



WAKEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Monday, September 09, 2019

6:30 P.M.

Wakefield Lower Common, Wakefield, MA. 01880

**COUNCIL
MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Councilor Edward F. Dombroski, Jr., Chair
Councilor Ann McGonigle Santos, Vice-Chair
Councilor Mehreen N. Butt
Councilor Jonathan P. Chines
Councilor Julie Smith-Galvin

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Clerk Sherri A. Dalton
Town Counsel Thomas Mullen

**COUNCIL
MEMBERS
ABSENT:**

Councilor Paul R. DiNocco
Councilor Peter J. May

ADMINISTRATION ABSENT:

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio

----- TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -----

Call to Order

Councilor Dombroski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and Karen Faler, Wakefield resident and longtime dedicated Lake Quannapowitt supporter led the body in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Dombroski asked for a moment of silence for the passing of James Good, former Member and Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Attendance

Councilor Dombroski noted that Councilors Santos, Butt, Smith-Galvin and Chines were present as well as Town Counsel Mullen and Clerk Dalton. Councilor Paul R. DiNocco and Councilor Peter J. May as well as Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio were absent.

**Approve of
Minutes –
August 05,
2019**

Councilor Santos motioned to approve the August 05, 2019 Minutes as presented. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

**Public
Engagement**

There was no Public Engagement.

**Recognition &
Thanks**

Members of Friends of Lake Quannapowitt (FOLQ) which was formed in 1991 were recognized by the Town Council. FOLQ founded many projects including Bricks by the Lake at Col. Connelly Park as well as the most recent bench replacement program and an upcoming project at the head of the Lake. Councilor Dombroski thanked the members for their service to the Town and to the committee.

Members of the Wakefield Center Neighborhood Association (WCNA) were also recognized by the Town Council for the great work they have done including replacement of the pipe fencing at the Upper Common; replacement of the chain link fence along Church Street; and replacement of the Spanish American War Memorial Plaque at the Rockery. They also sponsor Festival

by the Lake and the annual Egg Hunt. Councilor Dombroski thanked the members for their service to the Town and their organization.

**Notice of
Events**

Representatives of the First Parish Congregational Church provided information on a couple of events planned for the month of September for their 375th Anniversary. September 21st will bring fun and games on the Lower Common and on September 28th there will be a tour of the Church building with a historical commentary and a viewing of the beautiful stained glass.

**Wakefield
CommuniTRE
E Program**

Councilor Dombroski announced a new program through the Department of Public Works with the goal of increasing the number of new trees planted throughout the Town. This initiative will allow residents, visitors, local organizations, and businesses to donate a tree to supplement the ongoing work of Wakefield's Forestry Division. While donors will have a selection of tree species from which to indicate a preference and can request a neighborhood in which the tree is planted, the Forestry Division will ultimately determine the viability of requests based on surrounding plantings, placement of utilities, and sidewalk and green space limitations. A \$300.00 donation sponsors the planting of one tree, while smaller contributions would be pooled to support planting in an area of need. The Department of Public Works will secure and maintain the donated plantings and the plantings are expected to begin in fall 2019, prior to ground freezing and will resume in the spring of 2020. Donors will be contacted to discuss their requested tree species and proposed location prior to planting. At a prior Board of Selectmen meeting of June 26, 2017, Maggiore Companies was asked to donate ten (10) as part of their construction project at 175 North Avenue. Councilor Smith-Galvin requested that the DPW keep track of how many trees the town is losing and how many the town is planting. Matthew Maggiore presented the Town Council with a check for \$3,000.00 for ten (10) trees. Councilor Chines motioned to accept and expend the \$3,000.00 for ten (10) trees. Councilor Santos seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

**Conservation
Commission
Update**

Representatives of the Conservation Commission provided the Town Council with their projects that they accomplished last year and what they foresee will be happening this year. They will be putting information on the website regarding paths or trails that people have been using including the Reedy Meadow trail which has been maintained by the Boy Scouts. Preserving wildlife corridors has been another project they have been working on since the wildlife has been affected by all the construction and they need a place to go. Councilor Smith-Galvin asked the representatives how they interact with other boards. They reported that years ago there was a joint meeting with the Planning Board. The Commission expressed that maybe they should have those joint meetings again. The Town Council thanked the Commission for their dedication to the Town.

