



*City of Taunton
Municipal Council Meeting Minutes*

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*Temporary City Hall, 141 Oak Street, Taunton, MA
Minutes, October 1, 2013 at 7:10o'clock P.M.*

Regular Meeting

Mayor Thomas C. Hoye, Jr. presiding

Moment of Silence for Janet Carmo, Hopewell Teacher

Prayer was offered by the Mayor

Present at roll call were:

*Councilor's Barbour, Carr, McCaul, Pottier, Costa-Hanlon
Medeiros, Colton, Cleary and Marshall*

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

Communications from the Mayor:

At this time, the Mayor stated he would make a presentation of a Proclamation for National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. **Motion was made to invite into the enclosure Tracy Medeiros and Kim Thomas. So Voted.** The Mayor presented three (3) Proclamations proclaiming October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Taunton. **Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.** Ms. Medeiros informed of the upcoming scheduled events. SEMA-VAV Greater Taunton Violence Prevention Task Force will host its 11th Annual Candle Light Vigil at the First Parish Church on Monday, October 7th, 5:30-6:30pm., between 6:30-6:45 bells will be ringing to honor those lives lost from domestic violence. This year's vigil will honor Jennifer Martel, victim of domestic violence and a graduate of Taunton High School. Ms. Thomas thanked the Mayor and members of the Municipal Council for recognizing Domestic Violence.

At this time, the Mayor presented to Members of the Municipal Council, the Financial Management Review from DOR, Division of Local Services Technical Assistance. This is a document and report that the Mayor requested over a year ago. Some suggestions in the document are already being put into practice as we speak and were underway before the management review was even completed. As always, the City is striving to make things more sufficient and more user friendly. To do this, the City will need to make some changes. Some of the things that were talked about in the report were the scope focus on City financial practices and procedures that guide municipal decisions. The information was gathered through business with each financial department, the Mayor's Office, Human Resources, Budget Director, other city officials as well as Council Members. The Mayor stated that the City's 2008 budget was at 38%, due to the level of State Aid. This year it is down to 31%. The decrease was something that was pointed out in the study. This study really makes you think that we have been doing this on a shoestring budget over the past five (5) years. It has been very difficult, things have been

turning around, but we have a long way to go. 43% of the City's budget is spent on education, 25% of the budget is fixed cost (health insurance) and 14% is Public Safety. The Mayor's Office discussed the current Government structure. The Mayor stated that the City currently has a strong Council and a weak Mayor system. This is not the most effective way to manage government or business in today's time. The report recommends extending the term of Executive Office to four (4) years as well as giving the appointment powers of Department Heads to the Mayor's Office. The report recommends a CFO, evaluations of all Department Heads, Capital Funding and long-term planning when funding is available. The Mayor stated that this is important if we are serious about rejuvenating the City. We need to put funds into Capital Planning as soon as we can within the next year or maybe this year depending on the Supplemental Budget. Many of the changes recommended have already been implemented; for instance, an Audit Committee to review Audit Firms. The City has already formed an Audit Committee. They recommended Finance Team Meetings, which when the Mayor took office, he implemented right away. A Budget Ordinance and formalizing a budget process in the City Charter was discussed. The report states that a lot of things the City does is redundant and could be made simpler. Solicitor Buffington is heading up the Charter Committee and a lot of things have already been discussed. The report also recommends modifying Council Meetings to bi-weekly with Sub-Committees on the off weeks. The City is one of few that meet on a weekly basis. Also, the report recommends reviewing the structure of Sub-Committees. Some of the Sub-Committees barely meet. The report also discusses the potential sale of the Taunton Nursing Home. It always has been a controversial subject, but it is something that needs to be discussed. The City is one of two municipalities in the Commonwealth that still operates a nursing home, the other being Nantucket. Realistically, this is something that needs to be looked at down the road. The Mayor stated that this report is not going to be too popular, but it discusses discontinuance of Health Insurance to part-time elected officials. The salaries of elected officials, in comparison to other communities, are rather low. The report mentions IT upgrades, which are currently underway and hopefully the City will have an IT Director very soon. The report talks in great detail about the decreasing redundancies in various financial offices within the City. It praised our city officials in financing for our audit being in on time. The report really goes into the City's redundancies with our checks and balances; they recommend it being done in one system. As the IT upgrades come about, the City will be able to do this in the very near future which will free up employee time for other tasks. The report expands on employee professional development which has been talked about for a long time, and we are also looking at this in our Collective Bargaining Agreements. The Mayor stated that he thinks this is important and that everyone who works for the City should have the opportunity to advance in some way, shape or fashion. It is very important for morale and for productivity. As far as professional development, the report talks about cross-training and the fact that any Assistant Department Head should be able to step into a Department Head role during any type of emergency basis. This should be seamless and we know that this is not always the case in the City of Taunton. We need to improve on this. Another item that was talked about in the report was maintaining employee leave time in a central database. The City has hired an outside firm to do this because currently it is contained in four different databases and difficult to track. It also discusses developing strict policies and procedures for financial operations. This is something that has been lacking for some time, it really points to the fact that the City relies too much on institutional knowledge

