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY25-007: An Order Dedicating 46-48 Summer Street as a Public Park Pursuant to MGL Chapter 45, Section 3

Whereas: On January 10, 2023, the Bridgewater Town Council voted Order O-FY22-019 unanimously to take 46-48 Summer Street by eminent domain.

Whereas, the property was taken to “create additional downtown parkland and passive recreational space for the people Bridgewater for the public purpose of improving the living experience of residents of Bridgewater who live in the downtown area and providing outdoor passive recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike.”

Whereas, the Town Council has appropriated funds to support the property’s use as a public park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED: That the property located at 46-48 Summer Street, more particularly described as Parcel 1 in a Plan recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds at Plan Book 14, Page 625 and in a Deed recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds at Book 3351, Page 458, be and is dedicated to park uses under MGL c. 45, section 3.

Further, the Town Manager is hereby authorized to file any documents with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds to effectuate the dedicated use.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•

Attachments: None



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Kevin Perry, Councilor
Date Introduced: 8/13/2024
First Reading: 8/13/2024
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Proposed Ordinance D-FY25-002: Revisions to the Administrative Code

ORDERED, that the Town Council of the Town of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to accept the attached revisions to the Administrative Code as required by the Town of Bridgewater, Home Rule Charter Section 5-1.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•
•	•
•	•

Attachments: 1. Proposed Ordinance Revisions to the Administrative Code

Part II. Administrative Code
Chapter 1. Boards, Committees and Commissions
Article II. Elective Bodies

Section 1. Offices and Standards

- D. Term of office. The term of office of all elective Town officers shall be three years beginning on the second Monday following the election and continuing until their successors are qualified, except that the term of office for councilors shall begin on the next business day following the election. Terms of office of Town Councilors shall be so arranged that the terms of three of the Councilors shall expire at each annual Town election.

Section 2. Bridgewater Town Council

- A. Composition and authority. There shall be 9 members of the Bridgewater Town Council, one Councilor elected from each district~~precinct~~ and the remaining~~two~~ elected at-large. The Bridgewater Town Council shall exercise all of the legislative powers of the Town.

Article III. Multiple Member Appointive Bodies

Section 1. Offices and Standards

I. Eligibility for service. Unless otherwise defined within this Administrative Code, aAny registered voter of the Town of Bridgewater, except those who are: (1) an elected official; (2) whose written contract with the Town bars them from holding any other elected or appointed position with the town; or (3) who would be ineligible to serve under Massachusetts General Laws c. 268A and/or the Town of Bridgewater Town Charter, are eligible for appointment to Multiple Member Appointive Bodies. An eligible candidate for a Multiple Member Appointive Body as stated in sentence one herein, shall not serve on more than one Multiple Member Appointive Body at a time unless that candidate has been: (1) recommended by the Town Manager to the Town Council to do so; and (2) is then ratified by the Town Council. Membership on a multiple member appointive body shall terminate forthwith upon the members ceasing to be a resident of the Town or otherwise ceasing to be a registered voter. Unless otherwise noted, members shall serve without compensation

Section 2. ~~Affordable~~ Housing Trust Committee

A. Establishment and Term of Office. There shall be an ~~Affordable~~ Housing Trust Committee consisting of five member trustees. Pursuant to MGL c.44, section 55C, the Town Manager, as chief executive officer, or his designee, shall be an ex officio Trustee. The remaining Trustees shall be appointed by the Town Manager for staggered two year terms.

