

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2022
MINUTES

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

Time: 7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda L. Ujifusa, Daniela T. Abbott, Keith E. Hamilton, Leonard B. Katzman, Andrew V. Kelly and J. Mark Ryan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin M. Aguiar

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 prior to the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to approve as presented made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

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. Brittany Rosenberg d/b/a Sweet B's Donuts, 180 Cottontail Drive, Portsmouth (#2123)
- b. Black Dog Donuts LLC d/b/a Black Dog Donuts, 52 Woody Hill Rd, Exeter (#2124)
- c. Brenda Britt d/b/a Supa Dupa Foods, 1265 Mendon Rd, Woonsocket (#2134)

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. Entertainment License – Fee Waiver Requested:

Portsmouth Portuguese American Citizens Club (PPACC), 35 Power Street, for the St. Anthony Feast, July 14-18, 2022, 8:00am – 1:00am – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Victualler License – Fee Waiver Requested:

Portsmouth Portuguese American Citizens Club (PPACC), 35 Power Street, for the St. Anthony Feast, July 14-18, 2022 – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

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

- a. Joshua Berman d/b/a Little Fish Tacos and Ceviche, 47 Walnut Street
- b. Milk Caffe & Catering d/b/a Milk Caffe, 567 South County Trail #110, Exeter
- c. Domenic Daniel d/b/a The Daily Grind, 654 Central Avenue, Unit 4, Pawtucket

Motion to approve all Mobile Food Establishment Licenses made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

4. Peddler License, Annual:

- a. Opt LLC d/b/a Opt Eyewear Boutique, 138 Wayland Ave, Providence
- b. Lisa Mackey Design, 1005 Main St #116, Pawtucket

Motion to approve both annual licenses made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn as the Board of License Commissioners made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0.

MINUTES – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.
5/23/22

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. Community Electricity Aggregation Plan update – The bid for Community Electricity Aggregation scheduled for last week was postponed. Due to on-going market volatility, we were not going to receive acceptable bids so the decision was made to solicit another procurement in a month.

2. Dog Park grant announcement – The van Beuren Charitable Foundation’s Board of Directors has informed me that at the Foundation’s May 2022 meeting a grant of up to \$170,500, payable to Town of Portsmouth, RI, was approved for expansion of the Portsmouth Dog Park. \$133,100 is for expansion & lighting and \$34,700 is for a parking lot expansion. The parking lot expansion does require a match, which is budgeted for in the Capital Reserve Fund. Andrea Rounds from the Dog Park Committee is here tonight to discuss project details and seek Council approval to work with Town Staff to move forward with the expansion.

3. Collective Bargaining update – During the Budget Meetings in April, we discussed the ongoing collective bargaining negotiations with the Fire Department, Dispatchers, and the Portsmouth Municipal Employees Association. We have since tentatively approved those contracts subject to Council approval. Those contracts will be brought forward for your approval at the next Council meeting.

4. School Bond update – The Town successfully sold its School Bonds through the State agency Rhode Island Health and Educational Building Corporation on Wednesday, June 8. An underwriting group led by UBS Financial Services sold the bonds. RW Baird and AmeriVet, a service-disabled veteran firm, also participated in the sale. The Bonds sold at an interest rate of 3.45%, slightly below the estimated rate of 3.50% used for the voter referendum. While the market has been very volatile, and rates have increased since the beginning of the year, the Town benefited from a recent rally in the municipal market that resulted in a decline in interest rates during the past two weeks of nearly .50%. In connection with the sale, Town officials had a video conference with S&P Global Ratings on May 10th. S&P re-affirmed the Town’s “AAA” rating on May 26th. The Town’s bond counsel will coordinate the signing of bond documents, which should take place the week of June 20th. The bond issue is scheduled to close on June 28th.

5. RI Town & City Clerks’ Association Annual Meeting – On Thursday, June 16th, the Annual RI Clerks’ Association meeting will be held by Portsmouth. Our Town Clerk, Jennifer West, will host the meeting at Greenvale Vineyards and the Council President and I have been invited to share some opening remarks.

6. Juneteenth holiday – Lastly, just a reminder that Town Hall will be closed for the Juneteenth Federal Holiday, which will be observed on Monday, June 20th.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Resignations:

Parks and Recreation Committee – Motion to accept with regret the resignations of Paula Smalec and Jenny Williams made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Appointment:

Economic Development Committee – Motion to appoint Michael L. Mineau made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Solar 101 – The Solar Ordinance Explained. – No votes taken.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request approval of expansion plan for the dog park. – Motion to approve made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Request approval of conceptual design services for the Stone Bridge. – Motion to cancel Request for Quotes (RFQ) and to table the request for approval of conceptual design services for the Stone Bridge made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.
3. Request approval to collaborate with the Bristol Police Department on a one-year pilot program for Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR) to be installed on either side of the Mt. Hope Bridge to aid in suicide prevention. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-1. Ms. Abbott in dissent.
4. Request approval for the use of ARPA funds for a skid pump, portable garage and portable fire pump for Hog Island for a total cost of \$23,252. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.
5. Request Approval to Abate 2009-2010 Delinquent Taxes in the amount of \$26,291.38. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

1. Monthly RIRRC Report. / Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corp.
2. Portsmouth Water and Fire District Quarterly Financial Report Ending April 30, 2022. / N. John Larsen, Portsmouth Water and Fire District
3. Neighborhoods are for neighbors letter. / S. Panaggio
4. Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ending Sept. 30, 2021 and Drinking Water Warning. / Prudence Island Water District

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Jun 15 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting – Budget Hearing (Wednesday) at the Portsmouth Middle School, 125 Jepson Lane
- Jun 27 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
- Jul 11 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
- Jul 25 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting – Motion to cancel the July 25, 2022 meeting made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

Time: 10:00 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk