



City of Taunton
Municipal Council Meeting Minutes

~

In the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers
Minutes, January 20, 2009 at 7:45 O'clock P.M.

Regular Meeting

Mayor Charles Crowley presiding

Prayer was offered by the Mayor

Present at roll call were: Councilor's Barbour, Buffington, Carr, Crotau, Marshall, Fiore, Pottier, Costa-Hanlon, Hoye

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

Hearings:

Continued Hearing came up by assignment upon the petition for the Renewal of a Class III Auto Dealer's License for Tony's Auto Wrecking, 303 Broadway, Taunton. **Motion was made to reopen the hearing. So Voted. Motion was made to continue the hearing for one week. So Voted.**

Continued Hearing came up by assignment upon the petition submitted by Michael Gorfin, 111 Silver Fox Circle and other for the acceptance of Silver Fox Circle as a public way in the City of Taunton. **Motion was made to reopen the hearing. So Voted. Motion was made to invite Tyler Martin, 100 Silver Fox Circle into the enclosure representing the petitioner. So Voted.** Councilor Barbour asked what the defects were and how were they resolved. Mr. Martin stated it was due to curbing for the sidewalks and asphalt for the bridge. **Councilor Barbour asked that the hearing be continued for one week to ask the City Engineer what exactly were the defects how they were resolved. So Voted. (The City Clerk called the City Engineer and asked him to submit a copy on the construction defects that were resolved.)** Motion was made to continue the hearing for one week. No one speaking in opposition. In favor was Tyler Martin of 100 Silver Fox Circle. In favor of continuing the hearing for one week were Councilors Fiore, Pottier, Costa-Hanlon, Croteau, Carr and Barbour. Councilors Buffington, Hoye and Marshall were in opposition. So Voted. **Motion was made to continue hearing for one week. So Voted.**

Communications from Mayor:

The Mayor stated that tentatively on February 21, 2009 there will be an open house walk-thru of section C of the school for School Committee members and Councilors.

The Mayor stated he sent the Councilor's and the School information from Boston on what impact Chapter 70 will have with cuts this year and next year on the lottery side. He stated that Taunton is at a 1.22% as our net-school spending requirement is 0.22% above our net school requirement. Our maximum exposure will be \$159,890.00 if we

were to be cut in FY2009. Next year there is a possibility of being cut 5-10% in local aid. The Mayor stated more information should be coming soon.

Communications:

Com. from Treasurer/Collector requesting an increase of Demand Fees from the current \$5.00 to not more than \$30.00 with a realistic fee of \$25.00 and an increase in the current fee to issue Municipal Lien Certificates from \$25.00 to \$50.00. **Motion was made to move approval. So Voted. Councilor Pottier motioned to supply the Council for the current yearly revenue (last year). So Voted. Councilor Barbour voting in opposition, does not disagree but feels we should increase the rate annually in smaller increments.**

Com. from Director, Human Services requesting permission to apply for a grant through the Executive Office of Elder Affairs Service Incentive Grant Program. **Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.**

Com. from Rose Rauseo, Program Manager, Joint Labor Management Committee for Municipal Police and Fire, 19 Staniford St., 1st Floor, Boston submitting a Petition for Exercise of Jurisdiction on behalf of the Taunton Police Patrolmen's Association. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor for action on behalf of the City and to respond by next week if we are choosing #1 or #2. So Voted.**

Com. from Rose Rauseo, Program Manager, Joint Labor Management Committee for Municipal Police and Fire, 19 Staniford St., 1st Floor, Boston submitting a Petition for Exercise of Jurisdiction on behalf of the Local 1391 International Association of Fire Fighters and the Town of Taunton. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor for action on behalf of the City and to respond by next week if we are choosing #1 or #2. So Voted.**

Com. from Thomas R. Quigley, Principal, Hopewell Elementary School, 16 Monroe Street, Taunton requesting economic assistance from the Legislature to repair his school. **Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that Mr. Walkden review some of the concerns of Mr. Quigley and to come up with a specific plan that he believes would put Hopewell School at the top of the Shovel Ready Projects including trying to make any of these projects more green, and that Mr. Walkden report back in two weeks with the suggested repairs and also how we can receive some monies for Hopewell School. So Voted.**

Com. from Joseph Malloch, Bruce LLC, 113 Padelford St., Berkley requesting a continuance of the public hearing for Powhattan Estates from February 10, 2009 until February 24, 2009. **Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.**

Com. from Budget Director requesting an appropriation of funds in the amount of \$158,185.83 from the Reserve Account to cover the costs of two emergency repairs, one at the corner of Bay Street and Whittenton Street and the second was the emergency repair of Morey's Bridge. **Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Finance and Salaries and report on the breakdown of these two repairs. So Voted.**

Com. from Human Resources Division for the appointment of one (1) Permanent Full-Time Police Sergeant. **Motion was made to appoint Paul H. Taber. So Voted. On a roll call vote, all Councilors present, all Councilors voting in favor of Paul H. Taber. At this time, Paul H. Taber was invited into the enclosure to be sworn in by the City Clerk.**

Com. from Human Resources Division for the appointment of one (1) Temporary Full-Time Police Sergeant. **Councilor Carr stated as a new Councilor, she has never been faced with two officers having the same score and is disappointed that the Chief did not give a recommendation as he is the leader of the department and knows what these individuals do on a daily basis and stated for the Council to vote on a position with no direction is unfair. Councilor Carr motioned this be postponed for one week to receive a recommendation from the Police Chief. The Mayor stated the Police Chief does not routinely make recommendations. Stating, that when there is a tie, they usually go by alphabetical order. She asked if there are incidents that they did not, yes there is. The Mayor stated it is what the majority votes. Councilor Pottier stated he would also like to wait a week for a recommendation from the Chief. Councilor Fiore stated he feels it is not fair to the department to put this off any further. Councilor Buffington stated he personally asked the Police Chief for a recommendation and the Chief stated they are both good guys and he can not recommend one over the other. Councilor Barbour stated that when Sergeant Bianchi was appointed, the Chief did make a recommendation then and stated he feels we should wait one week for the Chief's recommendation. Councilor Croteau recommends that this be addressed in the next collective bargaining contract (tie-breaking language). Councilor Croteau feels that the last appointment was seniority because the officer had 30 years in the system. Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated she would like to continue for 1 week and agrees with Councilor Croteau that this needs to be addressed. Councilor Hoye asked the City Solicitor if past practice applies in Civil Service. The City Solicitor stated there is no such thing as past practice with Civil Service decision making. The appointing authority supersedes the collective bargaining agreement. The City Solicitor stated that you cannot bind future Councilors with a policy on how to select among applicants on promotions. The only guidelines we have are the Civil Service scoring system. The City Solicitor stated we do not do a performance evaluation in the Police Department so you could not use this to break a tie. The City Solicitor stated the only objective criteria is seniority to break a tie. Councilor Marshall stated he is not comfortable with alphabetical order just because your name is first and without seeing any objective criteria. Without that, I'm leaning on going with the City Solicitor's statement of seniority. Councilor Pottier stated we should take into consideration the Chief's recommendation. Councilor Carr stated the Chief's recommendation should carry the most weight or past practice would be the only fair way. Councilor Pottier also asked the maker of the motion to also receive from the Chief, what the seniority is on both officers for next week. Councilors Hoye, Fiore, Marshall, Croteau and Buffington voting in opposition. Councilors Barbour, Carr, Pottier, and Costa-Hanlon voting in favor of continuing. Motion does not carry. On roll call vote, Councilors Barbour, Carr, Pottier, and Costa-Hanlon voting for Glenn Jackson. Councilors Buffington, Croteau, Marshall, Fiore, and Hoye voting for Jeffrey**

Martin. At this time, Jeffrey Martin was invited into the enclosure to be sworn in by the City Clerk.

Councilor Pottier read an extra communication he received via email from a concerned citizen concerning large trucks traveling on City roads. **Councilor Pottier motioned that the Police Chief have the Safety Officer supply the Municipal Council with a listing of streets that large trucks cannot travel on. So Voted.**

Petitions and Claims:

The following is a RENEWAL for a Class II License:

1. De-Anth Motors to be located at 295 Broadway, Taunton, MA
2. Country Pump Auto Sales, previously located at 146 Tremont St., Taunton, MA

Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Police and License and the Police Chief. So Voted.

Petition submitted by Klessio L. Rodrigues, 30 Wildflower Road, Taunton requesting a new Livery License –DBA- KLR Service Transportation, Inc. located at 30 Wildflower Road, Taunton. **Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Police and License and the Police Chief. So Voted.**

Claim submitted by Michelle Kolacz, 201 Broadway, Taunton resubmitting a claim for damages to her home from a sewer backup in July 2007. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor. So Voted.**

Claim submitted by Judy L. Bevilacqua, 57 Bettinson Court, East Taunton seeking reimbursement for damages to her mailbox from a snowplow hitting it. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor. So Voted.**

Claim submitted by Brian Bogardus, 340 Copley Drive, Taunton seeking reimbursement for damages to his automobile from hitting a pothole on North Walker Street near the Dunkin Donuts. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor and the DPW Commissioner to fill the pothole. So Voted. (The City Clerk called Ellie at the DPW on this matter)**

Claim submitted by Lidia Rebelo, 85 Black Pond Lane, Taunton seeking reimbursement for damages to her lawn from a snowplow. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor. So Voted.**

Departmental Site Plan review for the construction of an 81-unit hotel at 1141 County Street submitted by Navin Patel, 12 Houde St., No. Attleboro, 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 Hoye motioned to send a letter of thanks to the DPW Commissioner and his staff and subcontractors for their efforts during the recent weekend storm. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that the Building Superintendent provide the Council with an update on all blighted properties, stating where his department is with the enforcement of them, for example, the dilapidated building on Johnson Court and Washington Street (subject of a fire). So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that the Green Communities application is out and someone from the Mayor's Office should go over the application with the Council. The Mayor stated that a representative from the Green Communities Committee contact the Mayor's Office and he would schedule a meeting with them. Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that the Chairwoman of the School Committee provide the contract with the vendor that is giving us our savings for our energy, to show we have been doing what we can to save energy. Additionally, that she receive information of monies saved in the school system for the application process. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that the Chairman of the License Commission respond to previous requests for the number of Liquor Licenses that are available and what the applicants are responsible for and explain what the application process consists of and whether this information is public. So Voted.

Councilor Croteau motioned that the Budget Director provide a written response on the status of the 2007 and 2008 audits. So Voted.

Councilor Carr stated she has received complaints of side roads not being plowed or plowed incorrectly due to vehicles being parked along these roads. Councilor Hoye stated that in a recent meeting of the Committee on Police and License, the snowplowing situation was discussed. When a plow truck notices cars on a roadway and cannot plow the street, protocol is to call this situation in to the Department of Public Works. At a Committee on Police and License meeting, the Councilors notified the Police Chief to have his officers on alert when the DPW calls. The Mayor stated that during this recent snowstorm, a parking ban was not in effect.

Councilor Hoye motioned that the Committee on the Department of Public Works receive an update concerning the plywood on the Weir Street Bridge. So Voted.

The Mayor asked that the Committee to the Council as a Whole have a presentation on Reverse 911.

Councilor Pottier provided a copy of a Cold Relief Energy Assistance Programs brochure of information on programs to provide citizens with energy assistance. **Motion was made to refer to Bob Cammarata, Human Services. So Voted.**