**Police
Department
Promotions**

Chief Steven Skory introduced Joseph Anderson who was promoted to Lieutenant and Matthew Powers who was promoted to Sergeant. The Town Council congratulated both Lieutenant Anderson and Sergeant Powers.

**Downtown
Safety &
Support**

Chief Steven Skory along with members of the Police Department and Mental Health Clinician Jennifer Waczkowski provided information regarding safety and social issues in the downtown business district. Chief Skory stated that the Police Department is committed to protecting the constitutional rights and civil rights of all individuals within the community. There has been an increase with homeless people as well as people with mental health issues. The complaints the Police Department has received is that of groups gathering on the benches and being disruptive. Chief Skory stated that the Police Department is doing everything they can from treatment, counseling and other social services with their Mental Health partners, as these are more effective than arrests. Deputy Chief Calabrese stated that since 2012 they have been bringing providers together at monthly meetings to discuss high risk cases with the focus on those most in need. Chief Skory asked the Town Council for their help by relocating and/or reconfiguring the benches downtown. He stated that the benches are an issue for the Police Department and are contributing to the downtown issues. He suggested not to eliminate them right now, but said the current configuration needs to be addressed. Chief Skory also asked for help from the Town Council in the regulation of the sale of nip bottles of alcohol. One community has an ordinance that prohibits the sale of 50ml bottles of alcohol and after a year of having that ordinance in place they have seen some significant results. Councilor Santos commended the Police Department for everything they are doing. She agreed with both Chief Skory's requests regarding the benches and nip bottle regulation. Councilor Chines praised the approach the Police Department has taken in regards to the mental health issues in the downtown. While he is fully supportive in reconfiguring the benches as he feels that will improve the quality of life in the downtown, he is hesitant in prohibiting the sale of 50ml bottles of alcohol as he do not want the town to get ahead of what the state allows the town to do. Town Counsel Mullen suggested perhaps the regulation on nip bottles is a Board of Health Regulation rather than a By-Law. He also offered that another option is through the Town Council as the alcohol regulating board. Councilor Butt mentioned that the Mental Health Clinician's position is part-time and the Town Council should think about making that position full-time. The Town Council thanked the department as a whole for everything they have done.

**Traffic
Advisory
Recommendations**

Councilor Chines motioned to approve the request of the Traffic Advisory Committee as presented by Chairman Joseph Anderson that two (2) "No Parking Here to Corner" signs be posted on both sides of Herbert St. One sign should be posted at the southern side of the driveway of 68 Bennett St. (which is located on Herbert St.). The sign would be posted after the driveway if coming from Bennett St. The second sign should be directly across the street by #15B Herbert St. Councilor Santos seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Councilor Smith-Galvin motioned to approve the request of the Traffic Advisory Committee as presented by Chairman Joseph Anderson that signs be installed and read "Herbert St. #15-27" on one section and "Herbert St. #39-42" on the other section of the way to reflect that the street is a split street.

Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Councilor Santos motioned to approve the request of the Traffic Advisory Committee as presented by Chairman Joseph Anderson that Richardson Ave. on the left side of the street if coming from North Ave. (north side) starting 10 feet east of the fire hydrant located near the eastern most corner of the gas station driveway. The first sign "*4 hour and Merchant Parking*" should have an arrow pointing east and the spots should continue heading eastbound to just before the first driveway of #41 Richardson Ave. where another sign should be placed with an arrow pointing back west. The existing parking sign on the telephone pole prior to Frank's Auto driveway should be replaced to reflect the change. This will allocate approximately six (6) parking spots. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Councilor Santos motioned to approve the request of the Traffic Advisory Committee as presented by Chairman Joseph Anderson that Main St. (Greenwood) heading southbound near 893 Main St. Batten Bros. change the existing spots starting at the first marked parking spot just south of Forest St. and continuing southbound past Batten Bros. for a total of nine (9) parking spots. A sign should be posted "*4 hour and Merchant Parking*" starting at the first spot with an arrow pointing south, a second sign should be posted south of the Batten Bros. driveway and a third sign at the end of the ninth spot with an arrow pointing north. Old signs will need to be removed to reflect the change. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Councilor Santos motioned to approve the request of the Traffic Advisory Committee as presented by Chairman Joseph Anderson that Main St. (Greenwood) on the east side of Main St. Starting north of 862 Main St. heading northbound and ending in the area of 780 Main St. Change all existing signs that currently read *No Parking 7AM-11AM* to "*4 hour and Merchant Parking*" with pavement markings. The current *No Parking 7AM-11AM* sign next to the bus stop should be removed and not exchanged for the new regulation sign as to avoid confusion. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Councilor Santos motioned to approve the request of the Traffic Advisory Committee as presented by Chairman Joseph Anderson that Oak St. on the north side of the street coming from Main St. heading east add "*4 hour and Merchant Parking*" with pavement markings on the north side of the street starting after the first church walkway/current *No Parking* sign and ending at the existing 2 hour parking sign near #8 Oak St. The existing 2 hour parking sign should be replaced to reflect the change with an arrow pointing west. The current *No Parking* sign near the first church walkway should be replaced to reflect the change with an arrow pointing east. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Councilor Santos motioned to table the request of the Traffic Advisory Committee as presented by Chairman Joseph Anderson making the Smith St. public parking lot all 4-hour and Merchant Parking. The TAC has received

complaints from some business owners and residents asking for a more centralized, longer-term parking solution for their customers and employees. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Councilor Smith-Galvin motioned to approve the request of the Traffic Advisory Committee as presented by Chairman Joseph Anderson that No Parking Here to Corner signs be installed on both sides of Grafton Street twenty (20) feet from the intersection of Main Street. Councilor Santos seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Councilor Santos requested the Traffic Advisory Committee at their next meeting review the intersection of West Water and North Avenue as the intersection is not clearly marked for pedestrians crossing.

Redfield Road

The Wakefield Town Council and the Board of Selectmen in Reading have already approved the sale of a tax title parcel which is mostly in Wakefield and partially in Reading at 28 Redfield Road. The buyer of the property has determined that there is an encroachment, and that the house is on the neighboring property. The buyer went before the Wakefield Zoning Board of Appeals to obtain permission to rebuild the house within the lot line. During the process of seeking that approval, the abutter whose property is encroached upon expressed some concern about the Town claiming adverse possession because this house has been there more than 20 years. Town Counsel Mullen has prepared a Waiver of Potential Claim of Adverse Possession for the Wakefield Town Council and the Wakefield Town Treasurer to sign. Councilor Santos motioned to approve the Waiver of Potential Claim of Adverse Possession. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Clean Lake Committee