B. Authorities and responsibilities. The ~~CommitteeTrust~~ shall provide for the creation and preservation of affordable quality housing for the benefit of all, but especially low and moderate income households. The ~~CommitteeTrust~~ has the authority to acquire by gift, purchase, or otherwise real estate and personal property, both tangible and intangible, of every sort and description, and to use such property in such a manner as the ~~committeetrustees~~ shall deem most appropriate to carry out its purpose of creating and preserving affordable housing for the residents of the Town. The Committee facilitates the coordination of the factors that affect equal access to housing and issues relating to the development of affordable housing. The Committee seeks to implement the Town's policy statement and program for fair housing, and the promotion of equal choice and access to housing for all people as is outlined in the federal Fair Housing Act, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, and the Commonwealth's Fair Housing Law, MGL c. 151B. The Committee also provides advice to the Town Manager regarding the Town's policies and programs for meeting its requirements for subsidized housing under MGL c. 40B. The Committee reviews all Local Initiative Program (LIP) applications and recommends to the Town Manager either acceptance or denial of LIP applications. The ~~Affordable~~-Housing Trust Committee is ~~an~~ advisory, regulatory, and ministerial committee of the Town.

C. Interrelationships. (1) Town Council: The ~~Affordable~~-Housing Trust Committee interacts with the Town Council for the purpose of advising the Council on ~~Affordable-Housing Trust~~housing activities and affordable housing issues generally. (2) Town Manager: The Town Manager is a membertrustee of the ~~Affordable~~-Housing Trust Committee, and meets regularly with the ~~Committeetrustees~~ to conduct ~~CommitteeTrust~~ business. (3) Other Bodies: The Committee meets as necessary with any multiple member body of the Town, to effectuate accomplishment of its mission, particularly the Community Preservation Committee.

Reference: Bridgewater Affordable Housing Trust, Part III, Chapter 4, Article III of the Code.

Section 7. Community Preservation Committee

A. Establishment and term of office. There shall be a Community Preservation Committee consisting of nine members. The Town Manager shall, based upon recommendation from the respective committees, appoint the following: one member of the Conservation Commission; one member of the Bridgewater Historic District Commission; one member of the Historical Commission; one member of the Planning Board; one member of the ~~Affordable~~-Housing Trust Committee; one member of the Housing Authority; one member of the Open Space Committee; and one member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. These appointees will not require ratification from the Town Council. The Town Manager shall appoint one at-large member, whose appointment shall be ratified by the Town Council. Members will serve for three year staggered terms.

B. Authorities and responsibilities.

(1) Acquisition and preservation.

(a) The Community Preservation Committee shall make recommendations to the Town Council for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space; for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; for the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use; for the creation, preservation and support of community housing; and for the rehabilitation or restoration of open space, land for recreational use and community housing that is reacquired or created as provided in MGL c.44B. With respect to community housing, the Community Preservation Committee shall recommend, whenever possible, the reuse of existing buildings or construction of new buildings on previously developed sites. Annually, the Committee, with the assistance of the Finance Director, shall make budget recommendations to the Town Manager for inclusion in the annual Town budget.

(b) The Community Preservation Committee may include in its recommendation to the Town Council a recommendation to set aside for later spending funds for specific purposes that are consistent with community preservation but for which sufficient revenues are not then available in the Community Preservation Fund. The Committee may recommend to the Town Council that funds be borrowed and repaid with Community Preservation funds to accomplish Community Preservation objectives.

(c) In considering its recommendations, the Community Preservation Committee shall use as a guideline local and regional open space plans, housing plans, 59 and the Master Plan. The Committee may develop its own guidelines concerning Community Preservation expenditures with the active participation of other Town multiple member bodies as well as public participation. The Community Preservation Committee is a ministerial committee of the Town.

(2) Needs study. Annually, the Community Preservation Committee shall study the needs, possibilities and resources of the Town regarding community preservation. The Committee shall consult with existing Town multiple member bodies, including the Conservation Commission, the Historical Commission, the Open Space Committee, the Planning Board, Parks and Recreation, and the Housing Authority, in conducting such studies. As part of its study, the Committee shall hold one or more public informational hearings on the needs, possibilities and

resources of the Town regarding community preservation possibilities and resources, notice of which shall be posted publicly and on the Town's web site two weeks prior to the scheduled public informational hearing.

(3) Monitor. The Community Preservation Committee shall monitor progress of CPA funded projects.

(4) Management. Real property interests acquired with community preservation funds shall be owned and managed by the Town unless otherwise specified by vote of the Town Council.