and not enough on policies and procedures. The report also mentions bi-weekly payroll, which should make things easier. The Mayor stated that since his administration has taken office, there have been strives taken to improve upon efficiencies. Many suggestions that have been mentioned in the report have already been implemented. The City Charter change will be the key ingredient in affecting some of the changes. The Mayor stated that he welcomes any and all suggestions. Councilor Pottier gave credit to the Mayor's Administration for commissioning this study and to Deputy Nunes for the strings that he pulled to get this done. He said that we certainly can try to streamline things in the City and that it is refreshing to see the City moving in this direction. The report recommends a lot of things that KPMG has been telling us for the last several years. The Mayor stated that we can no longer do things because that is the way we always done it, we need to look at fresh ways to approach situations.

The Mayor requested the City Clerk to schedule an Executive Session next week regarding the 1144 Contract and COTMA Contract with Mr. Berry and Solicitor Buffington being present. **Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.**

Communications from City Officers:

Com. from Chris Williams, Safety Officer – Responding to Columbus Ave. bus stop concerns. The area was surveyed and Mr. Williams observed young children crossing Tremont Street/Rt. 140 at a School Bus stop. His recommendation is to post two (2) “No Parking” signs on each side of Columbus Avenue, 40 feet from Tremont Street in order to assure the bus has enough clearance to make the swing into Columbus Avenue and stop near 7 Columbus Avenue as most children were observed living there and directly across the street. **Motion was made to refer to the Law Department, Committee on Ordinances and Enrolled Bills and the School Department. So Voted.**

Com. from Board of Assessors – Requesting to schedule a Classification Hearing with the Municipal Council on the approval of FY2014 values for Real Estate and Personal Property approved by the Department of Revenue. **Motion was made to refer to Council President and Committee to the Council as a Whole to schedule a hearing. A request was made for the Assessor to provide recommendations and guidelines to the Council at least 7 days prior to hearing. Councilor Cleary stated that last year, the City Assessor supplied the Council with different scenarios, and feels that with the different scenarios and impact it is more than sufficient for Council to make a decision. Council referred to City Clerk to schedule a Public Hearing. Councilor Barbour pressed the motion. Councilor Cleary voting in opposition. So Voted.**

Com. from Fire Chief – Response on John Street acceptance. Chief Bradshaw informed that the Fire Department does not have any issues with the City accepting John Street as a roadway. They did request that a “No Parking Fire Lane” sign be erected as well as brush to be cut back along the roadway. **Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Ordinance and Enrolled Bills to establish “No Parking Fire Lane” sign and to DPW Commissioner for the brush. So Voted.**

Com. from Chairman, Taunton Planning Board – Notifying of a public hearing with the Taunton Planning Board scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 5:30pm regarding proposed Zoning Map Amendment for property on Dean Street to rezone three (3)

parcels in Urban Residential District to transit Oriented Development Overlay District. **Motion was made to receive and place on file. So Voted.**

