

City of Taunton Municipal Council Meeting Minutes

In the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers Minutes, August 4, 2009 at 7:00 O'clock P.M.

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

Present at roll call were:

Councilor's Hoye, Costa-Hanlon, Pottier, Fiore, Croteau,

Carr, Buffington, Barbour Councilor Marshall was absent

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

Communications from Mayor:

The Mayor stated he had a meeting with the Acting Police Chief and they are increasing the presence of a Police Officer in the downtown area. Additionally, effective August 1st, they have an agreement with the Community Police Officers to be more visible in their areas. Councilor Hoye motioned he would like to see more Police presence in the Whittenton Area. So Voted.

Communications:

Com. from Director, Emergency Management Agency notifying of the cleanup of an illegal dumping issue in the Mill River in the area of Warren Street. Motion was made to receive and place on file. So Voted. Councilor Croteau personally thanked everyone in this letter for their efforts.

Com. from City Assessor providing an update on the status of the Foreclosing Residential Property Ordinance stating that he had no involvement in the creation, planning or writing of this ordinance. Motion was made to receive and place on file. So Voted.

Com. from General Manager, TMLP requesting approval of energy services for Liberty & Union Industrial Park – Phase 2, O'Connell Way. Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.

Com. from Principal Electrical Engineer, TMLP providing a written update regarding the traffic signal timing sequences at Broadway & Purchase Streets. Councilor Croteau asked if the four-second delay (yellow light) can be extended to six-seconds. Would police enforcement and more people getting tagged for going through a yellow light? Councilor Pottier asked if the light at Girls, Inc. could also be added to this motion as it is similar status, with enforcement. Councilor Buffington motioned that the traffic light at Tremont & Washington Streets be referred to the City Engineer,

TMLP and the Police Department to meet with the Committee on Police and License. So Voted.

Com. from Shaunna O'Connell, 56 Worcester St, Taunton requesting use of electronic sign to advertise West Congregational Church's Annual Clambake and requesting a donation of items for troops on August 11, 2009. **Motion was made to move approval.** So Voted.

Com. from Massachusetts Motorcycle Association requesting a Parade Permit for the Massachusetts Motorcycle Association to conduct their parade on August 29, 2009 from 11:00~AM-5:00~PM to honor Massachusetts Veterans. Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Police and License for the next Police and License meeting. So Voted.

Com. from Michael O'Donnell, c/o 111 Main St., Taunton requesting information regarding tax payer funded work on public buildings throughout the City such as construction work at the former Elizabeth Pole School, F.B. Rogers building, East Taunton Elementary School and all information pertaining to the relocation of the Dental Clinic. Motion was made to refer to the Mayor's Office. So Voted.

Com. from Joshua Freeman, 25 Fayette Place, Taunton expressing his idea to form the party department of Taunton. Motion was made to refer to the Council President and the Mayor's Office. So Voted.

An extra communication was read that was submitted by the City Solicitor stating the Assessor's Office has voted to approve the amount of \$423,458.63 from the overlay accoun6t to make a contractual adjustment to the Jordan's Furniture TIF reflecting an overpayment over a period of five years. The money must be appropriated to line item #1-151-202-5362 to make the required payment to Jordan's by August 5, 2009. Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Finance and Salaries. Ask that someone from the Assessor's Office be present. What is the full TIF, how did this happen, what is the balance in the overlay account. The Council would like all copies to support this prior to the Committee Meeting. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that the City Clerk send a letter to Michael Morin to inform him that the City of Taunton will not require to conduct a City Primary.

Councilor Pottier read an extra communication submitted by Norm Milot, P.O. Box 370 Brandon, VT 05733 stating that he is donating two parcels of land owned by Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. and Rosebelle L. Milot located on a city map not yet developed known as Greylock Avenue, parcels 64-37 and 64-40, tax bill numbers 11955 and 11954. Motion was made to refer to the Mayor's Office, City Solicitor and the Treasurer/Collector. So Voted.

Petitions and Claims:

Departmental Site Plan Review for a 6,707 sq. ft. building for a construction business with outdoor parking of trucks at lot 2 Richmond Street formerly known as a portion of 250 Cape Road assessors lots 59-1 and 59-2 located in the Industrial District submitted

by Timothy Riordan, President, 1 Westinghouse Plaza, Suite 4001, Hyde Park, MA. Motion was made to receive and place on file. 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.

Unfinished Business:

Councilor Pottier inquired about the status of the contract of Acting Chief Reardon and also stated for the Citizens information, that the information printed in the Taunton Daily Gazette was not true.

Councilor Buffington stated a while ago he discussed the issue of citizens scribing to Verizon Cable Television being unable to view the local weather channel, which is still a problem. He stated we contact Verizon asking why we cannot have this on Verizon Fios. Therefore, he motioned to invite a representative from Verizon to attend a committee meeting to discuss this matter. The Mayor stated he would take care of this.

Councilor Buffington motioned to amend the Civil Service date for Patrolman Lori Moniz to reflect her hire date. So Voted.

Numerous Councilors discussed public information requests. The Mayor stated all public information requests go to his office. Councilor Costa-Hanlon asked that each department submit who their Freedom of Information Contact is. So Voted. Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that the City Solicitor provide a written opinion stating who is the entity the City of Taunton for the Freedom of Information Act and report back to the Municipal Council. So Voted.

At the June 21, 2009 Municipal Council Meeting, a motion was made to discuss, in Executive Session, legal action concerning F.B. Rogers with the City Solicitor. Motion was made to continue to another date as the City Solicitor is unavailable this evening. So Voted.

Orders, Ordinances, and Enrolled Bills

Order for a second reading to be passed to a third reading

AN ORDINANCE

BUILDINGS

Article 111. Building Code

Section 4-41. Building permit fee schedule Section 4-41.1. Electrical Inspections; fee schedule Section 4-41-2 Mechanical Fees Section 4-41.3 Plumbing and Gas Fees Be it ordained by the Municipal Council of the City of Taunton as follows:

That Sections 4-41, 4-41.1, 4-41.2 and 4.41-3 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Taunton, as amended, be and hereby are further amended by adding thereto the following:

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. Motion was made to call for a roll call vote under the suspension of the rules. Councilors Hoye and Buffington voting no. All other Councilors voting in favor. Councilor Marshall was absent. Motion was made to pass from a third reading to be ordained on a roll call vote. So Voted. All Councilors voting in favor. Councilor Marshall was absent.

New Business:

Councilor Barbour motioned to send the Council Agenda to all new candidates running for Municipal Council. So Voted.

Councilor Barbour motioned that the Council receive an update from the Mayor's Office in two weeks on the status of the Refuge House. So Voted.

Councilor Carr stated when cars turn left into the Taunton High School grounds from Gordon Owen Blvd., and go past the Head Start Building there is usually a crossing guard stationed there during the school year, but there is no crosswalk on the roadway. Therefore, Councilor Carr motioned that a crosswalk be painted in said location. So Voted. (The Mayor stated he would take care of this issue.)

Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that the downtown and Whittenton areas need Police presence as illegal activities are on-going and asked that the Mayor provide a report on this matter in a couple of weeks.

Councilor Fiore stated that the air conditioning in the library leaks in the roof and there are other problems inside the building and motioned to refer them to the Building Department. So Voted. (The City Clerk spoke with the Superintendent of Public Buildings on this matter.)

RM Blacketel

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

A true copy:

Attest:

CITY OF TAUNTON MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AUGUST 4, 2009

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND SALARIES

PRESENT WERE:

COUNCILOR JORDAN FIORE, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILORS

CROTEAU AND POTTIER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:10 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 6:11 P.M.

CITY OF TAUNTON

AUG 0 4 2009

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

COLLEEN M. ELLIS

CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

CITY CLERK

CITY OF TAUNTON MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AUGUST 4, 2009

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

PRESENT WERE:

COUNCILOR JORDAN FIORE, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILORS BUFFINGTON, HOYE AND BARBOUR. ALSO PRESENT WERE WAYNE WALKDEN, BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT AND

ROBERT PIROZZI, BUILDING COMMISSIONER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:27 P.M.

1. MEET WITH THE BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT AND BUILDING COMMISSIONER FOR CONTINUED REVIEW OF BUILDING DEPARTMENT FEE INCREASES.

THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER STATED THAT WITH THE FEE INCREASES THE CITY WILL BE IN LINE WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES. QUESTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONCERNING TEMPORARY OCCUPANCY PERMITS AND APPLICATION FEES WERE ANSWERED.

MOTION:

TO TAKE THIS MATTER OFF THE TABLE AND REFER IT BACK TO THE ORDINANCE PROCESS.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:33 P.M.

CITY OF TAUNTON

AUG 0 4 2009

IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

COLLEEN M. ELLIS

CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

CITY CLERK