



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES
December 12th, 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.; Julie Smith-Galvin; Michael J. McLane 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: Wakefield Memorial High School Athletic Director Kent introduced members of the football team (who went undefeated 13-0, were Super Bowl State Champs and holds the best record in Wakefield High School history); two-time state champion cross country team (the first team to ever hold that title at Wakefield High School) and the three-time state finalist Dance team. John Crisley of 19 Humphrey Street, Bill Spaulding of 42 Gould Street talked about the North Avenue redesign project and pushed for wider sidewalks, rapid flashing beacons at pedestrian crossings, wide bike lane and barriers. A resident of Melrose residing at 11 East Emerson Street and Chair of the Melrose Pedestrian Bicyclist Committee supports the proposed changes to North Avenue between Veterans Field and Lake Quannapowitt Parkway. Juliana Spaulding of 42 Gould Street and a representative of the Youth Council supports the proposed improvements. Maureen Nelson of 100 Nahant Street supports the proposed improvements.

Liquor License: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the Change of Manager application for Prachi Corporation d/b/a McDonough's Liquors. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motioned passed 7-0-0. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. requested that they improve the aesthetics facade of the building so that there is not a lot of the advertising signs in the window. The proposed manager had no issue with the request.

Tax Policy Presentation: Town Council reviewed the amended draft tax policy which is intended to create guidance between the budget approved at Town Meeting and the tax levy established by the Town Council. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the amended policy dated December 7th, 2022. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. renewed his position stating 2.5% should not be the starting point. Michael J. McLane stated he is not supportive of the amended policy as it should be a year-to-year basis. Motion passed 5-2-0 with Jonathan P. Chines, Julie Smith-Galvin, Anne P. Danehy, Robert E. Vincent II and Mehreen N. Butt voting in favor. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. and Michael J. McLane voting against the motion.



Sidewalks/Crosswalks: Town Engineer Renault presented a plan to create a new wider shared use path along the eastern side of North Avenue which will create a wider sidewalk that allows for travel for bicycles and pedestrians as well as sidewalk infills on the western side of North Avenue. Construction is expected to begin in the spring.

Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Forecast: Town Administrator Maio presented the annual review of where the town is going as he went through budget priorities for the next fiscal year which starts July 1st, 2023. As he looks at where the town is headed he looks for trends but also each year as it comes. There is still some uncertainty with the allocation of State Aid, local receipts, health insurance, school priorities, snow and ice, outstanding contracts, tax levy policy and federal policy. He has advised the department managers to level fund their budgets with the exception of contractual obligations. The presentation of budgets starts at the January 9th, 2023 Town Council meeting.

2023 Renewal Licenses: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the following 2023 renewal licenses: Common Victualler – Billy's Roast Beef & Seafood, Carol's Café, Cibo Café & Bistro, Cravings, Dino's Brick Oven Pizzeria, Early Harvest Diner, Honey Dew (915 Main Street), Massimo Ristorante, Meletharb Ice Cream, My Brother's Place, Nick Pizza Roast Beef & Subs, S&S Donuts d/b/a Dunkin Donuts (632 Main Street), S&S Donuts d/b/a Dunkin Donuts (225 North Avenue), Slice Pizza & More, The Remedy Exchange, ZuZu's. Entertainment – Carol's Café, Cibo Café & Bistro, Massimo Ristorante, Slice Pizza & More. Liquor License – All Alcohol – Ben 123, Inc. d/b/a Bamboo House, Oyes, Inc. d/b/a Feng's. Innholder – Hospitality Resources, LLC. Beer and Wine – Cibo Café & Bistro. Lodging House – Wakefield Manor, Wakefield House. Class II – Auto Annex, Brandon Auto Sales, Platinum Car Center. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Appointment: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the request to advertise for a member to the Human Rights Commission to fill an unexpired term ending April 30th, 2023. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Donations: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to accept and expend a gift of gifts in the amount of \$895.00 to the Library from various donor(s) with thanks. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Approval of Minutes: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the November 28th, 2022 Town Council meeting minutes as proposed. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

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

Adjournment: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri A. Dalton
Town Council Clerk