



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

TOWN COUNCIL

Notice of Meeting Minutes: Town Council
2023 April 24
7:00 pm Eastern Time
WCAT Studio – 24 Hemlock Road | Via Zoom

Call to Order: Mehreen N. Butt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mehreen N. Butt let the body in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Town Council Attendance: Mehreen N. Butt, Chair; Jonathan P. Chines, Vice-Chair; Anne P. Danehy; Edward F. Dombroski, Jr.; Michael J. McLane; Julie Smith-Galvin and Robert E. Vincent II.

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

Town Counsel: Thomas A. Mullen was absent.

Public Engagement: The following members of the public commented on the proposed construction of the Northeast Metro Tech School: Sherri Carlson of 21 Wharton Park, Bronwyn Della-Volpe of 8 Cyrus Street, Bob Brooks, Jennifer Fanning of 4 Pheasant Wood Drive, Meghan McDonough of 185 Main Street, Melrose, Konstantina Sideris of Melvin Street, and Paul Rybicki of 152 Parker Road. Cindy Schatz discussed finding a location for The Friends of Beebe Library to store their books.

Fiscal Year 2024 Budgets: Jay Picone, Carla Scuzzarella, David DiBarrie, and Brittany Carasella from the Northeast Vocational Metro School presented an overview of the school's budget. The total budget increased by 2.78% over Fiscal Year 2023. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve Budget #33 Vocational School for \$2,251,945.00 as presented. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Mehreen N. Butt requested a letter of support be submitted from the Wakefield Town Council to Senator Lewis, Representative Lipper-Garabedian and Representative Wong in reference to House Amendment 1345 as consolidated to #A H3900 (SBA Funding). The amendment will certainly help reduce the financial impact on every municipality pursuing the building of new schools.



Fiscal Year 2024 Articles: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve \$4,337,400.00 for Debt Service Warrant Article. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve \$65,000.00 from free cash for Police and Fire Indemnification Warrant Article. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve \$25,000.00 from free cash for Medicare Consultant Warrant Article. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve \$275,000.00 from American Rescue Plan Act funds for Supplemental Budgets Warrant Article (Fire Department - \$143,000.00 overtime, \$12,000.00 fuel, \$20,000.00 repairs; Police Department - \$80,000.00 overtime, \$20,000.00 fuel). Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Wakefield Farmers' Market: After discussion with Police Chief Skory's recommendation to prohibit the sampling of alcohol at the Farmer' Market, Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the Wakefield Farmers' Market License Agreement for 2023 and 2024 as presented with the addition to the Rules and Regulations that sampling of alcohol is prohibited at the Wakefield Farmers' Market. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the liquor license for House Bear Brewing restricted to sales and no sampling at the Wakefield Farmers' Market. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Chief Skory, Lieutenant Anderson, Farmers' Market Manager, and the Economic and Community Director will meet to discuss parking.

Boys and Girls Club of Stoneham, Inc.: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the Revocable Permit Agreement for canoes, kayaks, pedal boats, and rowboats at the southern end of Lake Quannapowitt from May 30, 2023 through October 15, 2023. The permit may be extended under the same terms and conditions for a maximum of two (2) additional one (1) year terms, unless the Town terminates the Agreement. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Environmental Sustainability Committee Update: Chair member Eusden provided the accomplishments of the Environmental Sustainability Committee from 2022-2023. These include annual Sustainability and Recycling days, School Waste Programs, completing Wakefield's first greenhouse gas inventory, gathering pumpkins at the schools in the Fall for composing, successfully having Wakefield designated as a Green Community.

Fourth of July: Jonathan P. Chines moved to approve the request from the West Side Social Club to use the upper and lower commons beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, July 3, 2023 to Wednesday, July 5, 2023 ending at 6:00

a.m.; and to use the outside of Veteran's Field on Tuesday, July 4, 2023 for food concessions. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

460 Main Street: Town Administrator Maio provided an update regarding 460 Main Street and showed concepts from a sign company the owners are working with of what the outside of the building will temporary look like. The Council asked for frequent updates as construction will begin soon.

Donations: Jonathan P. Chines moved to accept and expend a gift or gifts to the Council on Aging for \$265.00 from various donors with thanks. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Jonathan P. Chines moved to accept and expend a gift or gifts to the Veterans Services for \$8,000.00 from various donors with thanks. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Warrants: Councilors were updated on Fiscal Year 2023 Warrants, Warrant 36 dated March 7, 2023, Warrant 38 dated March 21, 2023, and Warrant 39 dated March 28, 2023.

Approval of Minutes: Jonathan P. Chines moved to approve the April 10, 2023, Town Council meeting minutes as presented. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Jonathan P. Chines moved to approve the April 10, 2023 Town Council executive session meeting minutes as presented. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Matters Not Anticipated for Agenda: Jonathan P. Chines moved for Town Administrator Maio to sign the Massachusetts Historical Commission contract for a \$100,000.00 grant to restore the Civil War Monument and for Town Administrator Maio to send a letter stating that if Wakefield is awarded the grant it is our intention to record a permanent restriction and maintenance agreement for the statute pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 184 section 31-33, and that there is no mortgage on the property. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Michael J. McLane requested discussion at the next Town Council meeting regarding the resolution from the Finance Committee that will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting on May 15, 2023 on the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds for one particular item being the \$100,000.00 committed from the Town Council budget, and asked for all Council members to watch the Finance Committee meeting recording if they have not already done so.

Adjournment: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

E-SIGNED by Sherri A. Dalton
on 2023-06-02 08:01:07 EDT

Sherri A. Dalton,
Town Council Clerk