



*City of Taunton
Municipal Council Meeting Minutes*

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*In the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers
Minutes, March 10, 2009 at 11:17 O'clock P.M.*

Regular Meeting

Council President Pottier presiding

Prayer was offered by the Council President

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

A moment of silence was observed for Talbot Tweedy, the senior surviving member of Council. Mr. Tweedy served as a Councilor from 1940-1944 and a member of the House of Representatives from 1945-1949.

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

Communications:

Com. from Treasurer/Collector submitting a response regarding credit card fees charged while using a credit card to pay online tax and/or water/sewer bills and providing a chart of the fee range. **Motion was to receive and place on file and place the chart on the City website. So Voted.**

Com. from Barry Cooperstein, Board of Assessors responding to request of debt exclusion on tax bills stating that it would cost approximately 12 cents per piece plus postage to insert the information on the bills. **Motion was made to receive and place on file. So Voted.**

Com. from Chairman, Board of Registrars of Voters submitting the 2009 Political Calendar. **Motion was made to move approval of the calendar and proper posting. That the City Clerk provide a copy of the polling locations and submit an update in two weeks on whether Chamberlain School's location can be moved to another location in the school (perhaps the rear door) or the Friedman School (perhaps in the community room). So Voted.**

Com. from Cindy Angus, Literacy Council Board Member requesting use of electronic sign to advertise their Annual Spring Social on April 16, 2009 at the Elk's Lodge on High Street at 6:00 PM. **Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.**

Com. from Willitts S. Mendonca, President, Taunton Day of Portugal, Inc., P.O. Box 887, Taunton submitting information on the upcoming Day of Portugal. **Motion was made to move approval and refer to the Mayor's Office for funding for various**

departments. Also notify Carol Souza for the portable stage and the Police Chief for road closures and the Fire Chief and the Ambulance Service. So Voted.

Com. from James Burke, Trustee, A&B Realty Trust, 288 Broadway, Taunton requesting reconsideration on the denial of their petition for a Class II License. **Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Police and License, the Police Chief and the Law Department and invite Jim Burke and Gabriel Almeida to the meeting. So Voted.**

Com. from City Engineer submitting a request for adoption of an Order of Taking regarding the Old Somerset Avenue Bridge for temporary and/or permanent easements as it is necessary to facilitate construction/reconstruction of the old bridge. **Motion was made to refer to the Law Department for one week. So Voted.**

Petitions and Claims:

Claim submitted by Denise Berkley, 241 Shagbark Road, Taunton seeking reimbursement for damages to her automobile from hitting a pothole on Norton Avenue near the intersection of Route 140. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor. So Voted.**

Claim submitted by Holly Mulvihill, 56 Silver Street, Taunton seeking reimbursement for damages to her automobile from hitting a pothole on First Street near 69 First Street and the ballpark. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor. So Voted.**

Petition submitted by Paul Patneau, Earth Services Corporation, 198 Crane Ave. South, Taunton requesting a sewer extension along Monadnock Avenue to install a 2' forced main beginning at 19 Monadnock Avenue and extending northerly about 500 feet to the existing 8" gravity main on Tremont Street. **Motion was made to refer to the DPW Committee for a public hearing. So Voted.**

Petition submitted by Donna Child, 12 Alegi Avenue, Taunton requesting a stop sign be placed westbound on Middleboro Ave. coming from the post office. **Motion was made to refer to the Safety Officer, City Engineer and the Committee on Police and License. So Voted.**

Decision of the Development Impact Review Board on the petition for a Departmental Site Plan Review for a professional office in a dwelling at 158 Duffy Drive, Taunton which is located in an Urban Residential District. **Motion was made to receive and place on file. So Voted.**

Decision of the Development Impact Review Board on the petition for a Departmental Site Plan Review for a 12 seat restaurant with take out at 91 Weir Street, Taunton which is located in the Central Business District. **Motion was made to receive and place on file. So Voted.**

