



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES
September 28th, 2022 | 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order: Mehreen N. Butt called the meeting to order at 6:30 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. Robert E. Vincent II attended virtually via Zoom.

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

Town Counsel Present: Thomas A. Mullen.

Executive Session: At 6:33 p.m. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to enter Executive Session to discuss Police contract because an Open Session may have detrimental effects on the bargaining position of the Town, with the intent of returning to open session immediately thereafter. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0 by roll call vote with Jonathan P. Chines, Anne P. Danehy, Michael J. McLane, Julie Smith-Galvin and Mehreen N. Butt all voting unanimously.

Open session returned at 6:55 p.m. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr. and Robert E. Vincent II joined the open session at 6:55 p.m.

Public Engagement: Ryan Boyd, Executive Director of WCAT addressed the use of ARPA funds for WCAT.

Updates: Police Chief Skory discussed the progress on the Public Safety Building renovation project; the recent challenges recruiting police officers and talked about future traffic safety plans. Emergency Management Director Walsh talked about training with Active Shooter Programs that have been done and will continue to do; and is also working on a comprehensive plan book which he will share with the Council once completed. Nancy Bertrand, Chair of the Historical Commission provided an update on historical preservation needs which includes the Old Burying Ground, the Civil War Memorial and the Bandstand. Joseph Bertrand, Chair of the Permanent Building Committee along with representatives from Leftfield and SMMA gave a presentation on the proposed Wakefield Memorial High School Building project. The schematic design is close to completion and once completed the design will be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority at the end of October. A Special Town Meeting in January is anticipated to consider approval of the project and a town-wide vote is anticipated in March.

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department: General Manager Dion of the Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department and their attorney, Michael McCarthy presented an Energy Park proposal to serve the new Wakefield Memorial High School and Northeast Metro Tech. The proposed park



will provide approximately 1/3 of the energy needed for both facilities and will include battery storage for the excess power. Since the land for the proposed Energy Park is located on Town property an Easement is required and an Article at the Regular Town Meeting on November 19th, 2022 will be on the Warrant for a vote.

Veteran's Memorial Field: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to open the Public Comment period until October 24th, 2022 for a new sign to be installed at Veteran's Memorial Field. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote. Daniel and Lois Benjamin provided a brief presentation and background information regarding the sign which is scheduled to be dedicated on Veteran's Day as a gift to the Town from Lois Benjamin.

Licenses: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the Application for Amendment Change of DBA for Dockside at Wakefield, Inc. from Dockside Your Neighborhood Family Restaurant to Floramo's Wakefield. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the request for a One-Day Liquor License for Tapped Beer Truck for a private event at Vestmark, 100 Quannapowitt Parkway on October 4th, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. subject to the required departments sign-offs. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the request for a One-Day Liquor License for Hartshorne House for an event on November 12th, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. subject to the required departments sign-offs. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the request for a new Class II License for Modern Classic Investment Cars, LLC located at 383R Lowell Street subject to the required departments sign-offs. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

Appointments: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the request to advertise for a member to the Zoning Board of Appeals due to a resignation to fulfill a three-year term expiring April 30th, 2023. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the request to advertise for a student member to the Environmental Sustainability Committee for a one-year term expiring June 30th, 2023. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

Donations: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the request to accept and expend a gift or gifts in the amount of \$20,125.00 to the Library from various donors with thanks. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote. Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the request to accept and expend a gift or gifts to the Council on Aging in the amount of \$200.00 from various donors with thanks. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

American Rescue Plan Act: Town Administrator Maio presented ideas on how to use Wakefield's funds from the American Rescue Plan Act through the Federal Government. Wakefield was awarded approximately \$8 million and the Town has approximately \$6.5 million left to spend. The ideas collected were from residents, Town staff and Town Councilors totaled approximately \$27 million. The Council agreed they each would send their top priorities to Town Administrator Maio who will then present a plan at a future Town Council meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to approve the September 12th, 2022 Town Council meeting minutes as proposed. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

Announcements: Jonathan P. Chines: congratulations to the Marching Band; the Veteran's Office and the Senior Center are doing a program with the Room to Write where they are inviting seniors and veterans to the Senior Center on Tuesdays in October from 1:00 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to learn about writing down memories and memoirs and in November they will be offering the same program during the evening. Julie Smith-Galvin: The Environmental Sustainability Committee will be at the Farmer's Market on Saturday. Anne P. Danehy: tomorrow is the Covid Booster Clinic in Melrose; the Scavenger Hunt was really fun and successful. Edward F. Dombroski, Jr.: National Recovery Month is closing out but the issue remains and encouraged everyone to remember there are resources within our community. Michael J. McLane: WAAV race is Saturday. Robert E. Vincent II: Friday is the deadline to apply for the Senior Circuit Breaker Income Tax Credit whereas Wakefield matches 100% of the State credit for eligible 65-year old's. Mehreen N. Butt: the Council is hosting a lunch with the Council on Aging on October 12th, 2022; congratulations to the HRC for a successful Hispanic Heritage event; the Mass Cultural Council gives money to Wakefield individuals and organizations please apply by October 17th; asked Councilors to give liaison updates at the next Town Council meeting. Town Administrator Maio: Town Day is October 8th.

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

Adjournment: Jonathan P. Chines motioned to adjourn at 10:15 p.m. Julie Smith-Galvin seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri A. Dalton
Town Council Clerk