



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

September 29th, 2020 | 6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89359360982>

Call to Order: Councilor Santos called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Legal Strategy: Councilor Santos stated there is a need for Executive Session to discuss the Town's legal strategy in litigation concerning Woods Subdivision because an open meeting may have detrimental effects on the bargaining position of the Town, with the intent of returning to open session. Councilor Dombroski so motioned at 6:32 p.m. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 on a roll call vote with all seven councilors voting in the affirmative.

Open session returned at 7:12 p.m.

Attendance: 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.

A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Pamela Wickwire.

Public Engagement: Erin Fopiano, a member of the Col. James Hartshorne House Association promoted their virtual Craft Beer Tasting event on October 17th, 2020 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Councilor DiNocco motioned to approve the September 14th, 2020 regular Town Council meeting minutes as proposed. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

License: Councilor Dombroski motioned to approve the One Day Liquor License requested for the Hartshorne House for the Craft Beer Tasting virtual event on October 17th, 2020 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Councilor DiNocco seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Appointments – Traffic Advisory Committee: Councilor DiNocco motioned to appointed John F. Connors, Jr. as the resident representative to the Traffic Advisory Committee. Councilor Dombroski seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.



Conservation Commission: Councilor Chines motioned to appoint Silvana Bouhlal to the Conservation Commission to fill an un-expired term through April 30th, 2022. Councilor DiNocco seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Veteran Advisory Board: Councilor DiNocco motioned to appoint Marion Dennehy, Jacquelynne Millinor, Paul Cancelliere, Brian McCoubrey to the Veteran Advisory Board with terms through April 30th, 2023. Councilor Dombroski seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Police Department Advisory Committee: Councilor Dombroski motioned to appoint Police Chief Steve Skory, Deputy Police Chief Craig Calabrese, Lt. Scott Reboult, Sgt. Richard Dinanno, Sgt. Sean Beede, Sgt. Kevin McCaul, Officer Amy Rando and Officer Shane Pelletier to the Police Department Advisory Committee as requested by Chief Skory. Councilor DiNocco seconded and asked that Town Council liaison Mehreen Butt be added to the committee. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Board of Registrars: Councilor Chines motioned to appoint Barry Noyes as a Registrar. Councilor Dombroski seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Authorization to Advertise: Councilor Dombroski motioned to authorize Town Council Clerk to advertise with a deadline date of October 08th, 2020 to fill an un-expired term on the School Committee. Councilor DiNocco seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Liaison Updates: Councilor Butt: Council on Aging – they are continuing with transportation services, doing small group gatherings and also socially distanced home visits. Library – curbside pick-ups as well as virtual programs have been going on; they are preparing to loan Chromebooks and hot spots and will do side-door printing services; they obtained a federal grant, Commit to your Community, where they will be doing virtual events with the first event on October 28th - all information is on the library website; three police recruits are in week 10 at the Lowell Police Academy; Officer Amy Rando completed a course on Massachusetts Civil Rights; 18 officers attended Implicit Bias training, Officer Matt Malone is the new SRO at the High School. **Councilor Chines:** Schools - today is the first day of phase 3 of the re-opening plans for the schools which is the beginning of the hybrid model – thanked everyone for all of their great work; Planning Board – the Board recently approved the Lovis Avenue Subdivision which will be three new single family lots; construction has begun at 107 Prospect Street; they are having a Public Hearing on October 13th, 2020 regarding The Savings Bank zoning amendment; Albion Cultural Exchange Committee – they are working on signage for the front of the building; working on a plan for handicap accessible entrance; the handicap accessible restrooms have been completed; thinking on how and when they can re-open. **Councilor Dombroski:** Economic Development: 11 candidates have been interviewed for the Economic Development Director position, the second round of interviews will be tomorrow and the hope is that this person will be in place by November 1st; the Wakefield Lynnfield Chamber of Commerce has been able to maintain programming helping small businesses; there is talk how to maintain outdoor dining once the weather gets colder. **Councilor Smith-Galvin:** Environmental Sustainability Committee: the committee voted to pursue the Green Community's designation which will be a year-long process; the bag to benches challenge is up to over a thousand pounds of bags and bags can be dropped off at the back of town hall; the bid for a new recycling contract is coming up through the DPW; WMGLD: the solar incentive is through the end of December; there is a new program called Connecting Homes that has some incentives to connect wi-fi devices to help manage your energy; their website has some really good information; next week is Public Power Week. **Councilor May:** Nahant Street Yard Waste site - The Highway Division has completed phase 1 gravel recycling and will begin phase 2 in late October. This process involved separating materials,

screening, crushing and blending for final product. This process saved the town having to pay to dispose of the "dirt/gravel" we dug up during the construction season. Estimates currently are that we created between 4,000-6,000 tons of quality material and saved 100k +/- in disposal/repurchase costs; HVAC Buildings Division - We have been continuing our cooperative work with the School Dept on the actionable items related to HVAC that were identified in their consultant's independent air assessment (BALA is the company). Things are progressing good; North Ave - Structural Engineers from Weston and Sampson have evaluated the building and are designing a plan to address the settling floors in the fleet maintenance shop. They are also evaluating the structure of the roof and its suitability to hold a new replacement roof membrane; Building Feasibility Study - the sub-committee has been set and a draft RFP and will be submitted to the permanent building committee for comment. From that point on they will get the subcommittee moving on next steps.

Financial Update: Town Administrator Maio gave an update on the finances of the town. He stated, bottom line, we are in good shape. There will be budget adjustments with a reduction in the operating budget of \$698,500.00 and bifurcation of capital expenditures of \$1,009,059.00; the use of free cash from \$3,000,000.00 to \$2,000,000.00, and predicts a slow gradual increase over the next few years. He also discussed forecasting for future years, with projected reserves at \$3 million in fiscal year 2021 and increasing it to \$4.2 million in fiscal year 2029 assuming that programs are maintained, capital is increased and state government holds cop aesthetic.

Announcements: Town Counsel Mullen: noted with regret the passing of Tim Tamagini, a long-time Wakefield citizen. Councilor Chines: discussed the ways of voting and that it is very safe to do any of the ways. Councilor Butt: saw the new ballot box today at Town Hall; WAAV is having a virtual 5k over a couple of days with registration online. Councilor Dombroski: reminded everyone to complete the 2020 Census. Councilor Santos: reminded everyone to get their flu shot.

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

Adjournment: Councilor Chines motioned to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. Councilor Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri A. Dalton
Town Council Clerk