Decision of the Development Impact Review Board on the petition for a Departmental Site Plan Review for a 12,012 sq. ft. retail and indoor recreation center at 427 Winthrop Street, Taunton which is located in a Highway Business District. **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 Costa-Hanlon motioned that the Conservation Commission and the DPW Commissioner provide an update on the work currently being completed or that has been completed with in the past month on the Morey's Bridge Dam and the Cofferdam and that the Building Department and the Board of Health provide any information also. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Office of the Attorney General provide an update to the Municipal Council on imposed deadline stipulated to Mr. David Murphy, Jefferson Partners, LLC in relation to the Morey's Bridge Dam and the Cofferdam in the City of Taunton. So Voted.

Councilor Buffington motioned that the City Clerk provide an update in writing on the status of the request to call for a list for Full-Time Police Captain, Lieutenant, and Sergeant. So Voted. *(The City Clerk emailed a response to Councilor Buffington on this matter).*

New Business:

Councilor Barbour stated that a citizen stated to him that Jefferson Avenue and Jefferson Street were not plowed during the last snowstorm and motioned that the DPW Commissioner provide a report on this matter to the Municipal Council. So Voted.

Councilor Barbour motioned that a list be called for a Temporary Fire Deputy, Captain, and Lieutenant. So Voted.


Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that the Human Resources Director inform the Municipal Council how far along she is with establishing job descriptions for the Fire Chief and the Police Chief as well as creating performance evaluations for all City department heads. The Council motioned that the performance evaluations should be drafted and provided to the appropriate committee for each department head to provide input. Additionally, a motion was made that she confer with the City Solicitor to determine if these evaluations can start to be implemented because of collective bargaining agreements. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned that the Mayor's Office provide an update on the terms for each of the members of the Taunton Housing Authority. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 P.M.

A true copy:

Attest:


Assistant City Clerk

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
MARCH 10, 2009

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND SALARIES

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

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:05 P.M.

1. **MEET TO REVIEW THE WEEKLY VOUCHERS & PAYROLLS FOR CITY DEPARTMENTS**
MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE VOUCHERS & PAYROLLS FOR THE WEEK.

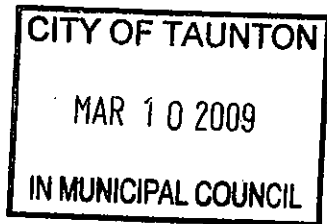
2. **MEET TO REVIEW MATTERS IN FILE**
MOTION: THAT A MEETING BE SCHEDULED WITH KPMG WITHIN TWO WEEKS TO DISCUSS THE FISCAL YEAR 2007 AUDIT AND ALSO THE TIME SCHEDULE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008 AUDIT.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:07 P.M.

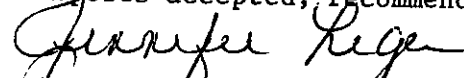
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES



Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.


Assistant City Clerk

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
MARCH 10, 2009

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

PRESENT WERE: COUNCIL PRESIDENT DAVID POTTIER AND COUNCILORS BARBOUR, BUFFINGTON CARR, CROTEAU, MARSHALL, FIORE, COSTA-HANLON AND HOYE. ALSO PRESENT WAS KEVIN SHEA, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

1. MEET WITH KEVIN SHEA, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR AN UPDATE ON THE F. B. ROGERS BUILDING AND TO DISCUSS ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BUILDING

MR. SHEA REPORTED THAT AS THE COUNCIL REQUESTED, AN ENGINEERING FIRM THAT SPECIALIZES IN ENVIRONMENTAL WORK HAS BEEN HIRED. THEY ARE REVIEWING EXISTING INFORMATION, DOING SOME SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION WORK AND HELPING TO FINALIZE THE BID DOCUMENTS AND WILL ASSIST DURING THE BIDDING PHASE. AS A RESULT OF THIS WORK, THE BID OPENING WILL BE PUSHED BACK.

