

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 24, 2023
MINUTES

7:00 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar, Leonard B. Katzman, Daniela T. Abbott, David M. Gleason, Keith E. Hamilton, Charles J. Levesque, and J. Mark Ryan

Time: 7:00 PM

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – There was no Executive Session held.

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to approve as presented made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

Directions to view licensing applications: 1) Click on [Viewpoint](#), 2) Click Records and then type in the record number which is listed on the agenda, 3) Click on the highlighted record to view the application

1. Bills

2. Peddler License, Annual Renewal:

- a. Opt LLC d/b/a Opt Eyewear Boutique, 141 Wayland Ave, Providence (#2313)
- b. Woof Woof LLC d/b/a Woof Woof Pet Boutique and Biscuit Bar LLC, 31 Bradford St, Bristol (#2327)

3. Peddler License – Mobile Food Establishment (MFE), Renewal:

- a. Pit Stop RM Inc d/b/a Pit Stop, 38 Luby Ave, Milford, MA (#2318)
- b. Blount Fine Foods d/b/a Blount Clam Shack Food Truck, 335 Water St, Warren, 2 vehicles (#2321)
- c. Coastal Cones d/b/a Ben and Jerry’s, 356 Thames St, Newport (#2324)
- d. Brittany Rosenberg d/b/a Sweet B’s Donuts, 102 JT Connell Hwy, Newport (#2325)
- e. Derek Ardito d/b/a Mooseman’s Kettle Corn, 20 Dixon St, Newport (#2326)

4. CRMC – Public Notice 2023-03-105

William & Kathryn Welles, 41 Longshore Road for a State of Rhode Island Assent to construct and maintain a residential boating facility consisting of a fixed pier to a ramp and Float, extending to 50’ beyond Mean Low Water (MLW). Project Location: 41 Longshore Road, Portsmouth.

SITTING AS THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

Directions to view licensing applications: 1) Click on [Viewpoint](#), 2) Click Records and then type in the record number which is listed on the agenda, 3) Click on the highlighted record to view the application

1. Peddler License, Annual New:

- a. Audrain Automobile Museum, Inc., 222 Bellevue Ave, Newport (#2311)
- b. Autumnpark, Inc. d/b/a Our Good Dog Spot, 1800 Meadon Rd E-221, Cumberland (#2319)

Motion to approve both peddler licenses made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Request approval for a temporary seasonal expansion of the service area:

Localz, Inc., 657 Park Avenue, to allow food and alcohol service in an outside dining area from April 2023 until the end of the season

Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Levesque. Motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn as the Board of License Commissioners made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

MINUTES – Motion to approve made by Mr. Levesque, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0. 4/10/23 & Exec.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Tree City USA – Portsmouth has again been named a Tree City USA in honor of our commitment to effective urban forest management. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. The Arbor Day Foundation is a million-member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information is available at arborday.org. I would like to congratulate our Public Works Department, Tree Commission, and Tree Warden for their work to ensure Portsmouth remains a Tree City.

2. Hybrid waste management white paper – Public comment and input for the hybrid waste management white paper regarding options and issues, which must be settled prior to the development of a request for proposals, ended on the 14th. We will present the paper with public comments at a Council meeting in May for discussion and decision.

3. Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Masterplan update – The consultant preparing a Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan has completed a draft report. The draft will be reviewed and discussed by the working group later this week, after which a final report will be prepared for the Council and presented at a future meeting.

4. Plead for part-time summer help – Just a reminder the Town is still accepting applications for Lifeguards and Camp Counselors for the summer season in the Recreation Department. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. Additional information and an employment application can be found on the Human Resources web page.

5. SouthCoast Wind (formerly Mayflower Wind) future public workshop – The Council will hold a workshop to hear public comment on the proposed SouthCoast Wind Energy project. We are looking to schedule the workshop in May and will publish more information as soon as details are arranged.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointments:

a. Economic Development Committee – Motion to appoint Brian Conwell made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

b. Tree Commission – Motion to appoint Deborah O'Hara made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Levesque. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Monthly Finance Report. – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Levesque. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request to advertise for a public hearing for a proposed amendment to Chapter 405 Zoning,

Article VI Non-Standard Development, Section C Alteration of non-conforming development. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Levesque, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Request approval of the Solid Waste and Recycling Services contract between Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corp. and the Town of Portsmouth. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Levesque, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Request to award the Prudence Island Solid Waste and Recyclables Disposal to Lawrence Waste Services. – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0

4. Presentation and Submission for Review – Town Administrator’s Proposed Budget Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.

(Proposed Budget is Available on the Town’s Website or by using the following:

[FY 24 Town Administrator's Budget](#))

a. Town Administrator opening statements

b. Budget – Motion to keep the Tangible Tax rate unchanged from FY 2023 in the amount of \$15.651 and change both the Residential and Commercial Tax rates to \$12.787 respectively, made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Gleason. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion to provisionally approve revenues in the amount of \$71,431,755 made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Levesque. Motion passed 7-0.

CORRESPONDENCE – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

1. Resolution in support of H 5724 and S 0328 An Act Relating to Health and Safety - Vital Records. / Richmond Town Council

2. Letter of congratulations on earning recognition as a 2022 Tree City USA. / D. Lambe, Chief Executive, Arbor Day Foundation

3. Invitation to Participate in the 38th Annual Aquidneck Island National Police Parade, Sunday May 7, 2023. / J. Sullivan, Newport Police Department

4. Requests support of resolution in opposition to Rhode Island 2023 Gun Control legislation. / Exeter Town Council

5. Resolution in support of 2023-H 5724 and 2023-S 0328 An Act Relating to Health and Safety - Vital Records. / Exeter Town Council

6. Certificate of Recognition for the Town of Portsmouth’s Comprehensive Community Plan. / State of Rhode Island, Department of Administration, Division of Statewide Planning

7. Resolution opposing Senate Bill S-0434 An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles – Inspection of Motor Vehicles. / Little Compton Town Council

8. Request support of resolution in opposition to Rhode Island 2023 Gun Control Legislation. / Westerly Town Council

FUTURE MEETINGS

Apr 25 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting – Budget

Apr 26 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting – Budget

Apr 27 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting – Budget if needed

May 8 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

May 22 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

Time: 8:20 PM

Jennifer M. West, CMC, Town Clerk