



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES
July 11th, 2022 | 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

Town Counsel Present: Thomas A. Mullen.

Public Engagement: There was no public engagement.

Approval of Minutes: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the June 27th, 2022 Town Council meeting minutes as proposed. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Presentations: Drug Free Communities Grant Project Director Dhingra along with Board of Health member Gourville and Youth Action Team leader Alexis Manzi shared some updates of the past year for the Wakefield Unified Prevention Coalition (Wake-Up). The Coalition is dedicated to reducing alcohol, tobacco and other drug uses among Wakefield residents and youths. Recent data indicates that substance use among Wakefield's youth continues to decline. Wake-Up will be looking increase their interventions on the impact of social media misuse. Thank you for all the great work from Wake-Up and Wake-Up Youth Action Team.

Youth Council: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to reduce the Youth Council composition at the request from the Youth Council from 17 members to 15 members (11 high school members and 4 middle school members). Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to solicit applications in the fall for the 1 open high school position and 3 open middle school positions. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Updates: Town Administrator Maio stated the building at 460-466 Main Street (he refers as the Molise Building) has been vacant since 2014. In 2021 the Town brought in the Urban Land Institute to talk about what that building could be. Earlier this year the owner along with their counsel was brought in to talk about safety within the building and outside of the building. The Town ordered the owner to board up the building, which they did and talks ensued about what could happen with the building specifically Eminent Domain and Receivership. Town Administrator Maio had a conversation with the owner's attorney recently and was told by the attorney they are waiting for the License Site Professional sign off for the oil leak that occurred there and once they receive that they are going into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with a developer. Town Administrator Maio would like to explore



the Receivership process which would be a lengthy process and would entail a Court Order to clean up the property in order for the sale of the property. The Council is comfortable with moving ahead with what Town Administrator Maio suggested as well as engaging with an attorney that specializes in this area and to possibly explore having a Bylaw. Town Counsel Mullen recommended that we move slowly and carefully regarding the Receivership process as the Board of Health needs to have a finding as to habitability of the building. There has to be health and sanitation violations. Town Council asked that an invitation be extended to the owner and their attorney to invite them to a future Town Council meeting. Town Administrator Maio recapped the Fourth of July activities and thanked the West Side Social Club and the 4th of July Committee for a successful day as they are private organizations that put on the activities and parade. Town Administrator Maio stated we received \$160,000.00 grant and that portions of the trail are complete. We also asked the State delegation through the Transportation Bond Bill for money to complete the project to the Wakefield line. Town Engineer Renault is meeting with MassDOT Rail Trail program in hopes for more funding.

Donation: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to accept and expend a gift or gifts to the Library in the amount of \$100.00 from various donors with thanks. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Announcements: Anne P. Danehy: thank you to everyone who attended the Master Plan Workshop on Wednesday, June 29th, 2022. The Master Plan Community Survey is open until August 2nd. Michael J. McLane: on Wednesdays Mystic Runners run around the lake at 6:45 p.m. and this month's charity is Friends of Lake Quannapowitt. Julie Smith-Galvin: Wakefield Bike/Ped meeting is Thursday at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom; Safe Streets Sunday event is this Sunday from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Jonathan P. Chines: two significant accidents just happened in Wakefield and reminded people to please slow down; MBTA are proposing changing bus routes and to eliminate bus service on North Avenue and to please submit comments to the MBTA. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr.: community outpouring was overwhelming regarding the recent accidents and sends thoughts to the parents and students. Town Administrator Maio: Town received a \$1.2 million Federal Grant for the quad gates in the Broadway area and Senator Moulton will be in Wakefield on August 2nd at 11:00 a.m. to celebrate; Fox 25 Zip Trip will be in Wakefield Friday morning. Mehreen N. Butt: thanked the first responders that responded to the recent accidents; reminded the Council to contact the Town Administrator with ARPA suggestions; lots of summer activities happening in Wakefield.

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

Adjournment: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri A. Dalton
Town Council Clerk