THE WALK THROUGH IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 18TH AND BIDS ARE TO BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 27TH. THERE WILL BE TWO SEPARATE BIDS, ONE FOR THE HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOVAL AND ONE FOR DEMOLITION.

MR. SHEA INFORMED THE COMMITTEE THAT WHAT THEY PLAN TO DO IS E-MAIL THE RESULTS OF THE BIDS TO EVERYONE ON MARCH 27TH AND COME BACK BEFORE THE COUNCIL ON MARCH 31ST.

THE CONTRACTS CAN BE AWARDED AROUND APRIL 3RD. CONTRACTORS CAN START ON SIGHT ON APRIL 10TH, WHICH IS THE NEXT WEEK. THE DEMO CONTRACTOR WILL BE DOING SOME PRELIMINARY WORK AS WELL AS HIS PERMITTING. THE REMOVAL OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SHOULD BE COMPLETE AROUND MAY 11TH. ALL DEMOLITION WORK, INCLUDING BACK FILLING, GRADING AND EVERYTHING ELSE SHOULD BE DONE BY JUNE 30TH.

BETA IS THE CONSULTANT THAT HAS BEEN HIRED, AND THEY DO HAVE AN LSP. THE CONTRACT PRICE FOR BETA IS NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000.

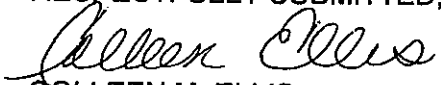
MOTION: UPDATE ON THE LEGAL STATUS WITH THE FIRST CONTRACTOR TO BE PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE.

DISCUSSED WAS THAT \$200,000 IS GOING TO BE USED FROM MR. SHEA'S OFFICE TO DO THIS PROJECT.

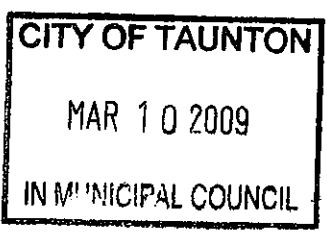
MOTION: THAT MR. SHEA PROVIDE TO THE COUNCIL A LIST OF WHAT THIS MONEY WAS ORIGINALLY BUDGETED FOR.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:27 P.M.

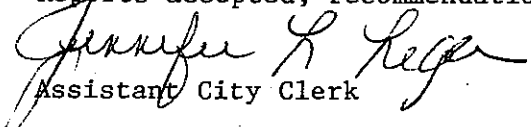
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES



Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.


Assistant City Clerk

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
MARCH 10, 2009

THE COMMITTEE ON FIRES AND WIRES

PRESENT WERE: COUNCILOR DANIEL BARBOUR, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILORS CROTEAU AND POTTIER. ALSO PRESENT WERE CITY SOLICITOR STEVEN TORRES AND HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR MARIA GOMES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:44 P.M.

1. MEET WITH THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR AND CITY SOLICITOR TO DISCUSS CRITERIA AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT STEP IN EVALUATION OF FIRE CHIEF

THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR PROVIDED A DRAFT JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE FIRE CHIEF. IT WAS NOTED THAT THIS DESCRIPTION COMPLIES WITH CIVIL SERVICE AND THERE IS A STATEMENT INCLUDED IN THE JOB DESCRIPTION WHICH STATES THAT FOR POSITIONS COVERED BY CIVIL SERVICE REGULATIONS, THE ESTABLISHED REQUIREMENTS OF CIVIL SERVICE SHALL BE SUBSTITUTED FOR THE RECOMMENDED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS LISTED IN THE DRAFT. NO PART OF THIS POSITION DESCRIPTION SHALL RESTRICT OR EXCLUDE THE ELIGIBILITY OF CANDIDATES FOR EMPLOYMENT OR ADVANCEMENT AS DEFINED BY THE REGULATIONS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM.

IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT CIVIL SERVICES PROVIDES AND LISTS OUT ESSENTIAL TASKS, THEY DO NOT SPECIFICALLY DEAL WITH WHO APPOINTS, WHO SUPERVISES, JOB ENVIRONMENT, ETC.

THE COMMITTEE IS TO REVIEW THIS JOB DESCRIPTION AND INFORM THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR OF ANY SUGGESTIONS OR MODIFICATIONS THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE. THE CHIEF HAS ALSO BEEN PROVIDED WITH A COPY OF THIS DESCRIPTION.

THE CITY SOLICITOR HAS REVIEWED THIS JOB DESCRIPTION AND HAD NOTHING TO ADD EXCEPT THAT THE CHIEF NEEDS TO MAINTAIN OPEN LINES OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT MECHANIC AND THE OTHER EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT.

DISCUSSED ALSO WAS USING SOME KIND OF NUMERICAL SYSTEM FOR EVALUATION.

THIS ISSUE WAS TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT AND REFERRED TO NEXT WEEK'S MEETING. THIS WILL GIVE THE COUNCILORS TIME TO REVIEW THIS JOB DESCRIPTION AND NOTIFY MRS. GOMES OF THEIR SUGGESTIONS OR MODIFICATIONS.

2. **MEET WITH THE FIRE CHIEF FOR AN UPDATE ON THE TAG SYSTEM**
3. **MEET WITH THE FIRE CHIEF FOR AN UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TELE-STAFF PROGRAM**
4. **MEET WITH THE FIRE CHIEF TO DISCUSS CONDITION AND REPAIRS TO ALL DEPARTMENT VEHICLES INCLUDING THE RESERVE FIRE TRUCK AND THE USE OF THE RAYNHAM VEHICLE**

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MARCH 10, 2009

THE COMMITTEE ON FIRES AND WIRES – CONTINUED

THE FIRE CHIEF CALLED THE CHAIRMAN OF THIS COMMITTEE AT ABOUT 4:30 -- 5:00 AND INFORMED HIM THAT HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING TONIGHT BECAUSE HE IS IN OTHER COMMUNITIES RETRIEVING CYLINDERS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. APPARENTLY THE CITY'S CYLINDERS HAD EXPIRED AND HE WAS ATTEMPTING TO RETRIEVE SOME. CONCERN WAS VOICED WITH THE FACT THAT THESE WERE ALLOWED TO EXPIRE.

MOTION: TO TABLE ITEMS 2, 3 AND 4 UNTIL NEXT WEEK AND ADD TO IT THE ISSUE WITH HIM NOT APPEARING THIS EVENING DUE TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE CYLINDERS AND WHY THIS WAS EVEN ALLOWED TO OCCUR.

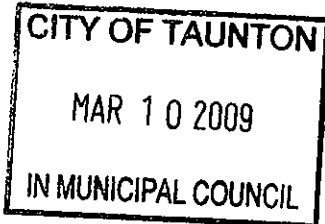
IT WAS REPORTED THAT THERE IS STILL A RAYNHAM TRUCK AT THE WHITTENTON STATION AND THE RESERVE TRUCK IS STILL IN EAST TAUNTON. IT WAS ALSO REPORTED THAT ENGINE ONE SHOULD BE RETURNED IN ABOUT A WEEK AND THAT ENGINE NINE SHOULD BE RETURNED AT THE END OF THE MONTH. HOWEVER, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT MECHANIC INFORMED THE COMMITTEE THAT ACCORDING TO THE CHIEF, ENGINE ONE WILL NOT BE GOING INTO SERVICE.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:04 P.M.

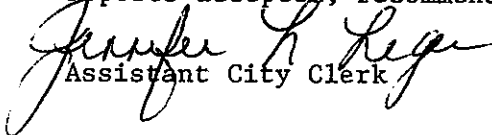
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES



Reports accepted, recommendations adopted.



Assistant City Clerk