Com. from City Solicitor – Taunton Fire Department et al. v. Michael O'Donnell et al. southeast Housing Court, Docket No. 10-CV-00127. **Motion was made to accept the deed to the premises for general municipal purposes. Councilor Marshall commended the Law Department for a job well done. With the sufficient fire watch lien and un-paid taxes, Councilor Marshall asked if the City had any recourse in collecting those debts. Solicitor Buffington stated that it is an unpaid municipal charge case (real estate taxes, fire details, police details, water liens, sewer liens). When a property owner does not pay for municipal charges, the City's remedy is to take the property owner to Land Court. Solicitor Buffington stated that although this case has received a fair amount of attention for the Housing Court case, there has been a Land Court case going on at the same time. When the City takes a property owner to Land Court, the City will ask the judge to confirm the amount of funds owed to the City and in turn, the Court will require the property owner to repay within a period of time. If the property owner does not pay, it is the remedy of the City to take the property. Normally, the City does not have a high amount of police or file detail, but this case did. The total amount owed to the City was around \$200,000. Usually, when the City takes ownership of the property, the City will sell the property. But in this case, the City is not planning on selling the property to recoup the money. Solicitor Buffington stated that the City is planning to take down the building which is a dangerous, dilapidated building and mediating a public safety hazard. This will assist the City in rebuilding the City Hall project and making downtown a better place. Councilor Marshall stated that even though there is a financial loop hole coming into the general treasury, it holds significant value to the redevelopment of the downtown area and to the renovation of City Hall. He said that this will not have a negative impact on the budget because the fire details were already absorbed in the previous year's budget. The Mayor stated that the City has received phone calls regarding photos being taken of the building, but due to the danger of the building, no one will be allowed inside. So Voted.**

Com. from Tax Possession Custodian – Proposed sale of tax possession properties, Parcel 66-321 – 3 Bow Street and Parcel 45-132 – 40 Norton Avenue. **Motion was made to move to dispose of these two (2) properties through sealed bid process as outlined. So Voted.**

Com. from Richard Berry, 436 Winthrop St., Taunton - Requesting sewer betterment abatement for this property, ID 89-174-0. Mr. Berry is requesting to abate the amount of \$154,554 and establish \$44,154 as the Sewer Betterment. **Motion was made to receive and place on file. Send a letter to Mr. Berry that there is a very specific Sewer Abatement form that must be completed and per statue, this cannot be acted upon until the proper forms are completed and then it will be sent to the Clerk of Committees. So Voted.**

Com. from Director Agent, Veterans Services – Requesting to pay a prior year bill in the amount of \$10.36 for Nestle Waters. **Motion was made to move approval. So Voted.**

Petition submitted by William Butler, 195 Field St., Taunton requesting a renewal of his 2012 and 2013 Junk Collector's Licenses located at 195 Field Street, Taunton. **Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Police and License and the Police Chief. So Voted.**

Hours of Operation (Black Friday)

AP Pretzels, Inc. -DBA- Wetzels Pretzels located at 2 Galleria Mall Drive, Taunton. **Motion was made to refer to the Committee on Police and License and Police Chief. So Voted.**

Claim submitted by Michael Kripke, 45 Blueberry Lane, Taunton seeking reimbursement for damages to his automobile from hitting a pothole in front of 580 Myles Standish Blvd. **Motion was made to refer to the City Solicitor and DPW Commissioner for pothole. 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 Marshall motioned to move the recommendation from the Search Committee on the appointment of Paul Arikian, Director of Technology. Councilor Carr stated that she was the only Councilor voting in opposition to the appointment of Mr. Arikian. She stated that the job posting had minimum job qualifications listed and the minimum qualifications were not met by the candidate. She is not sure how anyone could approve the appointment of a candidate who does not meet the minimum qualifications. There was one individual who did meet the qualifications, but for other reasons it was decided not to proceed with that individual. She said that it was foolish to choose an individual as a department head who does not meet the minimum qualifications for that position. She said that she would not have any issue reposting the position and feels that it would be helpful if the Mayor's Office could provide additional funding for the position salary because it will be very difficult to get a qualified IT Director for the salary the City is offering. She feels that the citizens of Taunton deserve someone who is extremely knowledgeable on all aspects of IT, not just a general knowledge of IT. To hire an individual with no degree or experience in running an IT Department is not what we should be doing especially with the salary we will be paying this individual as a Department Head. Councilor Carr stated that he is a fine gentleman, but not the right person. Councilor Cleary stated that he was not on the Committee, but has reviewed the candidate's resume, job description and information on the posting. The candidate has a good business background, management skills that have been demonstrated in several situations, broad technology background due to working with technology for a number of years, he is up-to-date on new technology options coming out and budget experience. Councilor Cleary stated that he feels the candidate has good skills and would bring good experience to this position. Councilor Marshall stated that the posting was posted for a month to six weeks. Several resumes were received and the Search Committee categorized the

candidates into two (2) tiers. A total of six (6) candidates were interviewed in the Tier I pool. Members on the Search Committee were Councilor Marshall, Councilor Carr, Ms. Gomes, Alyssa Gracia, Ken Goulart and Mr. Bell from TMLP. Discussions took place during the meetings for the search of the IT Director on the structure of the IT Department. Councilor Marshall stated that for this year, discussions were to hire an IT Director and a Network Administrator along with one (1) technician within the Department. All positions are within the Mayor's budget allowed for this year. Councilor Marshall stated that the Search Committee requested several times for additional funds from the Mayor for an IT Director salary, unfortunately with these tight times, the Mayor was not able to give additional funds for the position. He feels that it is not fair to say that the candidate does not have any of the necessary qualifications. Councilor Marshall stated that the Committee welcomed the input from Mr. Goulart and Mr. Bell and with the intimate knowledge that they have with IT, they said that it did not warrant going out for another posting and receiving additional resumes because there will not be any changes in salary or structure. Four (4) out of five (5) members on the Search Committee felt that it was important to move the City forward and recommended Mr. Arikian to full Council for consideration. The Mayor stated that he was present during the last round of interviews and he is convinced that Mr. Arikian can and will do the job if selected. Councilor Carr pressed the motion. On a roll call vote, Nine (9) Councilors present, Eight (8) Councilors voting in favor, One (1) Councilor voting present. Councilor Carr voting present. So Voted.

Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that last week there was a vote in the Committee on Police and License, agenda item #9 – Meet with the Police Chief to further discuss establishing a Reserve List. The vote of the Committee on Police and License was to approve no more than four (4) candidates and call for a Reserve List. Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that the Reserve List was already called for and to preserve it, it needed to be ratified by the Council because the Council is the appointing authority. Councilor Costa-Hanlon and Councilor Cleary voted to support not more than four (4). Councilor Barbour was not opposed to the Reserve List but thought the number of candidates should be three (3) or lower due to the concern of keeping so many people on the Reserve List. Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that Ms. Gomes had given the Committee a packet of information because Council had questions on creating a Reserve List and what it meant for the City. Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned to create a Reserve List of not more than four (4) candidates and ask the City Clerk to continue with the list and to ratify the decision. Councilor Carr stated that she does not have any issue and in fact she spoke to Civil Service regarding questions she had. The only issue she still has is with the number of individuals on the list. She does not want individuals languishing on a list. She is not sure what four (4) means. Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that when we say four (4) and call for a list, it is times two plus one. But the City would not be obligated to hire more than four (4) and at the point that we hire four (4), the list is extinguished and we are not required to hire from that list. Therefore, we could go to another list to hire again. The rationale for four (4) was basically presented by the Police Chief in anticipation of him needing to backfill and potential mandatory retirements. The Police Chief made a presentation to the Committee on Police and License where he outlined the entire demographics of the police force as it stands right now and he basically stated that he anticipates needing