C. Interrelationships.

(1) Town Council: The Committee shall meet at least annually with the Town Council to discuss issues pertaining to acquisition and preservation pursuant to the Community Preservation Act.

(2) Town Manager: The Committee meets as necessary with the Town Manager and all municipal departments and other administrative staff to effectuate accomplishment of its mission.

(3) Other Bodies: The Committee meets as necessary with any Board, Commission or Committee of the Town, particularly the Affordable Housing Trust and the Financial Committee, to effectuate accomplishment of its mission.

Reference: MGL c. 44B

Section 12. Elder Affairs Commission

A. Term of Office. There shall be an Elder Affairs Commission consisting of nine regular members and two associate members appointed for three year staggered terms. The associate members may serve on committees, but have no voting privileges if a regular member is absent.

B. Authorities and responsibilities. The purpose of the Elder Affairs Commission is to advocate on behalf for the needs of the elderly people~~older adults~~ residing in the Town of Bridgewater. The Elder Affairs Commission is dedicated to ensuring that the older adult population lives and ages well in their community of choice. ~~surveys the elderly population to better determine their needs problems and concerns. It develops criteria for program and supportive services development based upon an assessment of needs and participates in programs offered by the Commonwealth's Department of Elder Services.~~ The Elder Affairs Commission helps identify goals and objectives and supports staff in implementing and promoting the Elder Affairs Commission's mission.

The Elder Affairs Commission assists in the collection of facts and statistics affecting the health and welfare of older adults; encourages the development of programs for older adults; identifies the pertinent needs of the community's older adult population; educates and to enlist the support of the community on the needs of older adults; performs such other duties as may be prescribed by law, or as directed by the Town Manager.

~~The Elder Affairs Commission members also serve as Trustees of the Senior Center Funds. The Commission makes recommendations to the Director of Elder Affairs and the Department of Public Works Director regarding the maintenance of the Senior Center facility, capital needs and minor repairs, supplies related to operation of the building, and replacement of necessary items to maintain the building in good condition. The Commission recommends capital spending from the Senior Center Trust Funds. The Elder Affairs Commission is an advisory and ministerial committee of the Town.~~

C. Interrelationships.

(1) Director of Elder ~~Affairs~~Services: The Elder Affairs Commission interacts primarily with the Director of Elder Affairs. The Elder Affairs Commission provides advisory information to the Director of Elder Affairs concerning program and supportive services for older adults~~delivery as well as financial management issues~~. The Director of Elder Affairs provides information to the Elder Affairs Commission about the Department can community needs~~needs and requirements of the Senior Center~~.

(2) Town Manager: The Elder Affairs Commission interacts with the Town Manager and the administrative organization primarily through the Director of Elder Affairs. The Director of Elder Affairs regularly appraises the Town Manager of current activities and concerns of the Elder Affairs Commission and the elderly population. The Director of Elder Affairs works with the Town Manager to develop policies and legislation concerning the issues and needs facing the town's elderly. The Director of Elder Affairs regularly appraises the Town Manager about the status of the Senior Center as well as short and long term capital needs. The Director of Elder Affairs works with the Town Manager to develop policies and legislation concerning the Department and the -Senior Center building and the Trust Funds.

(3) Town Council: The Town Manager keeps the Town Council apprised of the needs and concerns of the ~~older adult~~elderly population. The Town Manager introduces policies or legislation to the Town Council for action when appropriate.

Reference: MGL c. 40, Section 8B ~~Article 22 of the annual town meeting warrant voted June 21, 1993 Chapter 233 of the Acts of 1994, establishing a Senior Center Trust Fund Special Town Meeting Warrant, Article 2, November 10, 1997 Special Town Meeting Warrant, Articles 3 and 7, November 8, 2010~~

Section 17. Historical Commission

A. Term of office. There shall be a Historical Commission consisting of five regular members and two alternate members. The alternate members may serve on committees, and shall be voting members in the absence of a regular member.