Orders, Ordinances, and Enrolled Bills

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

\$330,000.00 is appropriated, in addition to the \$4,784,000.00 (\$3,560,000 and \$1,224,000) previously appropriated, for the purpose of financing the design and construction of the Sabbatia Lake Sewer Extension Project, which includes over 34,000 feet of sewer mains with pump stations in Scaddings Street, Lakeview Avenue and adjacent streets, including without limitations all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow an additional \$1,224,000.00 and issue bonds or notes therefore under G.L.c.44 and/or Chapter 29C of the General Laws; that such bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the City unless the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor determines that they should be issued as limited obligations and may be secured by local system revenues as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust established pursuant to Chapter 29C and in connection therewith to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan and for any federal or state aid available for the project or for the financing thereof; and that the Mayor is authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection, to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary to carry out this project. **Councilor Marshall motioned that the DPW Commissioner provide the Council with an itemized breakdown and state why we need another \$330,000.00. So Voted. Motion was made to pass to a second reading. So Voted.**

Ordinance for a first reading to be passed to a second reading

AN ORDINANCE

ARTICLE II. OPERATION OF VEHICLES

Sec. 13.82. Prohibited parking places

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

That Section 13.82 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Taunton, as amended, be and hereby are further amended by adding thereto the following:

Bay Street – (Watson’s Pond) on west side for a distance of 20 feet on both sides of the entrance to the park in front of Watson Pond State Park

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 second reading. So Voted.**

Ordinance for a first reading to be passed to a second reading

AN ORDINANCE

ARTICLE III-Stopping, Standing and Parking

Sec. 13.90. Reserved parking for handicapped persons

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

That Section 13.90 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Taunton, as amended, be and hereby are further amended by adding thereto the following:

Bradford Street, one space directly in front of 3 Bradford Street for a period of five years.

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 second reading. So Voted.**

New Business:

Councilor Marshall motioned to refer to Mr. Gerry Sanborn the issue of the cleanliness of the field house and upstairs gym at Taunton High School. So Voted.

Councilor Marshall motioned that the DPW Commissioner provide the Municipal Council with an update on the total cost of the snowstorms for this year, broken down by storm event for next week. So Voted.

Councilor Croteau motioned to refer vacant Firefighter positions to the Committee on Fires and Wires. So Voted.

Councilor Croteau motioned to refer vacant Police Officer positions to the Committee on Police and License. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that she has received complaints that the heat is so high at the Fitzsimmons Arms building windows are being opened to obtain some relief. Therefore, Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that the building become more energy conscious. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that Councilor Barbour asked for software for the Tax Assessor's Office and asked to reconsider the purchase of software for the City Clerk's Office.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that a lawsuit has come down with the recent testing from this past October (Police Promotional). Therefore, a motion was made that the City Solicitor state whether Civil Service is going to certify this recent list and whether we can protect the persons who have tied scores on the Sergeants list. Additionally, a motion

was made to ask the City Solicitor can look into the lawsuit stated above and inform when it will be certified. So Voted.

Councilor Carr motioned that the Treasurer/Collector inform the Council how people are notified when they are delinquent on their excise tax bills and parking ticket bills. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

A true copy:

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Blackwell".

City Clerk

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
JANUARY 20, 2009

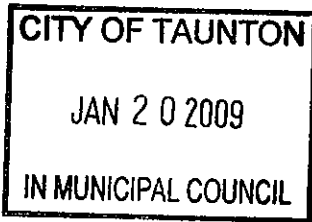
THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND SALARIES

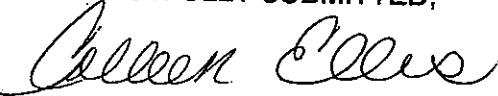
PRESENT WERE: COUNCILOR JORDAN FIORE, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILORS
CROTEAU AND POTTIER.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:52 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 5:53 P.M.



RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

 COLLEEN M. ELLIS
 CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.


 City Clerk

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
JANUARY 20, 2009

THE COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES AND ENROLLED BILLS

PRESENT WERE: COUNCILOR DAVID POTTIER, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILORS COSTA-HANLON AND BUFFINGTON. ALSO PRESENT WAS CITY SOLICITOR STEVEN TORRES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:15 P.M.

4. **MEET WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR TO REVIEW PROPOSED ORDINANCE FOR NO PARKING FOR A DISTANCE OF 20 FEET ON BOTH SIDES OF ENTRANCE TO WATSON'S POND.**
MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL AND REFER FOR FIRST READING TONIGHT
3. **MEET WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR TO REVIEW PROPOSED ORDINANCE FOR A HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE IN FRONT OF 3 BRADFORD STREET**
MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL AND REFER FOR FIRST READING
1. **MEET WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR TO REVIEW PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGARDING BB GUNS**
THE POLICE CHIEF HAD PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED A DRAFT ORDINANCE. THE CITY SOLICITOR RECOMMENDED, IF THE COMMITTEE HAD NO CHANGES OR RECOMMENDATIONS, PUTTING THIS IN PROPER FORM. THIS WAS REFERRED TO THE CITY SOLICITOR FOR PROPER FORM FOR A MEETING IN TWO WEEKS.
2. **MEET WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR TO REVIEW PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGARDING SCRAPYARDS**
THIS ORDINANCE WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE ONE USED BY PAWNBROKERS. THE LICENSEE MUST ABIDE BY THE ORDINANCE AS A CONDITION OF KEEPING THEIR LICENSE. THE POLICE CHIEF HAD PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED A DRAFT ORDINANCE. THE CITY SOLICITOR RECOMMENDED, IF THE COMMITTEE HAD NO CHANGES OR RECOMMENDATIONS, PUTTING THIS IN PROPER FORM. THIS WAS REFERRED TO THE CITY SOLICITOR FOR PROPER FORM FOR A MEETING IN TWO WEEKS.
5. **MEET WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR TO DISCUSS PROPOSED FORECLOSURE ORDINANCE SIMILAR AS TO WHAT IS IN PLACE IN BOSTON**
THE CITY SOLICITOR HAS LOOKED AT THE BOSTON ORDINANCE AND CAME UP WITH SOME RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW. THIS MATTER WAS REFERRED FOR A MEETING IN TWO WEEKS.

PAGE TWO

JANUARY 20, 2009

THE COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES AND ENROLLED BILLS – CONTINUED

6. MEET TO REVIEW MATTERS IN FILE

A. DISCUSSED WAS DRAFTING AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO WATER AND SEWER BILLS STATING THAT NO WATER OR SEWER BILLS SHOULD BE FOR LESS THAN 88 DAYS OR MORE THAN 92 DAYS.

MOTION: REFER TO LAW DEPARTMENT FOR A DRAFT IN TWO WEEKS

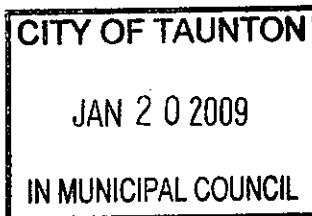
B. DISCUSSED WAS PUTTING THE ORDINANCES ON LINE. THE CITY SOLICITOR INFORMED THE COMMITTEE THAT HE HAS TWO INTERNS COMING IN WHO WILL BE WORKING ON THIS.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:31 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES



Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.



City Clerk

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
JANUARY 20, 2009

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

PRESENT WERE: COUNCIL PRESIDENT DAVID POTTIER AND COUNCILORS HOYE, COSTA-HANLON, FIORE, MARSHALL, CROTEAU, CARR, BUFFINGTON AND BARBOUR.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:35 P.M.

1. MEET FOR AN UPDATE ON THE TAUNTON HIGH SCHOOL/PARKER MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

COUNCIL PRESIDENT POTTIER REPORTED THAT HE ATTENDED A MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE LAST THURSDAY. FROM WHAT HE UNDERSTOOD, THE PARKER PART OF THE PROJECT IS ROUGHLY THREE WEEKS BEHIND SCHEDULE. HOWEVER THEY ARE WORKING EXTRA WITH DUE DILIGENCE TO GET IT BACK ON SCHEDULE BY MID FEBRUARY. HE HAS EVERY CONFIDENCE THAT THEY WILL KEEP THE SEPTEMBER 1ST MOVE IN DATE FOR PARKER SCHOOL.

HE FURTHER STATED THAT THE HIGH SCHOOL HEADMASTER WAS PRESENT, AND HE FELT THAT THE STAFF AT THE HIGH SCHOOL WERE TO BE CREDITED REGARDING THE SITUATION WITH THE GAS LEAK. THE HEADMASTER DID POINT OUT THAT EMERGENCY AND CONTINGENCY PLANS WILL CONTINUE TO BE UPDATED AS THE BUILDING PROGRESSES DUE TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES.

REGARDING THE PROJECT'S BUDGET. THE CURRENT PROJECTION IS FOR AROUND \$102 MILLION OF A \$104 MILLION DOLLAR DEBT EXCLUSION AND THE CITY HAS FUNDING FOR UP TO \$112 MILLION OVERALL. THE PLAN CURRENTLY IS FOR \$102 MILLION WITH \$9.9 MILLION LEFT IN CONTINGENCY WHICH GETS US TO THE \$112 MILLION.

IT WAS NOTED THAT THE MAYOR WILL BE PROVIDING AT THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AN UPDATE ON THE THREE FIRE EMERGENCY CALLS THAT HAPPENED OVER THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS.

CONCERN WAS VOICED REGARDING THE PARKER PROJECT BEING THREE WEEKS BEHIND SCHEDULE, AND WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE PARKER STUDENTS COULD NOT MOVE IN ON TIME. THIS ISSUE WAS REFERRED TO THE MAYOR.

IT WAS NOTED THAT WHEN THE PROJECT WAS BEGUN, THE \$104 MILLION PRICE TAG RESULTED IN SOME ITEMS BEING REDUCED IN ORDER TO GET THE PROJECT TO THE \$104 MILLION. PROJECTS WERE RANKED WITH AMOUNTS OF MONEY FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL PROJECT. THE COUNCIL REQUESTED TO SEE WHAT PROJECTS WERE ORIGINALLY CUT OUT OF THE PROJECT THAT NOW MAY HAVE BEEN PUT IN, AND IF THERE IS A PLAN TO ADD ANY OF THE ITEMS THAT WERE CUT BACK IN TO GET US BACK TO THE \$104 MILLION. GILBANE WAS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE A LIST OF WHAT WAS CUT TO BRING THE COST DOWN TO \$104 MILLION, WHAT HAS BEEN REINSTITUTED OR WHAT THE PLAN IS FOR THE USE OF THE REST OF THE MONEY. MOST OF THE BIDS HAVE BEEN COMING IN UNDER WHAT THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATES WERE.

DISCUSSED WAS THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE UPDATED BY MR. WALKDEN AND THE MAYOR CC'D, SINCE MR. WALKDEN'S POSITION IS APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL, SO THE AUTHORITY RUNS WITH THE COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT REQUESTED THAT HE BE THE POINT PERSON FOR MR. WALKDEN

PAGE TWO

JANUARY 20, 2009

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE - CONTINUED

AND HE WILL THEN PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION TO THE REST OF THE COUNCILORS.

THE MEETINGS REGARDING THE THS/PARKER PROJECT ARE MONTHLY, AND THE COUNCIL REQUESTED THAT THE MINUTES BE FORWARDED TO THEM. DISCUSSED WAS THE FEES INCURRED FOR THE EMERGENCIES AT THE PROJECT. REGARDING THE GAS LEAK, THE MAYOR DID NOT KNOW THE COST BUT IT IS THE CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY. HE DID SAY THAT THE OVERALL PROJECT IS ON BUDGET AND ON SCHEDULE TO OPEN SEPTEMBER 1ST.

MOTION: COUNCILORS ARE TO BE PROVIDED WITH MINUTES OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE AND THE CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

DISCUSSED WAS THE RECENT TAX BILLS THAT WENT OUT WHICH REFLECT THE DEBT EXCLUSION COST PER HOUSEHOLD, BUT NOT AS A SEPARATE LINE ITEM. IT WAS NOTED THAT PREVIOUSLY EITHER THE ASSESSOR OR TREASURER/COLLECTOR DID NOT HAVE THE SOFTWARE CAPABILITY TO SEPARATE THIS AMOUNT ON THE TAX BILLS.