these hires. Part of the discussions with the Chief was that the Reserve List would give him opportunity to put those individuals in sooner than typically allowed because of all the issues with scheduling in the Academy. When the Police Chief came before the Committee a week or two ago, he again stated his anticipation of needing those four (4) individuals and he gave a time frame of approximately 18 months to fill the positions once the Mayor gives his approval. Councilor Carr stated that we will call for a list and we will be receiving nine (9) individuals, but we are only going to appoint four (4) to the reserve list. Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that we are not under any obligations to hire more than four (4) from that list. Councilor Carr stated that we are only reserving four (4) from that list, calling for a list of four (4), Civil Service will be sending us a list of nine (9), and we will be interviewing those individuals and choose four (4). Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that the Chief will be starting the process of the back ground checks and the Council will choose as they come up if they are qualified. Councilor Costa-Hanlon stated that we would be obligated to hire four (4) and the remaining five (5) we would not be obligated to hire. Councilor Pottier stated that he was concerned because it sounded like we were going to obtain a list of four (4) and those four (4) would be hired. Therefore, we will be going through the interview process with nine (9) candidates to add four (4) and those four (4) would need to be offered a position. Councilor Carr stated that those four (4) individuals would need to be hired or refused three times before anybody else is offered. Councilor Cleary stated that this is a good time to take a vote because the City had a difficult weekend. Essentially, he received a couple of calls regarding safety. The Council does not have all the details of the incidents, but the City had three unattended deaths. He said it doesn't mean that they are all violence related, but there are police issues with each of them. We need to send communication that we understand and recognize that our Police Department is under staffed, and we are trying to do what we can with what is in the budget. So Voted.

Councilor Pottier stated that a letter was received from the City Auditor regarding reimbursement of a book purchased by a Fire Fighter for a class taken. He stated that the Auditor submitted a letter informing that payment will be taken care as long as the recipient signs in lieu of an original receipt.

Orders, Ordinances and Resolutions:

Ordinance for a third reading to be ordained on a roll call vote

AN ORDINANCE

Chapter 6

Article V

Section 6-96

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT

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

**SECTION 1. That the Revised Ordinances of the City of Taunton, as amended, be and hereby are further amended by adding the following section:
Section 6-96**

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the City that the sale of surplus property/equipment that has been determined "to be no longer useful for any Municipal purpose and has a resale/salvage value of less than \$5,000, may be sold, donated or discarded in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Upon receipt of the written approval of the Mayor, City Department Heads may discard or donate surplus supplies/equipment that have a resale or salvage value of less than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars.
2. Surplus supplies/equipment having a resale or salvage value of Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or more, but less than Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars may be sold or donated with the Mayor's written approval of "The Plan" to sell (bid/auction) such supplies/equipment.

The Department's plan to sell by bid or auction the surplus supplies/equipment will including the following:

- A. A Bidding Notice or Notice of Sale by Auction, including:
 1. Complete description of the surplus supplies/equipment;
 2. A notification of when, where and how the surplus supplies/equipment may be inspected;
 3. All terms and conditions of the sale;
 4. The place and deadline for the submission of bids or place and time of auction;
 5. A statement that the City retains the right to reject any and all bids.
- B. Posting a Notice at City Hall and in a newspaper with general circulation in the local area with all terms and conditions delineated in the Notices of Sale.
- C. Full and proper documentation/recording of the transaction(s) in conformity with all terms and conditions delineated in the Notices of Sale.
- D. If the governmental body rejects the bid of the highest bidder, the governmental body may:
 - a. Negotiate a sale of such supply/equipment, so long as the negotiated sale price is higher than the bid price;

- b. Re-solicit bid process.
3. The City's procurement officer may choose to utilize the surplus supplies/equipment as a "trade in" in process of purchasing new supplies/equipment.
4. All proceeds from the sale of surplus supplies/equipment shall be deposited into the City's reserve/revolving account.
5. Surplus supplies/equipment with an estimated resale or salvage value of less than Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars, may be donated to the organization that has an IRS tax exempt status by reason of its charitable nature, by a majority vote of the City Council. **Motion was made to move approval. On a Roll Call Vote: Nine (9) Councilors present, Nine (9) Councilors voting in favor. 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:

On the north side of Monica Street, beginning at a point 380.16 feet from the intersection of School Street and extending eighty feet along Monica Street in a northwesterly direction.