B. Authorities and responsibilities.

(1) The purpose of the Historical Commission is to preserve, protect, and develop the historical and archaeological assets of the Town. The Commission may conduct research for places of historic and archaeological value, and shall cooperate with the State Archaeologist in conducting such research. It seeks to coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes and may, subject to appropriation and approval by the Town Manager, advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which it deems necessary for its work.

(2) The Historical Commission, for the purpose of protecting and preserving such places may make such recommendations as it deems necessary to the Town Council, and, subject to the approval of the Town Council, to the Massachusetts Historical Commission, that any such place be certified as an historical or archaeological landmark.

(3) The Historical Commission may hold hearings, may recommend to the Town Manager execution of contracts with individuals, organizations and institutions or services furthering the objectives of its program, may recommend to the Town Manager execution of contracts with local or regional associations for cooperative endeavors furthering its program, and may, with the approval of the Town Council, accept gifts, contributions and bequests of funds from individuals, foundations and from federal, state or other governmental bodies for the purpose of furthering its programs. The Commission may recommend to the Town Manager acquisition of property by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise, lease or otherwise a fee or lesser interest in real or personal property of significant historical value and, upon approval by the Town Manager, may be directed to manage the same, may make and execute any agreement and may do and perform any and all acts which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this section.

(4) The Historical Commission surveys and compiles a listing of all historical sites and buildings within the Town, public and private; determines the functions and structures of all historical organizations within the Town; and holds correlative seminars with historical organizations. It further determines the requirements for repair, reconstruction, and protection of historical landmarks and assists and cooperates with public commissions in the conduct of public historical events.

(5) The Historical Commission is an advisory and ministerial committee of the Town.

C. Interrelationships.

(1) Town Council: The Historical Commission interacts with the Town Council to advise the Council on policies and legislation concerning the preservation, protection and development of historical or archaeological assets in the Town.

(2) Town Manager: The Historical Commission interacts with the Manager primarily for the purposes outlined to effectuate publication of its activities and/or acquisition of interests in historical

properties within the Town. The Commission receives such assistance through the Library Department of the Administrative Branch.

(3) Other Bodies: The Historical Commission shall, with respect to matters or actions affecting the historical or archaeological assets of the Town, coordinate with state boards and agencies, including, but not limited to, the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the State Archaeologist and interact with Town multiple member bodies existing now or in the future, as necessary to better coordinate the activities of these bodies in instances where properties of either a historical or archaeological value are under consideration by these bodies.

Reference: MGL Chapter 40, section 8D

Section 19. Housing Partnership Committee

A. Term of office. There shall be a Housing Partnership Committee to be composed of five members, two whom shall be appointed by the Town Manager, one member appointed by the Affordable Housing Trust from among its members, one member appointed by the Water and Sewer Board from among its members, and one member appointed by the Planning Board from among its members.

B. Authorities and responsibilities. The Housing Partnership Committee facilitates the coordination of the factors that affect equal access to housing and issues relating to the development of affordable housing. The Committee seeks to implement the Town's policy statement and program for fair housing, and the promotion of equal choice and access to housing for all people as is outlined in the Commonwealth's Fair Housing Guidelines, 301 CMR § 50.19. The Committee also provides advice to the Town Manager regarding the Town's policies and programs for meeting its requirements for subsidized housing under MGL c. 40B. The Housing Partnership Committee reviews all Local Initiative Program (LIP) applications and recommends to the Town Manager either acceptance or denial of LIP applications. The Housing Partnership Committee is an advisory committee of the Town.

C. Interrelationships.

(1) Town Council: The Housing Partnership Committee interacts with the Town Council to provide advice on the Town's efforts in the promotion of fair treatment and equal opportunities for safe, sanitary and affordable housing for citizens of the Town, regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, welfare status, marital status, national ancestry, sexual preference, physical or mental disability.

(2) Town Manager: The Housing Partnership Committee interacts with the Manager to ensure implementation of the Fair Housing Plan. The Housing Partnership Committee also advises the Town Manager regarding the resolution of conflicts that may arise among Town departments, multiple member bodies and officials relative to proposals for the development of subsidized housing in Bridgewater. The Manager provides staff support to the Committee through the Community and Economic Development Department, and other appropriate staff.

