

# City of Taunton Municipal Council Meeting Minutes

# In the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers Minutes, February 24, 2009 at 9:15 O'clock P.M.

Regular Meeting Mayor Charles Crowley presiding Prayer was offered by the Mayor

Present at roll call were: Counci

Councilor's Barbour, Buffington, Carr, Croteau, Marshall,

Fiore, Pottier, Costa-Hanlon, Hoye

Record of preceding meeting was read by Title and Approved. So Voted.

# **Hearings:**

Continued hearing upon the petition submitted by Joseph Malloch, Malloch Construction, 113 Padelford Street, Berkley, MA and others for the acceptance of Powhattan Estates roadways including Sakonet Avenue, Powhattan Drive, Tyask Street, Metacomet Avenue, Pocasset Place, Meeshawn Avenue and Wampum Drive as public ways in the City of Taunton. Motion was made to reopen the hearing. So voted. The City Clerk read a communication she submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals stating that the roadways within Powhattan Estates cannot be accepted until the Board signs off on the audit and submits a positive recommendation to the Council. Motion was made to make part of the hearing. So Voted. The City Clerk read a communication submitted by the Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals stating that they voted to forward a positive recommendation to accept Meeshawn Ave., Tyashk St., Pocasset Place, Metacomet Ave., Sakonet Ave., Powhattan Dr., Wampum Drive as public ways in the City of Taunton. Motion was made to make part of the hearing. So Voted. Motion was made to invite Michael and Joseph Malloch, Malloch Construction, 113 Padelford Street, Berkley into the enclosure. So Voted. The Malloch's stated they feel they have gone to all boards and met all requirements to have the street accepted. They were asked about a recreation area that is not on the plan that was approved. It is located at 205 Powhatten Dr. Why is it allocated as a recreation area and not a conservation lot as it is practically wetland? Mr. Malloch stated we have one recreation area that is not on the plans but has been approved. No one speaking in favor. Speaking in opposition was James Cook, 215 Powhattan Dr. He stated there are cracks around the sewer covers and the recreation area is not developed. Mr. Cook passed around pictures showing a crack in the street and mounds of dirt on lot 77. Who is going to maintain the recreation area? Mr. Malloch stated the association. Councilor Pottier asked who is doing the plowing. Mr. Malloch stated we are. Mailboxes are at the individual houses. Motion was made to grant the petition and close the hearing. So Voted. Councilors Pottier and Barbour voting in opposition.

#### Communications from Mayor:

The Mayor stated he received an email from Anne Marie Matulis stating that the Teen Center earned a designation as a national finalist for efforts during the "Make a Difference Day" and was awarded \$10,000.00. Motion was made to send a letter of congratulations to Anne Marie Matulis and members of her team. So Voted.

#### Communications:

Com. from the Human Resource Director requesting a transfer of funds in the amount of \$575.39 from the Contracted Bargain Prof. And Tech. Account to the Management Consultant Account to pay for KRONOS contracted services for FY2009. Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Finance and Salaries and the Mayor's Office. So Voted.

Com. from the Police Chief requesting commendations for Detective Peter Corr who performed CPR on a man at the Taunton Elks who suffered and survived a heart attack and Patrolman Brian Dunham for going above and beyond while apprehending a suspect charged in a house break. **Motion was made to move approval.** So Voted.

Com. from City Assessor responding to a request asking why debt exclusion is not broken out on the property tax bills. The Assessor stated that information concerning the debt exclusion on tax bills is not listed as there is no place on the tax bill format to show the amount of debt exclusion's impact on each bill. Motion was made to refer back to the Assessor's Office to place an insert into the tax bills to explain and help the taxpayers understand their bill. So Voted.

Com. from the Taunton Planning Board notifying of a public hearing on the proposed Zoning Map Amendment on Thursday, March 5, 2009 at 5:30 PM in the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers. Motion was made to receive and place on file. So Voted.

Com. from General Manager, TMLP requesting approval to install 5-250 watt high pressure sodium lights on George Washington Post #1-5. Councilor Marshall motioned to have TMLP report back if these George Washington Posts are placed in neighborhoods and if so, where. By placing them is it an additional cost and refer this matter to the Committee on Finance and Salaries. So Voted.

Com. from Superintendent of Public Schools responding to a request for information regarding the Taunton High School/Parker Fire alarm from January 28, 2009. **Motion was made to receive and place on file. So Voted.** 

Com. from Superintendent of Public Schools submitting an overview of the Green Communities Act as requested. Motion was made to refer to the Green Communities Committee. So Voted.

Com. from Taunton Youth Football/Cheerleading/Cubs requesting use of the portable sign to advertise the Taunton Cubs Football and Cheer registration on March 7, 2009 at Head Start from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM for ages 5-14. Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.

Com. from Police Chief submitting the Crossing Guard Training program developed by Safety Officer Bruce Pontes and recommending that the training be reviewed by the City Solicitor in terms of liability to the City. Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor for review and meet with the Committee on Police and License for four (4) weeks. So Voted.

Com. from Fr. Henry Arruda, Pastor, St. Anthony's Church requesting permission to hold a prayer walk on March 28, 2009 beginning at 7:00 AM at St. Anthony's Church. Motion was made to move approval and notify the Police Chief, Fire Chief and Ambulance Service. So Voted.

Councilor Hoye read an extra communication submitted by Grace Chaves, Assistant to the President, Coyle and Cassidy High School requesting use of the electronic sign to promote their second annual "Night of Irish Music, Laughter, and Dance" on March 5, 2009 at 7:00 PM. Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.

#### Petitions and Claims:

Petition submitted by Ali Abouzeid, 73 Cavalier Ave., Taunton requesting a new Old Gold License—DBA Hannoush Jewelers located at the Galleria Mall. Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Police and License. So Voted.

Petition submitted by Commonwealth of Mass, 60 Hodges Ave., Taunton, for a license to store, use and sell an additional 10,000 gallons fuel oil to be kept in aboveground tanks in addition to the existing 12,750 gallons of fuel oil and diesel (stored in aboveground tanks) and 9,000 gallons of fuel oil and diesel (belowground tanks) at 60 Hodges Avenue, Taunton. Motion was made to refer to a public hearing. So Voted.

#### Committee Reports:

Motion was made for Committee reports to be read by Title and Approved. So Voted. Recommendations adopted to reflect the votes as recorded in Committee Reports. So Voted.

#### Orders, Ordinances, and Enrolled Bills

## Ordinance for a second reading to be passed to a third reading

#### AN ORDINANCE

#### **CHAPTER 12**

Licenses and Miscellaneous Business Regulations

ARTICLE VI. JUNK, OLD METAL, ANTIQUES AND SECONDHAND ARTICLES\*

Be it ordained by the Municipal Council of the City of Taunton as follows:

# 'That Section 12-102 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Taunton, as amended, be and hereby are further amended by adding thereto the following:

By changing Section 12-102 (b) to the following:

- (b) It shall be the Licensee's responsibility to require and record the following information for each transaction and sales.
  - 1. A photocopy of the seller's driver's license or photo identification card.
  - 2. License plate number of the vehicle used to convey the material sold to the dealer.
  - 3. Sales slip will contain a legibly written or printed in the English language description of the material purchased, date of purchase, printed name and signature of seller acknowledging that he/she legally owns the material offered for sale.
  - 4. A photograph of the material offered for sale.
  - Any police officer shall be afforded access to the business to view the bound book, sales slips, and photocopies of driver's licenses at any time during regular business hours.
  - 6. Any violations of the foregoing, after a hearing, shall be a valid reason for immediate revocation of said license, junk, metal, antique and second hand articles, and or a fine of not less than \$200.00 per offense.
  - 7. The licensee shall retain the information obtained pursuant to this section for one year from the date of sale.

Also, by adding the following threes sections:

- 12-103 (c) Stolen Goods. Every licensee who shall receive or be in possession of any goods, articles or things of value that may have been lost or stolen shall upon demand produce such article or thing to any member of the police department for examination.
- 12-103 (d) Minors. No licensee shall have any business dealings with any person less than 18 years of age, except with the written consent of the parent or guardian of the minor to each particular transaction.
- 12-103 (e) Severability. The provisions of this ordinance are severable, and if any part of this ordinance should be found to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions.

All ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage. Motion was made to pass to a third reading. So Voted.

# Ordinance for a second reading to be passed to a third reading

#### AN ORDINANCE

# Chapter 12

Sec. 12-251 Sale and use of air rifles, air guns, BB guns, or pellet guns

Be it ordained by the Municipal Council of the City of Taunton as follows:

## (a) Sale or transfer of air rifles, air guns, BB guns, or pellet guns

(1) It shall be a violation for any dealer to sell, lend, rent, give, or otherwise transfer an air rifle to any person under the age of 18 years, where the dealer knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, the person to be under 18 years of age, or where such dealer has failed to make reasonable inquiry relative to the age of such person, and such person is under 18 years of age.

Any business in the city of Taunton conducting sales of Air Rifles, Air Guns, BB Guns, or Pellet Guns shall maintain in a bound book, a record of all sales. The book shall contain the following information:

- a. Date and time of sale.
- b. A Photocopy of purchaser's photo identification.
- c. Description and serial number of air rifle, air gun, BB gun, or pellet gun.

The record book containing such information shall be available for inspection during normal business hours, upon demand of ant city of Taunton Police Officer.

(2) It shall be a violation for any person to sell, give, lend, or otherwise transfer any air rifle, air gun, BB gun, or pellet gun to any person under 18 years of age, except where the relationship of parent and child, guardian and ward or adult instructor and pupil exists between such person and the person under 18 years of age.

## (b) Carrying or discharging air rifles, air guns, BB guns, or pellet guns

(1) No minor under the age of eighteen shall have an air rifle, air gun, BB gun, or pellet gun in his possession while in any place to which the public has a right of access unless he is accompanied by an adult or unless he is the holder of a sporting or hunting license and has on his person a permit from the chief of police granting him the right of such possession. No person shall discharge a BB shot, pellet or other object from an air rifle, air gun, BB gun, or pellet gun from or across any street, alley, public way or railroad or railway right of way, and no minor under the age of eighteen shall discharge a BB shot, pellet or other object from an air rifle or BB gun unless he is accompanied by an adult or is the holder of a sporting or hunting license.

## (c) Seizure

Any law enforcement officer may seize, take, remove or cause to be removed, at the expense of the owner, all air rifles, air guns, BB guns, or pellet guns used or offered for sale in violation of this section.

# (d) No preemption

The provisions of any ordinance enacted by any political subdivision which imposes greater restrictions or limitations in respect to the sale and purchase, use or possession of air rifles, air guns, BB guns, or pellet guns than is imposed by this section, shall not be invalidated or affected by this section.

# (e) Penalty

Any person who violates this section shall be liable for a fine of \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for a second offense, and \$300 for a third or subsequent offense.

#### (f) Definitions

As used in this section the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

"Air rifle." Any air gun, air pistol, spring gun, spring pistol, BB gun, or any implement that is not a firearm, which impels a pellet of any kind with a force that can reasonably be expected to cause bodily harm.

"Dealer." Any person engaged in the business of selling at retail or renting any air rifles.

All ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage. Motion was made to pass to a third reading. So Voted.

#### New Business:

Councilor Pottier stated that it is their understanding that there is a \$45.00 fee to the vendor when bills are paid using the on-line service. Therefore, Councilor Pottier motioned that the Treasurer/Collector inform them whether this the only vendor the City can use, if this fee normal in comparison to other communities and Councilor Barbour motioned that she state why the City can't process these in-house like online, with a credit card or check. So Voted.

Councilor Costa stated that residents have questioned whether the City could spruce up the newly dedicated Lincoln Square to include plants and motioned to refer this matter to the Parks, Cemeteries and Public Grounds Commissioner. So Voted. Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that the Taunton Housing Authority has received a grant for \$196,000.00 for Olney Street for repairs and the parking lot. Therefore, she motioned to look at the heating system under these grant funds. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that the Taunton Eagles under 14 team is going to Portugal during April vacation. Therefore, a motion was made that the children be presented with a flag to fly at each game they play and medallions be provided to the coaches so the Eagles coaches can present them to the Portuguese coaches. **Motion was made to refer this to the Mayor.** So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

A true copy:

Attest:

Km Blackwell

CITY OF TAUNTON MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FEBRUARY 24, 2009

# THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND SALARIES

PRESENT WERE: COUNCILORS DAVID POTTIER AND GERALD CROTEAU

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:40 P.M.

1. MEET TO REVIEW THE WEEKLY VOUCHERS & PAYROLLS FOR CITY DEPARTMENTS

**MOTION:** 

MOVE APPROVAL OF THE VOUCHERS & PAYROLLS FOR

THE WEEK

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:41 P.M.** 

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**CITY OF TAUNTON** 

FEB 2 4 2009

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

COLLEEN M. ELLIS

**CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES** 

Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.

CITY OF TAUNTON MUNICIPAL COUNCIL **FEBRUARY 14, 2009** 

# THE COMMITTEE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PRESENT WERE: COUNCILOR THOMAS HOYE, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILORS BUFFINGTON, CROTEAU AND CARR. ALSO PRESENT WERE DPW COMMISSIONER FRED CORNAGLIA, ASSISTANT DPW

COMMISSIONER TONY ABREAU, WATER DIVISION

SUPERVISOR CATHAL O'BRIEN, ATTORNEY DAVID GAY,

DOUG BENOIT AND JOHN STEWART OF ARISTA

DEVELOPMENT, JOHN OSORIO OF GREENMAN-PEDERSEN

ENGINEERING AND JOSH REINKE OF BOHLER

**ENGINEERING** 

#### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:47 P.M.**

1. MEET WITH ATTORNEY DAVID GAY TO DISCUSS REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF ROADWAY MORATORIUM AT BROADWAY/WASHINGTON STREETS FOR WALGREENS PHARMACY

ATTORNEY GAY SAID THAT THIS IS A PERMITTED USE AND THE PROPERTY IS ZONED FOR THIS PURPOSE. THEY DID HAVE TO GO TO THE ZONING BOARD FOR TWO MINOR PERMITS WHICH WERE GRANTED. THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN BEFORE THE PLANNING BOARD AND DEVELOPMENT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD AND ALL APPROVALS ARE ON FILE. THEY NOW HAVE ALL THE AUTHORITY TO BUILD, BUT THEY NEED TO CUT THE ROADWAY CLOSE TO THE SIDEWALK AREA. THE SIDEWALKS WILL BE REBUILT. THEY ALSO NEED TO CUT INTO WASHINGTON STREET IN SOME SMALL AREAS TO CAP OFF SOME SEWER AND WATER SERVICES THAT SERVED THE EXISTING HOUSES. PLANS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED AND AS FAR AS MR. GAY KNOWS, THE PLANS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO EVERONE. THEY WILL RESURFACE WASHINGTON STREET. THEY WANT TO START BUILDING IN THE SPRING.

THE DPW COMMISSIONER STATED THAT THEY WANT THE ABANDONMENT OF THE UTILITIES, MEANING SEWER SERVICES AND WATER SERVICES CAPPED OFF AT THE MAIN. THERE HAS BEEN A PROBLEM BETWEEN EAST BRITANNIA STREET AND BROADWAY WITH IT BEING A COMBINED SEWER, SO THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE SOMEONE PRESENT FROM THE CITY TO VIEW THE TAPES THAT THE PARTIES HAVE BECAUSE THEY DID HAVE AN ISSUE WITH A MANHOLE AT THE INTERSECTION OF WASHINGTON AND EAST BRITANNIA STREETS. THE COMMISSIONER WANTS TO VIEW THESE TAPES TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS OK. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE REPAVING WILL BE A CURB TO CURB RE-DO OF THE STREET - MILLING IS REQUIRED - THE SIDEWALKS WILL ALSO BE REDONE. ALSO THERE WILL BE WORK DONE AT THE WASHINGTON AND EAST BRITANNIA STREET INTERSECTION. THE SIGNALS AND INTERSECTIONS WILL BE UPGRADED ALSO.

MOVE APPROVAL OF THE REQUEST TO WAIVE THE MOTION: MORATORIUM

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**FEBRUARY 24, 2009** 

THE COMMITTEE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – CONTINUED
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:54 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

CITY OF TAUNTON

FEB 2 4 2009

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

COLLEEN M. ELLIS

**CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES** 

Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.

CITY OF TAUNTON MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FEBRUARY 24, 2009

# THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

PRESENT WERE:

COUNCILOR JORDAN FIORE, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILORS MARSHALL, BUFFINGTON, BARBOUR AND HOYE. ALSO

PRESENT WERE MAYOR CHARLES CROWLEY, BUILDING

SUPERINTENDENT WAYNE WALKDEN, BUILDING INSPECTOR ROBERT PIROZZI, SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MEMBERS PETER CORR, JANICE NOWAK, CATHAL O'BRIEN, JODY ALMEIDA, AND JOSEPH MARTIN, JOEL WOLK AND JIM DUVAL OF GILBANE AND GREG SCHROEDER AND VINCENT

PELLERITI OF DESIGN PARTNERSHIP.

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:02 P.M.

1. MEET FOR AN UPDATE ON THE TAUNTON HIGH SCHOOL/PARKER MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT & TO DISCUSS CONCERNS WITH THE GAS LINE ISSUE, PROBLEMS WITH ALARMS, GAS ODORS IN BUILDING AND OTHER PERFORMANCE ISSUES

A CURRENT PHASING SCHEDULE WAS PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE, WHICH SHOWS THAT WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED AS EXPECTED FOR THE FEBRUARY VACATION - PHASE ONE C HOUSE OF THE BUILDING. PHASE TWO, THE RENOVATION OF D HOUSE HAS STARTED ALONG WITH THE RENOVATION OF THE SECOND FLOOR LOCKER ROOMS NEXT TO THE SMALL GYM. THE SUMMER WORK – RENOVATION OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS LOCKER ROOMS – IN AN AGREEMENT MADE WITH BOTH THE HIGH SCHOOL AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR WILL BE STARTED A LITTLE EARLIER THAN THE SUMMER SO THAT THE WORK CAN BE DONE ALLOWING THE SPORTS TEAMS TO RETURN AND USE THE LOCKER ROOM AREAS IN EARLY AUGUST AS OPPOSED TO THE END OF AUGUST. THE RENOVATION OF B HOUSE WILL START AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SUMMER AND WILL FINISH A YEAR FROM NOW. CURRENTLY THEY ARE ON SCHEDULE. THE PARKER MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT IS ALSO ON SCHEDULE. A COPY OF THE BUDGET THAT GILBANE MAINTAINS ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE WAS ALSO PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE S.B.A. SEEMS TO BE SATISIFED AS THE REIMBURSEMENTS ARE COMING BACK.

DISCUSSED WERE THE NUMBER OF PROBLEMS WITH THE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM AND THE ISSUE OF THE CONTRACTOR HITTING THE TEMPORARY GAS LINE. THE GAS LINE HAS NOW BEEN CLEARYLY MARKED AND THE MATTER IS NOW CORRECTED. THE PROBLEMS WITH THE FIRE ALARMS RESULTED BECAUSE SOME OF THE ALARMS WHERE BURIED IN THE CONCRETE. THEY HAVE BYPASSED THE OLD SYSTEM, DETECTORS HAVE BEEN CLEANED AND SONE HAVE BEEN REPLACED WITH HEAT DETECTORS.

IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT THE ROOF IS NOT IN GOOD SHAPE. THE CONTRACT CALLS FOR ITS REPLACEMENT, BUT TEMPORARY PATCHES HAVE BEEN DONE UNTIL THE ROOF IS ACTUALLY REPLACED.

AS THE PROJECT UNFOLDS, THE BUILDING COMMITTEE WILL PLUG IN OTHER ITEMS AS FUNDING ALLOWS.

DISCUSSED WAS WINDOW REPLACEMENT AND IT WAS NOTED THAT THERE WILL BE ONE WINDOW THAT WILL BE ABLE TO BE OPENED PER ROOM TO PROVIDE NATURAL VENTILATION. THE REHABILITATION OF THE GROUNDS WAS

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#### **FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

# THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY - CONTINUED

TAKEN OUT OF THE PROJECT TO MEET THE \$104M PRICE, THE FURNISHINGS BUDGET WAS SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED. ALSO DISCUSSED WAS CHANGES TO THE SEWER PIPES IN THE BUILDING WHICH WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE BUDGET AND THAT THIS MAY BE AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT TO TRY TO GET DONE. IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT SOME BIDS DID COME BACK UNDER BUDGET SO THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT FUNDS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

**MOTION:** 

THAT A LIST BE PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE BIDS THAT WENT OUT, THE ONES THAT CAME BACK, THE TITLE, THE NUMBER THAT WAS IN THE BUDGET AND THE NUMBER AS TO WHAT CAME BACK SO THAT HOW MUCH MONEY WAS SAVED CAN BE DETERMINED. ALSO, A LIST IS TO BE PROVIDED AS TO WHAT IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BUDGET AND WHAT HAS BEEN TAKEN OUT.

REQUEST WAS ALSO MADE FOR A BASIC OUTLINE OF CHANGE ORDERS TO DATE. THE RATIONALE FOR THE CHANGE ORDER AND HOW MUCH IT COSTS AND WHETHER THEY WERE IN THE ORIGINAL PROJECT. IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT THE COUNDIL WOULD HAVE TO VOTE TO AUTHORIZE SPENDING OVER THE \$104 MILLION. DISCUSSED WAS WHAT IS IN THE PROJECT AS FAR AS THE SCHOOL GROUNDS ARE CONCERNED. IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING — THE WILLIAMS STREET SIDE - IS BEING REDONE. THERE WILL BE TWO PARALLEL ROADS IN THE FRONT, THERE WILL BE A NEW PARKING AREA FOR PARKER SCHOOL, NEW SIDEWALKS, THE BUILDING IS GETTING A NEW ENTRANCE WHICH WILL BE ENCLOSED, THERE WILL BE A SECURITY OFFICE AND RESEEDING OF THE AREA WITH MINIMAL LANDSCAPING. THEY ARE NOT DOING THE LOOP ROAD IN BACK BUT THE SIDEWALKS WILL BE PATCHED. THEY ARE ALSO PUTTING IN A PAD FOR THE DUMPSTERS. THEY ARE NOT DOING ANYTHING TO THE TENNIS COURTS OR THE SOFTBALL FIELDS. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE CITY MUST PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY AS THE PROJECT PROCEEDS IN ORDER TO LIVE WITHIN THE BUDGET.

## **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:51 P.M.**

CITY OF TAUNTON

FEB 2 4 2009

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

COLLEEN M. ELLIS

**CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES** 

Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.

CITY OF TAUNTON MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FEBRUARY 24, 2009

# THE COMMITTEE ON FIRES AND WIRES

PRESENT WERE:

COUNCILOR DANIEL BARBOUR, CHAIRMAN AND

COUNCILORS CORTEAU AND POTTIER. ALSO PRESENT

WERE CITY SOLICITOR STEVEN TORRES, HUMAN

RESOURCE DIRECTOR MARIA GOMES, FIRE CHIEF LEMAN PADELFORD AND FIRE DEPARTMENT MECHANIC MICHAEL

**PERRY** 

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 8:02 P.M.

1. MEET WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR MARIA GOMES TO DISCUSS THE EVALUATION PROCESS CRITERIA FOR THE EMPLOYMENT EVALUATION OF THE FIRE CHIEF

THERE ARE TWO SEPARATE PROCEDURES FOR THE COUNDIL TO USE REGARDING THIS ISSUE. FIRST WOULD BE TO PUT IN PLACE AN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEM FOR THE FIRE CHIEF OR FOR THE POLICE CHIEF. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE IN BOTH THEIR CONTRACTS. THE CURRENT FIRE CHIEF DOES NOT HAVE A CONTRACT AS HE DID NOT REACH A CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH THE PRIOR ADMINISTRATION. IF AN EMPLOYEE IS NOT UNDER A CONTRACT THAN A PERSONNEL PLAN SHOULD BE PUT TOGETHER THAT DEFINES THE BENEFITS OF THAT EMPLOYEE. THIS PLAN WOULD CONTAIN AN EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. THE CITY SOLICITOR STATED THAT THE COUNCIL CAN PERFORM A PERFORMANCE AUDIT, GOING BACK 6 OR 9 MONTHS ARE THERE ANY IDENTIFIABLE PERFORMANCE DEFICIENCIES IN A GIVEN EMPLOYEE'S RECORD. THIS WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DO BECAUSE THE COUNCIL IS THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY, BUT THE MAYOR OVERSEES THE DAY TO DAY SUPERVISION UNDER THE CHARTER, THEREFORE THE COMMITTEE WOULD NEED A MEASURABLE EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE. GOING FORWARD, A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEM WILL BE SET UP

THROUGH PERSONNEL FOR THIS EMPLOYEE AND ANY OTHER DEPARTMENT HEAD.

THE CITY SOLICITOR STATED THAT IF THE COUNCIL WANTS TO SET A STANDARD GOING FORWARD AND ALSO DO A RETROACTIVE AUDIT TO SEE IF THERE IS ANY PERFORMANCE DEFICIENCIES THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO ADDRESS, THEN THIS CAN BE DONE.

THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR IS RECEIVING PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS THAT OTHER COMMUNITIES MAY USE. SHE STATED THAT TO BEGIN THE WHOLE PROCESS, A JOB DESCRIPTION NEEDS TO BE ESTABLISHED, WHICH MUST BE CLEARLY IDENTIFIABLE TO THE EMPLOYEE. RIGHT NOW WE ARE LACKING ONE FOR BOTH THE FIRE CHIEF AND POLICE CHIEF. THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR SAID THAT SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE A JOB DESCRIPTION READY IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS, AND THAT SHE HAS ALREADY STARTED TO FORMULATE THE EVALUATION CRITERIA.

MOTION:

TO REFER THIS MATTER FOR TWO WEEKS FOR MEETING WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR AND HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR

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#### **FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

### THE COMMITTEE ON FIRES AND WIRES - CONTINUED

# 2. MEET WITH THE FIRE CHIEF & FIRE DEPARTMENT MECHANIC TO DISCUSS REPAIR OPTIONS FOR ENGINE 9.

THIS WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BECAUSE THERE ARE A COUPLE OF DIFFERENT THOUGHTS REGARDING ENGINE 9. THE MECHANIC STATED THAT HE IS NOT SURE OF THE STATUS OF ENGINE 9. IT HAS BEEN OUT A COUPLE OF MONTHS NOW. HE DID ASK THE CHIEF ABOUT THE TRUCK AND THE CHIEF TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD HANDLE THE REPAIRS ON THAT TRUCK. THERE HAS BEEN SOME TALK ON RE-CHASSISING THE TRUCK. MR. PERRY FEELS THIS TRUCK WOULD BE A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR THIS AS EVEN THOUGH THE TRUCK IS 17 YEARS OLD, IT HAS LOW PUMP HOURS AND IT IS A GOOD RUNNING TRUCK. MUCH OF THE VEHICLE WOULD END UP BEING BRAND NEW. THE FIRE CHIEF STATED THAT ENGINE 9 WAS INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT AND IS CURRENTLY AT GREENWOOD. THERE HAS BEEN ISSUES WITH THE INSURANCE COMPANY AND THE CHIEF DOES NOT KNOW THE DATE WHEN IT WILL BE BACK.

THERE IS A NEED TO PUT A PLAN IN PLACE FOR NEW APPARATUS WHICH SHOULD INCLUDE REFURBISHING AND RECHASSISING.

MOTION:

THE CHIEF IS TO DEVELOP A PLAN AND PROVIDE TO THE

COMMITTEE

**MOTION:** 

THE CHIEF IS TO HAVE AN ANSWER ON ENGINES ONE AND 9 FOR NEXT WEEK FROM GREENWOOD – IN WRITING THROUGH THE CHIEF – AS TO WHEN THEY WILL BE BACK IN SERVICE.

FURTHER DISCUSSION WAS HELD REGARDING REPAIRS TO VEHICLES. THE MECHANIC STATED THAT THERE WERE THINGS MISSING, THERE WAS NO REPORT WITH THE TRUCK, AND THAT SOMEONE AT THE GREENWOOD COMPANY TOLD HIM THAT HE WAS NOT TO PROVIDE MR. PERRY WITH ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION. THE CHIEF STATED THAT MR. PERRY HAS NOT BEEN DENIED INFORMATION.

IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT MR. PERRY, AS THE DEPARTMENT MECHANIC, SHOULD HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO GET INFORMATION ON ALL OF THE TRUCKS. THE CHIEF IS TO PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION TO MR. PERRY – REGARDLESS OF WHETHER HE REQUESTS IT OR NOT – ON ALL VEHICLES. FURTHER DISCUSSION WAS HELD REGARDING WHY THE CHIEF IS THE LIASON WITH GREENWOOD ON REPAIRS INSTEAD OF THE MECHANIC. THE CHIEF STATED THAT GREENWOOD PREFERS SPEAKING TO THE CHIEF.

# 3. MEET WITH THE FIRE CHIEF FOR AN UPDATE ON THE TELE-STAFF TRAINING, PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE

LETTER OF FIRE CHIEF DATED 2/24/09 WAS READ IN WHICH HE STATED THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TELESTAFF ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM CONTINUES TO MOVE ALONG. AN IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE HAS NOW BEEN DEVELOPED. BASED ON THIS SCHEDULE, DEPUTY NASTRI AND DEPUTY SYLVIA ARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDLED TO GO TO CALIFORNIA IN EARLY MAY. THERE IS STILL A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF WORK TO BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THIS TRIP.

THE IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE HAS ALSO PROVIDED SOME GUIDANCE REGARDING EXPECTED EXPENSES. NEXT WEEK THE COUNCIL WILL HAVE A

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#### **FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

# THE COMMITTEE ON FIRES AND WIRES - CONTINUED

REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF \$7,142.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE 2009 SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT. IN ADDITION, THE COUNCIL WILL HAVE A REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF \$3,000.00 FOR OVERTIME EXPENSES, IN ORDER TO COMPLETE SOME OF THIS REQUIRED WORK, AND TO ATTEND FUTURE TELE-CONFERENCES.

HE FURTHER STATES THAT THERE WILL BE ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR FUNDING AS THIS PROJECT MOVES FORWARD. AT THIS POINT, HE ANTICIPATES IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROGRAM IN THE  $3^{RD}$  OR  $4^{TH}$  QUEARTER OF 2009.

MOTION: LETTER TO BE PART OF THE RECORD

LETTER DATED 2/23/09 OF FIRE CHIEF WAS READ IN WHICH HE STATED THAT LAST SUMMER THE COMMITTEE DIRECTED HIM TO STOP ANY ADDITIONAL COMPUTER SOFTWARE PURCHASES WITHOUT THE COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL. HE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS PERMISSION TO PAY \$7,142.00 FOR THE 2009 ANNUAL SERVICE AND SUPPORT AGREEMENT WITH PRINCIPAL DECISION SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL INC. THIS COMPANY WILL BE PROVIDING THE TELESTAFF SCHEDULING SOFTWARE TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

MOTION: FORWARD TRANSFER REQUESTS TO FINANCE AND SALARIES

#### 4. MEET TO REVIEW MATTERS IN FILE

DISCUSSED WAS THE TAG SYSTEM. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE SYSTEM IS STILL NOT IMPLEMENTED. THE FIRE CHIEF STATED THAT IT IS AND THAT THE ONLY THING OUTSTANDING IS MOUNTING BRACKETS ON APPARATUS.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:12 P.M.** 

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

CITY OF TAUNTON

FEB 2 4 2009

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

COLLEEN M. ELLIS

**CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES** 

Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.

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