On the south side of Monica Street, beginning at a point 381.5 feet from the intersection of School Street and extending 25 feet in a northwesterly direction to a corner, then, from said corner, continuing along Monica Street in a southerly direction for seventy three feet.

On Monica Street, in front of house numbered 19, from the corner and extending seventy three feet in a southerly direction in front of said house numbered 19.

All ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage. **Motion was made to move from a first reading to a second reading. So Voted.**

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

AN ORDINANCE

ARTICLE V. SIGN, SIGNALS AND MARKINGS

Section 13-171. Same – Designation of Intersections

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

That Section 13.171 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Taunton, as amended, be and hereby are further amended by adding thereto the following:

Briggs Street at Cohannet Street.

All ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage. Councilor Barbour asked if the Council would be able to suspend the rule and Ordain. Solicitor Buffington stated that normally it would need to be advertised, and it has not yet been advertised. He said that if it is an emergency, all three readings would be read and ordained in the same night. **Motion was made to move from a first reading to a second reading. So Voted**

New Business

Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned to refer to the Committee on Police and License for an Executive Session to be scheduled next week to discuss personnel issues. So Voted. Councilor Costa-Hanlon motioned to request the Police Chief and other officers to be present during an Executive Session next week for an update on the issues in the City over this past weekend. At the discretion of the City Solicitor, some of the discussions could be in Open Session. So Voted.

Councilor Pottier motioned to reschedule the Municipal Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 5, 2013 to Monday, November 4, 2013 at 7:30 am due to the City Election. So Voted.

Councilor Pottier informed that Massasoit State Park has scheduled their annual clean-up day on October 19, 2013, 9am-1pm. The Mayor informed that his Office is looking into a Nature & Me facility at the State Park. The Mayor also informed of clean-up day at Watson Pond sponsored by Kayem Hot Dog on Friday, October 4, 2013, 11am-1:30pm.

Councilor Carr motioned to refer to the Safety Officer to investigate the stop sign at the intersection of Dunbar and Fremont Street and to determine if the sign has been installed too high. So Voted.

Councilor Carr motioned, for a third time, to refer the flail mower to be used on both sides of South Precinct Street near Strawberry Lane. Additionally, that the Safety Officer submit a communication of his evaluation of the brush in the area. So Voted.

Councilor Barbour asked for a moment of silence for the loss of a dear friend, Mr. Joseph Peixoto, past owner of Oakland Variety.

Councilor Cleary stated that he does not recall a discussion with the Parking Commission or a vote regarding parking/no parking signs on School Street. There are signs going up and he has heard of a petition being put together by merchants regarding the signs. The Mayor stated that the signs have made it difficult for Citizens for Citizens and informed that there are plans in the making for those streets to be one-ways. **Councilor Cleary motioned to refer to the Committee on Police and License and Police Chief. Councilor Barbour stated that within the past couple of years, he remembers the City approving "no parking" signs on the northern side of School Street heading toward Braga Street. Councilor Cleary stated that the Council approved the signs within an Ordinance. The Mayor stated that in speaking to the Police Chief, it was difficult for fire vehicles to turn down the street, but at the same time it is causing a hardship for businesses, especially Citizens for Citizens. He said that as the City completes the sidewalk project and moves toward the redevelopment of downtown, the streets should be re-examined as one-ways. So Voted.**

Councilor Cleary commended Attorney deAbreu who has been working diligently with the Board of Health and DPW on the clean-up of a property on Porter Street. He informed that the DPW will be able to clean-up the property and in turn, the City will bill the owner. The issue should be resolved this week.