(3) Other Bodies: The Housing Partnership Committee meets as necessary with the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, Advisory Council of Health, and the Housing Authority, to ensure compliance with the fair and affordable housing policies of the Town.

Reference: MGL 40B

~~Section 20. Master Plan Committee~~

~~A. Term of Office. There shall be a Master Plan Committee consisting of three members appointed for three-year terms.~~

~~B. Authorities and Responsibilities. The Master Plan Committee is responsible for facilitating the implementation and updating of the Master Plan. The Committee is an advisory committee in the Town.~~

~~C. Interrelationships.~~

~~(1) Town Council. The Master Plan Committee interacts with the Council for the purpose of advising the Council on matters related to the Master Plan.~~

~~(2) Town Manager. The Master Plan Committee interacts with the Town Manager and administrative organization primarily through the Community and Economic Development Department.~~

~~(3) Other Bodies. The Master Plan Committee interacts with the Planning Board and other multiple member bodies as necessary to accomplish its purposes.~~

Section 26A. Tree Committee

A. Establishment and Term of Office. There shall be a Tree Committee consisting of seven members: five voting members and two non-voting members. The Town Manager shall, based upon recommendation from the respective committees, appoint the following voting members: one member of the Planning Board; one member of the Open Space Committee; and one member of the Bridgewater Improvement Association. The Town Manager shall appoint two voting members-at-large, at least one of which shall be a certified arborist, landscape architect, or an individual with comparable experience and training. The seat held by the certified arborist, landscape architect, or an individual with comparable experience and training may be filled by a non-resident if no qualified resident is available and willing to fill the seat. The Bridgewater Tree Warden and the Bridgewater Roadways Superintendent, or his designee, shall serve as non-voting members.

B. Authorities and Responsibilities. The Committee shall advise town officials, multiple member appointive bodies, and the general public to promote activities that encourage the planting, care, and management of all existing and new public trees. The Committee shall advise town officials and the Town Council, as the appropriating authority, on the use of monies collected through any tree cutting mitigation funds the Town may receive.

C. Interrelationships.

(1) Town Manager: The Tree Committee interacts with the Town Manager to communicate recommendations on Town procedures and policies.

(2) Town Council: The Committee reports its activities to the Council through the Town Manager.

(3) Other Bodies: As necessary, the Committee interacts with other multiple member bodies within the Town on issues of mutual concern, including the Agricultural Commission, Community Preservation Committee, Energy Committee, Conservation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Board, Transportation Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Section 27. Water and Sewer Board

A. Term of office. There shall be a Water and Sewer Board consisting of three members who have engineering or public health experience. The members shall serve for staggered three year terms.

B. Authorities and responsibilities. The Water and Sewer Board is responsible for recommending ~~all~~ improvements to the municipal water pollution control facilities and water treatment and distribution facilities in the Town, and serves as an advisory board to the Public Works Director for establishment of rules and regulations governing the operation of all Town water pollution control facilities and water treatment and distribution facilities. The Water and Sewer Board ~~recommends~~establishes user rates to the Town Manager subject to Town ~~Council~~Manager ratification approval. The Water and Sewer Board is an advisory committee of the Town.

C. Interrelationships.

(1) Town Council: The Water and Sewer Board interacts with the Town Council concerning policies and legislation governing operation of water pollution control and collection facilities and the water treatment and distribution facilities.

(2) Town Manager: The Water and Sewer Board interacts with the Town Manager concerning implementation of the rules and regulations referenced, as well as ensuring that adequate administrative personnel are available to ensure the effective operation of such facilities.

(3) Other Bodies: The Water and Sewer Board interacts with ~~the Open Space Committee, the Economic Development Committee, and other~~other multiple member appointive bodies as necessary to accomplish its purposes.