MOTION: TO INSTRUCT THE ASSESSOR AND/OR TREASURER/COLLECTOR TO SEEK THE APPROPRIATE SOFTWARE TO ACCOMMODATE THE LINE ITEM BILLING FOR THE TAXPAYERS WITH REGARDS TO THE DEBT EXCLUSION. RESPONSE REQUIRED IN 30 DAYS.

ALSO DISCUSSED WAS THE DENTAL CLINIC. IT WAS REPORTED THAT IT WOULD BE READY FOR OCCUPANCY ON APRIL 15TH AT THE DOWNTOWN LOCATION. IT WAS REQUESTED THAT THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR THE CLINIC BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL. THE COST OF THE RELOCATED DENTAL CLINIC IS \$392,535. THE MAYOR STATED THAT SOME OF THIS FUNDING IS COMING OUT OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOME OUT OF THE BOND ISSUE. THE COUNCIL REQUESTED INFORMATION AS TO WHEN THE LEASE STARTED AND HOW MANY YEARS IT IS FOR. IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT THE DENTAL CLINIC IS OPERATIONAL AT THE HIGH SCHOOL AND WILL BE UNTIL IT IS MOVED. ALSO DISCUSSED WAS THE MEDICAL CLINIC AND WHETHER IT IS GOING TO BE MOVED TO THE THIRD FLOOR.

IT WAS NOTED THAT THE ISSUE OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKING OVER THE AMBULANCE SERVICE HAD BEEN REFERRED TO A MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE ON JANUARY 27TH.

MOTION: THE COUNCIL IS TO RECEIVE THE UPDATED INFORMATION FROM NORTHAMPTON FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT EMS COMMITTEE, AND ALSO THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT IS TO CONTACT THE EMS COMMITTEE AND FIND OUT A DATE THAT THEY COULD COME IN AND MEET ON THIS ISSUE NO LATER THAN THE END OF FEBRUARY.

MOTION WAS SECONDED, BUT NOT VOTED ON.

PAGE THREE

JANUARY 20, 2009

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE - CONTINUED

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL STATED THAT ONCE THE INFORMATION IS RECEIVED FROM THE EMS COMMITTEE AND THE COUNCIL HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW IT, THEN HE WOULD SCHEDULE SOMETHING ON THIS MATTER.

DISCUSSED WAS LEONARD SCHOOL. COUNCILOR CROTEAU STATED THAT HE IS HEARING THAT THE SCHOOL IS IN SUCH A CONDITION THAT IT CAN NO LONGER BE USED.

MOTION: THAT A REPORT AS TO THE CONDITION OF THE LEONARD SCHOOL BE PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE, AS TO WHY IT CANNOT BE USED AND WHAT PROVISIONS ARE BEING MADE FOR THE EXTENDED DAY CARE PROGRAM. REPORT IS TO BE PROVIDED IN ONE WEEK.

IT WAS NOTED THAT THE EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM IS NOT A MANDATE, BUT PROVIDES A VERY VALUABLE SERVICE TO WORKING FAMILIES. IT WAS NOTED THAT LEONARD SCHOOL HAS SIGNICANT PROBLEMS WITH THE ROOF. THERE WAS ON DEPOSIT APPROXIMATELY \$700,000 IN THE EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM ACCOUNT ON JULY 1ST, 2002. COUNCILOR CROTEAU STATED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT SEVERAL YEARS LATER THAT MONEY WAS STILL THERE. HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN A GREAT DEAL OF DISCUSSION ABOUT THE USE OF THIS MONEY IN THE LAST FEW YEARS.

MOTION: THAT AN ACCOUNTING BE PROVIDED BY MR. FRANGIAMORE TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE AS TO THE BALANCE AS OF JULY 1, 2002, THE BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2009, ALL REVENUE RECEIVED BY THE PROGRAM DURING THAT PERIOD OF TIME AS WELL AS ALL EXPENDITURES MADE BY THE PROGRAM, WHICH WILL THEN PROVIDE THE NET BALANCE. FURTHER, VERY SPECIFIC INFORMATION IS TO BE GIVEN AS TO HOW THE FUNDS WERE EXPENDED AND FOR WHAT REASON.

IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT THE QUESTION OF THE LEGAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THAT PROGRAM AND THE TAUNTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS SOMEWHAT GRAY. IT IS NOT A MANDATE, IT WAS TO SERVICE CHILDREN PRIOR TO SCHOOL AND AFTER SCHOOL AND ALSO SERVICE A GROUP OF YOUNGSTERS IN KINDERGARTEN DURING THE DAY WHO ATTENDED KINDERGARTEN ON A HALF DAY BASIS. COUNCILOR CROTEAU'S UNDERSTANDING IS, AND THERE HAS BEEN DISCUSSION AT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, THAT PORTIONS OF THAT ACCOUNT WERE USED FOR EXPENSES OTHER THAN EXPENSES RELATED TO THE PROGRAM AND THE LEGALITY OF THOSE EXPENSES NEEDS TO BE CLEARED. SOME OF THE EXPENSES, AS HE UNDERSTANDS IT, WERE MADE FOR HIGH SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS, AND HE DOUBTS VERY MUCH THAT THERE WERE ANY HIGH SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS IN THE PROGRAM DURING THAT PERIOD OF TIME. THERE WAS MORE THAN ENOUGH MONEY IN THAT ACCOUNT TO DO ALL OF THE REPAIRS IN THE LEONARD SCHOOL. THERE IS NO REASON THAT THIS BUILDING SHOULD BE IN THE CONDITION IT IS IN, AND THERE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ANY EXPENSE TO THE GENERAL FUND.

PAGE FOUR

JANUARY 20, 2009

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE - CONTINUED

DISCUSSED WAS THAT A FEW WEEKS AGO, MR. WALKDEN WAS ASKED TO RESPOND BACK REGARDING ISSUES WITH EAST TAUNTON ELEMENTARY, THE NEW POLE SCHOOL, FRIEDMAN SCHOOL AND CHAMBERLAIN SCHOOL. IT WAS REQUESTED A FEW WEEKS AGO THAT MR. WALKEN PROVIDE A LETTER TO THE COMMITTEE STATING THE ISSUES WITH THE SCHOOLS, ESPECIALLY THE POLE SCHOOL

MOTION: THAT MR. WALKDEN COME BEFORE THE PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS ISSUES WITH THE SCHOOLS.

2. **MEET TO DISCUSS PLAN FOR THIS CALENDAR YEAR**

THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORTED THAT CURRENTLY THE AGENDAS ARE ON LINE, THAT COUNCILORS BUFFINGTON AND COSTA-HANLON ARE LEADING THE EFFORT TO HAVE THE ORDINANCES PLACED ON LINE AS WELL. HE HAS SPOKEN TO THE CITY CLERK TO HOPEFULLY GET THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS ON LINE AND ALSO BUDGETS, PRIOR AUDITS, ETC ON LINE FOR ACCESS TO RESIDENTS AND INTERESTED PARTIES. SECONDLY, THE ISSUE OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND BEYOND WAS DISCUSSED. THE MAYOR HAS FACILITATED A WEEKLY MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT ON TUESDAYS FROM 5:00-5:30 TO DISCUSS THE AGENDA AND ANY TOPICS THE COUNCIL MAY WANT TO BRING UP. ALSO, THE WEB SITE ONLY LISTS THE COUNCILORS NAMES. THE COUNCILORS WERE ASKED TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF COMMITTEES AS TO WHAT INFORMATION THEY WANT ON THE WEB SITE INCLUDING PHONE NUMBERS, ADDRESS, E-MAIL ADDRESS, ETC. THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT ALSO HOPES TO KEEP THE MEETINGS ON TIME AND ON FOCUS. HE WILL PROVIDE A QUICK STATUS ON MAJOR ISSUES MONTHLY.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

CITY OF TAUNTON
JAN 20 2009
IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.



City Clerk