Councilor Marshall motioned to refer to the Law Office to investigate and inform the Council whether the city currently taxes Verizon for each telephone pole. If this is not something that the city does, perhaps we should create an Ordinance to enable the City to tax Verizon for double poles, holes being left in the ground, blocking sidewalks and stalling construction projects. The Mayor stated that the City of Taunton was involved in a large court case about 3-4 years ago regarding this matter. So Voted.

Councilor Medeiros motioned to request from the Mayor's Office of Economic and Community Development to provide the Council with a list of any TIF programs within the next 2-3 weeks. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

A true copy:

Attest:


Assistant City Clerk

JLL/dmc

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
OCTOBER 1, 2013

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND SALARIES

PRESENT WERE: COUNCILOR DEBORAH CARR, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILOR CLEARY. ALSO
PRESENT WAS GILL ENOS, BUDGET DIRECTOR

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:41 P.M.

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

MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE PAYROLL WARRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$2,975,635.29. SO VOTED.

MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE INVOICE WARRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$3,688,740.52. SO VOTED.

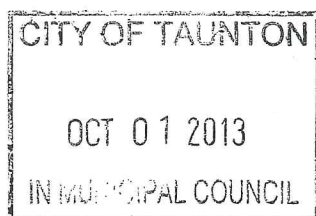
2. MEET TO REVIEW REQUESTS FOR FUNDING

MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF REQUEST OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT TO PAY A
PRIOR YEAR INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,177.57 FOR BETA GROUP FOR
ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH REFERENCE TO THE REMOVAL OF THE
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK, AND DESIGN OF A NEW ABOVE GROUND
STORAGE TANK FOR THE PARKER GOLF COURSE FUEL HANDLING OPERATIONS.
FUNDS TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM GOLF COURSE ACCOUNT NO. 61-640-0202-
5319 TO ACCOUNT NO. 61-640-0206-5319. SO VOTED.

3. MEET TO REVIEW MATERS IN FILE

THE BUDGET DIRECTOR INFORMED THE COMMITTEE THAT AN INVOICE THAT HAD BEEN REFERRED TO
THIS COMMITTEE FOR LOWER PRIONEER VALLEY EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE FOR MEDICAID
ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES FOR THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT WAS STILL OUTSTANDING. ON AUGUST 20,
THE COMMITTEE DIRECTED THE CLERK OF COMMITTEES TO SEND A LETTER TO THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
PROVIDE IN WRITING TO THIS COMMITTEE AS TO WHY THIS CHARGE HAS BEEN SHIFTED OVER TO THE
CITY. NO RESPONSE WAS EVER RECEIVED FROM DR. HACKETT. THE COMPANY HAS BEEN CALLING THE
CITY AUDITOR'S OFFICE LOOKING FOR PAYMENT. THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE CONTACTED THE
SUPERINTENDENT AND RECEIVED AN E-MAIL FROM DR. HACKETT DATED 10/1/2013 WHICH STATED THAT
THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT IS NOT PAYING THIS BILL. SHE WILL WRITE A LETTER TO THE CITY COUNCIL
DETAILING THE REASONS WHY AS SOON AS SHE GETS A CHANCE.
THE COMMITTEE RECEIVED AND PLACED THIS ON FILE.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:50 P.M.



RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Colleen M. Ellis

COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

Jennifer R. Leger
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK



CITY OF TAUNTON

In Municipal Council **ORDER #3**
FY 2014
OCTOBER 1, 2013 *20*.....

Ordered, That

THE SUM OF FOUR THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED

SEVENTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND FIFTY SEVEN CENTS (\$4,177.57) BE AND HEREBY IS

TRANSFERRED FROM GOLF COURSE ACCOUNT NO. 61-640-0202-5319

TO: GOLF COURSE ACCOUNT NO. 61-640-0206-5319 – PRIOR YEAR

..... *Clerk.*