Part II. Administrative Code
Chapter 2. Operational Entities
Article II Town Council Rules and Procedures

Section 14. Citizen Comments

The Bridgewater Town Council encourages citizens to attend its meetings and welcomes their views on issues of import. A Citizen Open Forum will be placed on each Council agenda, and a citizen comment period will be included at the end of each agenda. Anyone may comment at this time for up to three minutes. Comments and/or inquires should be made in a respectful manner and not cast aspersions on individual council members or the council as a whole. ~~All~~ To strictly comply with the Open Meeting Law, inquires ~~shall~~ could be responded to, ~~if appropriate, if the information is available at the time or a public response should be forth coming~~ at a future meeting of the Town Council where the inquiry response has been added to the agenda under Town Manager's Report or Announcements from the President. ~~Responses shall be limited to the question at hand and are limited to three minutes. The President shall have the discretion to declare any question or comment duplicative. Such a declaration may be overruled with a two-thirds vote of the Council.~~

Non-residents may speak only with the approval of a vote of the Council. A non-resident of the Town desirous of an opportunity to address the Town Council during a "Citizen Open Forum" or "Citizen Comments" period of a meeting of the Town Council shall be permitted to do so, subject to compliance with the following provisions:

1. Not less than six (6) hours prior to the designated time of commencement of the meeting of the Town Council at which the non-resident wishes to speak, a written request to address the Town Council must be received by the Town Council Clerk from such non-resident via email (addressed to towncouncilclerk@bridgewaterma.org), which shall include:
 - a) The name and street address of said non-resident.
 - b) The name and street address of a resident of the Town who shall be deemed to have invited the non-resident to address the Town Council.
 - c) A brief description of the subject matter upon which the non-resident shall speak.
 - d) If applicable, a non-resident may include a brief statement of the educational, occupational or other training, experience or qualification upon which basis the non-resident professes information, knowledge or expertise, if any, to opine on the subject matter.
2. Within six (6) hours prior to the designated time of commencement of the specific meeting of the Town Council at which the non-resident wishes to speak, but in no case less than two (2) hours prior to such designated time, the Town Council Clerk shall electronically forward to each member of the Town Council a copy of the written request received from such non-resident.
3. During the "Citizen Open Forum" or "Citizen Comments" periods of the meeting, the Town Council assembled shall consider a motion, duly made and seconded, to permit said non-resident to address the Council. An affirmative vote by a majority of the Council members present and voting shall be required to permit the non-resident to address the Council.

Business Owners and Real Property Owners

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the owner of record of a business, real property or leasehold interest in real property located within the Town who is a non-resident of the Town shall be permitted to address the Town Council.

All other provisions of this Section 14 shall be applicable to non-residents.



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By:

Date Introduced: 8/13/2024

First Reading: 8/13/2024

Second Reading:

Amendments Adopted:

Third Reading:

Date Adopted:

Date Effective:

Petition P-2025-001: State Primary Warrant - 2024

ORDERED: That the Town Council of the Town of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, assembled accepts, as a matter of record, the attached 2024 State Primary 2024 Election Warrant as provided by the Town Clerk.

Explanation: It is required that the Town Council accepts and approves the attached Warrant as a matter of record.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•
•	•
•	•

Attachments: 1. State Primary Warrant 2024

VOICE VOTE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR 2024 STATE PRIMARY

Plymouth County, SS.

To the Constables of the Town of Bridgewater

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said city or town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at:

Precincts 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 & 9
(Precinct numbers)

Bridgewater Middle School, 166 Mount Prospect Street
(polling location)

on TUESDAY, THE THIRD DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2024, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primaries for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS.	FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS.	NINTH DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR.	SECOND DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT.	NORFOLK, PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT.	EIGHTH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
CLERK OF COURTS.	PLYMOUTH COUNTY
REGISTER OF DEEDS.	PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
COUNTY COMMISSIONER.	PLYMOUTH COUNTY

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2024.
(month)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Town Council of Bridgewater

Posting: Academy Building, Senior Center & Bridgewater Public Library

Online viewing: www.bridgewaterma.org

(Indicate method of service of warrant.)

_____	_____, 2024.
Constable	(month and day)

Warrant must be posted by **August 27, 2024**, (at least *seven days* prior to the **September 3, 2024** State Primary).