Councilor Dombroski announced the formation of a new Clean Lake Committee, with the ultimate goal of making Lake Quannapowitt swimmable and fishable. This Committee will be focused on implementation of new strategies to improve the water quality of the Lake while being compliant with Federal and State government regulations. Focus to also include improving storm water solutions for Lake Quannapowitt as well as Crystal Lake and other waterways within Town. The Committee will work to achieve better alignment and coordination between Department of Public Works and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) efforts to maximize efficiencies and tactically create maximum impacts to improving water quality. The proposed Committee composition will include the Town Engineer (as Chair), Town Environmental Manager, a member of Friends of Lake Quannapowitt (FOLQ), a Commissioner of the Conservation Commission, a member of the Environmental Sustainability Committee, a Town Councilor liaison, 2 members of the public (one member will have a 3-year term and the other member will have a 4-year term). The Town Council will publicly post committee openings through their Clerk, seeking interested applicants. Councilor Chines motioned for the creation of the Clean Lake Committee as presented and the proposed Committee composition as stated. Councilor Santos seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Constituent Issues	There were no constituent issues.
Chairman's Comments	There will be a Tri-Board meeting between the Town Council, Finance Committee and the School Committee. The meeting will take place on October 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Galvin Middle School. An update on the Public Safety Building and Envision Wakefield Downtown Revitalization will be addressed at the next Town Council meeting of September 23, 2019.
Regular Town Meeting	<p>Councilor Santos motioned to set the Regular Town Meeting for November 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Galvin Middle School, noting that the Thanksgiving holiday may alter the usual scheduling of subsequent nights of Town Meeting. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.</p> <p>Councilor Smith-Galvin motioned to open the Regular Town Meeting Warrant on September 9, 2019. Councilor Santos seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.</p> <p>Councilor Santos motioned to close the Regular Town Meeting Warrant on October 10, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.</p>
Trail Signs	Councilor Chines motioned to approve the proposed trail signs at JJ Round Parking Lot and Holland Road as presented by Boy Scout Jimmy Crump. Councilor Santos seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
Notice of Public Hearing	Councilor Santos motioned to set the Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Classification hearing for October 28, 2019 at 7:10 p.m. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
Wakefield Memorial High School Working Group	The Wakefield School Committee has created a working group to review, design, and develop strategies around the construction or major renovation of the new Wakefield Memorial High School. Councilor Dombroski appointed Councilor Santos and Councilor Chines as the Town Council representatives for the High School working group. The working group is being created to review, develop, and propose community outreach and communication strategies with the hope of being guided and prepared for viable options for next steps upon receipt of notice from the Massachusetts School Building Authority which is expected in January 2020 or before.
Licenses	<p>Councilor Santos motioned to approve the One Day Liquor License application request from Allison Williams for a private event at the Americal Civic Center on November 30, 2019. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.</p> <p>Councilor Santos motioned to approve the Common Victualler application request from Stefano Barbiero for Morena Cucina Italiana located at 23 Broadway. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.</p>

Gift Acceptance	Councilor Santos motioned to approve the request from the Library Trustees to accept and expend a gift or gifts to the library in the amount of \$1,654.50 from various donors with thanks. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
Warrants	Councilor Chines signed Warrant #50 dated June 11, 2019 through Warrant #4 dated July 23, 2019 regarding town affairs.
Matters Not Anticipated for Agenda	There were no matters unanticipated.
Announcements & Acknowledgements	<p>Councilor Santos – noted with regret the death of James Good</p> <p>Councilor Chines – attended the rededication of JJ Round along with Councilor DiNocco and thanked the family members for the refurbishing of the plaques; congratulations to Wakefield Soccer Association for their 50th anniversary; congratulations to the Wakefield Public Schools for a successful first day and reminded everyone in the community to please drive safely and beware of the children going to and from school and activities</p> <p>Councilor Smith-Galvin – attended a WMGLD meeting and the solar program is about 50% subscribed and they are looking at the possibility of putting solar on poles and commercial areas; WMGLD is also working closely with National Grid on the high voltage line work that is being done in town and are utilizing their Facebook page more regularly for traffic updates and gas work updates; Kenneth Chase a longtime WMGLD Commissioner was recognized by the New England Public Power Association for a commissioner and service; there is a survey from the Environmental Sustainability Committee that has to do with the municipal vulnerability work; WAAV 5k is October 5, 2019</p> <p>Councilor Butt – thank you to everyone that responded to the MBTA survey; attended the Albion Cultural Exchange meeting and the bathroom at the ACE Center is coming shortly; Town Councilors had successful office hours at the Farmer’s Market earlier this summer and they have scheduled them again for September 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Councilor Dombroski – special thanks to the Town Council, DPW, WCAT, Town Administrator Steve Maio and Clerk Sherri Dalton for making tonight’s meeting happen</p>
Adjournment	At 8:49 p.m. Councilor Santos motioned to adjourn. Councilor Chines seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
Next Council Meeting	The next regular Town Council meeting is September 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at WCAT Studio

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri A. Dalton, Executive Assistant