



# TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

## TOWN COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83282726203>

**Call to Order:** Councilor Santos called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Councilor Santos led the body in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance:** Councilor Santos noted that all seven (7) councilors were in attendance. Ann McGonigle Santos, Chair; Julie Smith-Galvin, Vice-Chair; Mehreen N. Butt; Jonathan P. Chines; Paul R. DiNocco; Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. and Peter J. May.

**Administration Present:** Sherri A. Dalton, Town Council Clerk and Stephen P. Maio, Town Administrator.

**Town Counsel Present:** Thomas A. Mullen.

**Public Engagement:** John Sofia of 6 Whittemore Terrace questioned the use of citizen petitions at Town Meeting. Town Counsel Mullen explained that anyone can put an article on the Warrant if they get the required number of signatures. Under the General Laws, the owner of any property in Town has the right to put an article on the Warrant to amend the zoning that would affect his lot and that right exists regardless whether the owner is a Wakefield resident. Mr. Sofia thanked Mr. Mullen for the clarification.

**Announcement:** Director Clay of the Health Department said she has worked closely with the schools regarding re-opening. She said that Wakefield has had recent COVID cases and the rise is in adults between the ages of 20-year old's and 30-year old's. Restaurants have re-opened. Flu clinics will be starting soon and there will be a pop-up clinic at the Farmer's Market on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. There will also be a drive-through clinic at the High School with dates to be announced.

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilor DiNocco motioned to approve the August 03<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 regular Town Council meeting minutes. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Councilor DiNocco motioned to approve the July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 executive session Town Council meeting minutes. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Zoning By-law Change:** Councilor DiNocco motioned to refer to the Planning Board the proposed change to the Zoning By-law amending §190-48 and §190-31 as presented by Attorney Brian McGrail and his clients from The Savings Bank. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 6-0-1 by a roll call vote with Councilor Smith-Galvin abstaining.

**Appointments – Planning Board:** Joint meeting with the Planning Board to appoint two (2) applicants to the Planning Board. William Spaulding, Chair and Board Member Matthew Lowry were in attendance.



Councilor Dombroski recommended Megan Menesale. Councilor Chines recommended Joanne Scouler. Councilor Chines motioned to appointed Megan Menesale and Joanne Scouler to the Planning Board to fill un-expired terms through April 2021 at which time Ms. Menesale and Ms. Scouler can choose to run for the elected positions on the April 2021 Town Election ballot, one five-year term and one two-year term. Councilor Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 9-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Disability Commission:** Councilor DiNocco motioned to appoint Levonne Coughlin, Cheryl Callanan and Maeve Conway to the Disability Commission with terms ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Public Works Building Feasibility Study Sub-Committee:** Councilor DiNocco motioned to appoint Peter May – Town Council liaison, Joseph Conway – Public Works Director, Ann Waitt – Public Works Business Manager, William Renault – Town Engineer, Christopher Hunt – Field Operations Manager, Christopher Pierce – Public Works Building Manager, Richard Stinson – Citizen At Large and Joseph Harrington – Citizen At Large to the Public Works Building Feasibility Study Sub-Committee as recommended by Joseph Conway, Public Works Director. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Human Rights Commission Appointment Process:** Councilor Santos noted that the appointments to the Human Rights Commission will be at the September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting.

**Public Hearing: Murray Street** - At 7:19 p.m. Councilor DiNocco motioned to open the Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department Public Hearing for Murray Street. Councilor Dombroski seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote. After discussion with Vincent McMahon of the Wakefield Gas & Light Department the Town Council tabled this request pending more information. There was no public comment. At 7:31 p.m. Councilor DiNocco motioned to close the Public Hearing. Councilor Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Tax Classification:** Councilor DiNocco motioned to set Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:10 p.m. as the Public Hearing date for Tax Classification. Councilor Dombroski seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Traffic Advisory Recommendations:** Councilor Dombroski motioned to approve the follow Traffic Advisory Recommendations as presented by Lt. Joseph Anderson: No Parking on Crescent Street from Eaton Street to Centre Street; No Parking Here to Corner be posted on both sides of Eaton Street between #2 and #4 to the intersection of Crescent Street; Parking be restricted on the even side of Perham Street and the intersection be posted No Parking Here to Corner from the Perham Street side driveway of #304 Water Street to the intersection of Water Street on both sides; Parking permits be available for residents on Emerson Street from Chestnut Street to Prospect Street to park beyond the two-hour parking restriction; a Stop sign be installed on both sides of Newell Road. Councilor DiNocco seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Donation:** Councilor Dombroski motioned to approve the request of the Library to accept and expend a gift or gifts to the Library in the amount of \$130.00 from various donors with thanks. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Regular Town Meeting:** Councilor DiNocco motioned to set Saturday, November 07<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in the Field House at the High School for the Regular Town Meeting. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion

passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote. Councilor Chines motioned to open the Regular Town Meeting Warrant. Councilor DiNocco seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote. Councilor DiNocco motioned to close the Regular Town Meeting Warrant on October 08<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Debt Service:** Councilor DiNocco motioned to transfer the sum of \$1,000,000.00 from the General Fund to the Debt Service Capital Needs account. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Special Legislation:** Councilor Dombroski motioned to request special legislation as authorized in Article 21 of the June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Annual Town Meeting. Councilor DiNocco seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

**Warrants:** Councilors were updated on Warrant 53 dated June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 through Warrant 5 dated August 04<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Announcements:** Councilor Butt: WAAV is having a virtual 5k over a couple of days with registration online; Town Clerks office did a great job with the Election; 7 weeks away is the November 03<sup>rd</sup> Election; Congratulations to the Library in securing a Grant; Commuter rail in Greenwood sounds like it is going faster than it should be. Councilor Chines: 1<sup>st</sup> day of school is Thursday – good luck to all students; recognized everyone that was involved for making these decisions; has received positive feedback regarding the weekly updated from National Grid and their project and wondered if the same can happen with Town projects; the planning process for the Vision and Value Statement has continued and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council notified the Town that we will be getting a Grant to help facilitate the work of the advisory group that has been talked about. Councilor Dombroski: the 2020 census is still open if you have not filled it out yet please do so at [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov). Councilor Smith-Galvin: Environmental Sustainability Committee voted to try to pursue making Wakefield a Green Community. Councilor Santos: there is a report out regarding Chapter 70 Funding; Town Hall is opening more hours; Firefighter Robert Ford received a devastating diagnosis and a GoFundMe page has been formed. Town Administrator: Greeter positions at Town Hall are working well.

**Matters Not Anticipated for Agenda:** There were no matters unanticipated.

**Adjournment:** Councilor Chines motioned to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Councilor Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



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Sherri A. Dalton  
Town Council Clerk