

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 26, 2021 MINUTES

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar and Andrew V. Kelly in Town Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT BY ZOOM: Linda L. Ujifusa, Daniela T. Abbott, Michael Buddemeyer, and J. Mark Ryan

Time: 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

Mr. Hamilton entered via Zoom at 7:02 PM

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Mr. Aguiar restated his Executive Summary from the March 22, 2021 meeting. The Executive Session under RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Potential Litigation had been continued from earlier in the evening. There was one vote taken in the affirmative.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. Fair Housing Month Proclamation

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to accept all as presented, except item 2b which will be moved to the end of New Business, made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. 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 – Mobile Food Establishment (MFE), Renewals:

a. Rhode Island Kona LLC d/b/a Kona Ice of Warwick/EG, 4 Cider Ln, Greenville, RI (#1911)

b. Pete’s Ice Cream, 122 Viking Dr, Portsmouth, RI (#1916)

3. CRMC – Public Notice 2021-03-078

Roy Ferrell, 1246 Fish Rd, Tiverton, RI 02878 –

for a State of Rhode Island Assent to construct and maintain: Removal of dilapidated facility, construct and maintain a residential boating facility consisting of fixed pier, ramp and float approximately 86 feet in length, and extending to 75’ beyond Mean Low Water (MLW). A Variance to 650RICR-200-1.3.1(D)(11)(1) 50’ MLW Standard is requested.

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 – Mobile Food Establishment (MFE), New:

a. Newport Chowder Company, 10 Pell St, Newport (#1912) – Motion to approve made

by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Peddler License – Annual, New:

a. J Wilder Imports, LLC, 187 Hobart Ave, Short Hills, NJ (#1915) – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. 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 Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

TCM 4/12/21

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. Covid-19 Update

- All Rhode Islanders age 16+ may now register for vaccinations. People can register at portal.ri.gov. More information about vaccinations, including information about the Johnson & Johnson vaccine pause, is available at <https://covid.ri.gov/vaccination>.
- Beginning Friday, May 7, the indoor capacity limit for restaurants, stores, and other businesses and services will increase to 80%. Then, on May 28, the capacity limit will be lifted completely, along with the limit on social gatherings. Additionally, there will no longer be a cap on the number of people per table at restaurants. When in public, wearing a mask will continue to be a requirement while indoors. However, on May 7, masks will go from being required to being recommended when outdoors, as long as there’s at least three feet of space between individuals.
- More COVID information is available at the Town’s Website.

2. Tree City USA Announcement

- Portsmouth has again been named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of our commitment to effective urban forest management.
- 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’d like to congratulate our Public Works Department, Tree Commission, and Tree Warden for their hard work in ensuring Portsmouth remains a Tree City.

3. SNEP Update

- The SNEP Network Climate Resiliency Planning and Financing Project kicked off on the 15th.
- The working group will convene every three weeks (except July and August) until the end of next November – after which we will present a Portsmouth specific resiliency focused CIP for your review.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointments:

a. Bristol Ferry Town Common Committee – Motion to reappoint Abigail Brown made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Ryan. 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 Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Butts Hill Fort Committee (non-town committee) Report and Request for Town Council to Re-affirm 2009 Plan. – Motion to re-affirm the 2009 Town Council Vote made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion passed 7-0.
2. Request to Allocate American Rescue Funds to Create a Shop Portsmouth Campaign. – Motion to set aside \$50,000 from the American Rescue Funds made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion passed 6-1. Ms. Ujifusa in dissent.
3. Request Approval of Prudence Island Cistern Project Bid Selection. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.
4. Request for Public Hearing on Proposed Changes to the Town Code, Chapter 124 entitled “Burning, Outdoor”. – Motion to advertise for a Public Hearing on May 24, 2021 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.
5. Presentation and Submission for Review – Town Administrator’s Proposed Budget Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. (Proposed Budget is Available on the Town’s Website or by using the following: [FY 22 Town Administrator's Budget](#))
 - a. Budget – Revenues – Motion to provisionally approve revenues in the amount of \$69,154,575 made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 7-0.

Peddler License – Mobile Food Establishment (MFE), Renewal: (moved from Consent Agenda)

- b. Pete’s Ice Cream, 122 Viking Dr, Portsmouth, RI (#1916) – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0. Mr. Kelly recused.

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

1. Resolution of the Town of Westerly Opposing Senate Bill S-0259 and House Bill H-6067, “An Act Relating to Aeronautics”. / Westerly Town Council
2. Resolution of the Town of Westerly in Opposition to Rhode Island 2021 Gun Control Legislation. / Westerly Town Council

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Apr 27 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting - Budget
Apr 28 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting - Budget
Apr 29 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting - Budget if needed
May 10 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

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

Time: 8:39 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk