



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES
March 28th, 2022 | 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order: Julie Smith-Galvin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Julie Smith-Galvin led the body in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Julie Smith-Galvin, Chair; Mehreen N. Butt, Vice-Chair; Jonathan P. Chines; Anne P. Danehy; Edward F. Dombroski, Jr.; Michael J. McLane and Ann McGonigle Santos.

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

Town Counsel Present: Thomas A. Mullen.

Public Engagement: Bill Conley of 83 Elm Street read a letter from Margaret Coppe, President of The Friends of Lake Quannapowitt regarding agenda item 10.b Lake Bench and Structure Policy. The letter urged the Town Council to adhere to the Policy and deny the request of Sentinel Benefits and Financial Group.

Approval of Minutes: Mehreen N. Butt motioned to approve the March 14th, 2022 Town Council meeting minutes as proposed. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

383 Water Street Update: Attorney Brian McGrail stated over 13 pieces of heavy equipment have been removed from the property. Volunteers have been working at the site every day both outside and inside the house. Several more vehicles will be removed from the property in the coming weeks. Mission of Deeds will be moving items in the house so that the owner will be able to move back in to the property on April 7th. Attorney McGrail requested a further extension until April 25th, 2022. Mehreen N. Butt motioned to extend the Cease and Desist Order until April 25th, 2022. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Donations: Mehreen N. Butt motioned to accept and expend a gift or gifts to the Town of Wakefield from various donors in the amount of \$6,000.00 to defray any town costs involved in the cleanup of 383 Water Street with thanks. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Fiscal Year 2023 Budgets: Jay Picone and Carla Scuzzarella from the Northeast Vocational Metro School presented an overview of their Budget #35. The total budget increased by 12.92% due to an increase in student enrollment, and Wakefield's share of the debt service for the new school project. Mehreen N. Butt motioned to accept Budget #35 Northeast Vocational Metro School in the amount of \$2,163,315.00. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Superintendent Lyons and Business Director Bufagna presented an overview Fiscal Year 2023 School Department budget. The budget represents an increase of 4.99% due to contractual salary increases, new positions as well as an increase in operational costs. The Town Council supported the proposed budget. Mehreen N. Butt



asked that a letter be drafted to send to the delegation with specific statistics for supporting free meals for all students funded by the State.

Licenses: Mehreen N. Butt motioned to approve the request from Thomas Markham for a One-Day Liquor License for a campaign social fundraiser on April 4th, 2022 at the Americal Civic Center. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Mehreen N. Butt motioned to approve the request from Wakefield Lynnfield Chamber of Commerce for a One-Day Liquor License for a fundraiser on May 26th, 2022 at Wakefield Bowladrome. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Mehreen N. Butt motioned to approve the request from King's Flavor located at 61 New Salem Street for a Common Victualler License. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Policies: Human Rights Commission Chair Benny Wheat requested revisions to the Town's Flag Policy. The current policy allows organizations that are hosting events at the Americal Civic Center to request approval to fly a flag at the Americal Civic Center only. The request is to fly flags at other locations and to allow organizations hosting events at Town buildings other than the Americal Civic Center to request a flag to be displayed. Mehreen N. Butt motioned to authorize Town Counsel Mullen to redraft the current Town's Flag Policy and present the draft at a future Town Council meeting. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Town Council members discussed the request for a Memorial Remembrance at 100 Quannapowitt lakefront from Sentinel Benefits and Financial Group. The Public Comment period will ensue until the April 25th, 2022 Town Council meeting.

Outdoor Dining: Ann Santos motioned to authorize the Town Administrator with input from Health Agent and Emergency Management Director to approve alteration of liquor license and food service footprints for both public and private spaces, allow retail to enter the public way provided access is sufficient and to consider requirement of uniformity of barriers. Mehreen N. Butt seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. commented that ability should be given to have some sort of outdoor heaters. Julie Smith-Galvin asked that the Council think about one or two areas for outdoor dining that are not affiliated with an existing business where anyone can sit down. Mehreen N. Butt reminded the Council that the lawn area in front of the Greenwood School would be a good idea as a parklet area. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. expressed concern for the business that are not participating in outdoor dining and asked that temporary signage be installed redirecting people where to park.

Annual Town Meeting: Due to a scheduling conflict with the School Department the Galvin Middle School auditorium location is not available on May 9th, 2022 for the Annual Town Meeting. Mehreen N. Butt motioned to reschedule the Annual Town Meeting to May 16th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Galvin Middle School. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Public Hearing: Mehreen N. Butt motioned to set the Public Hearing date as April 11th, 2022 at 7:03 p.m. for the liquor license request for L&B, LLC d/b/a Laurie's 909 located at 93 New Salem Street. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Cowdrey Fund: Mehreen N. Butt motioned to approve the request to transfer the interest from 2016 in the amount of \$392.24; 2017 in the amount of \$522.12; 2018 in the amount of \$456.76; 2019 in the amount of \$492.62; 2020 in the amount of \$497.68 and 2021 in the amount of \$433.19 for a total of \$2,794.61 from the Cowdrey Fund to the Wakefield Garden Club. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Announcements: Edward F. Dombroski, Jr.: Pit is opening this weekend with extended hours every Saturday and every other Sunday. Jonathan P. Chines: Gator Gallop is April 9th; this past St. Patrick's

Day was the 100th anniversary of cornerstone for the Beebe Library; Commission on Disabilities is showing a film entitled Intelligent Lives on April 11th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Galvin Middle School; next meeting of the Master Plan is April 6th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Mehreen N. Butt: thanked the people involved with the volunteer event; Community Garden plot applications are due by April 1st; April 2nd starts the month of Ramadan.

Matters Not Anticipated for Agenda: Julie Smith-Galvin asked for an update regarding the oil spill. Town Administrator Maio stated there was a diesel fuel spill that occurred a few weeks ago in the Water Street/Farm Street area. Commonwealth Tank cleaned the area and apparently some of the residue got into some of the storm drains and hadn't been completely removed. Representatives from DEP and Commonwealth tank were on site and installed berms and will re-vacuum and wash out the storm drains and will be going up and down the river to free up and clean various pockets of debris and oil. Wakefield Fire and DPW walked a lot of the river in both directions to assess the situation.

Adjournment: Mehreen N. Butt motioned to adjourn at 9:42 p.m. Ann Santos seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri A. Dalton
Sherri A. Dalton
Town Council Clerk

APPROVED