

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 27, 2022
MINUTES

5:00 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

Time: 5:03 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar, Linda L. Ujifusa, Daniela T. Abbott, Keith E. Hamilton, Leonard B. Katzman and J. Mark Ryan

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Rainer, Lisa Puglia, Raymond McKenna, Michael Ursillo Esq., Chief Paul Ford and Jennifer West

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Gary Gentile Esq. and Ira Summer GovInvest

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion to go into Executive Session under RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) and RIGL §42-46-5 (a)(2) made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

1. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel: Any discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons provided that such person or persons affected shall have been notified in advance in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting. – 1 vote taken.

Time: 5:20 PM Chief Ford arrives.

Time: 5:37 PM Andrew V. Kelly arrives.

2. RIGL §42-46-5 (a)(2) Negotiations – Fire Department – 1 vote taken.
3. RIGL §42-46-5 (a)(2) Negotiations – Fire Dispatchers – 1 vote taken.

Time: 5:45 PM Chief Ford leaves.

4. RIGL §42-46-5 (a)(2) Negotiations – PMEA – 1 vote taken.

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

Time: 5:52 PM

Time: 5:52 PM Mr. Aguiar leaves.

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

Time: 7:03 PM

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Executive Session was held prior to the meeting. 4 votes were taken.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. Proclamation of Appreciation in recognition of retirement of Town Planner Gary Crosby

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to approve as presented made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Dr. Ryan. 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), Renewal:
 - a. Group 21 LLC d/b/a Juice Junkie, PO Box 8569, Cranston, 1 vehicle (#2145)
3. RI Energy Facility Siting Board letter of filing notification to the Town regarding Mayflower Wind Energy LLC's application to construct major energy facilities located in Portsmouth.
4. CRMC – Finding & Notice of Violation 22-0127
Martingale Homes LLC, 12 Ericsson Street, Boston, MA 02122 – Have failed to install the required rain garden at your property located at 111 Berkley Avenue, Portsmouth, Plat 3, Lot 83 in nonconformance with CRMC assent 2021-01-011. Must install the rain garden in accordance with the approved plans by June 30, 2022 to resolve this violation.

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. Weiner Wagon LLC, 250 West Main Road, Middletown (#2138)
 - b. Bem Bom, 212 Cleveland Street, New Bedford, MA (#2142)

Motion to approve both new mobile food licenses made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

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

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Portsmouth Award update – I'd like to thank everyone who took the time to prepare nominations for the annual Portsmouth Award. The nominations are under review and I anticipate presentation of the award at the next Town Council meeting.
2. Opioid litigation update – The Town received a check last week for the settlement proceeds from the Teva/Allergan Opioid Litigation settlement. Portsmouth's share of this settlement amounted to \$73,002.35. Proceeds from the National Opioid Litigation are placed in a special revenue account and can only be dispersed by Council direction for the purpose of addressing opioid abuse. The Town has received approximately \$83K in settlement funds so far.
3. Old Mill Lane update – RI Energy is planning to do some fence and groundwork this summer at the Old Mill Lane Natural Gas injection site. The fence work will include the installation of a permanent fence around the property and the replacement of the existing fence along Old Mill Lane. The new fence along Old Mill Lane will be a solid 8' fence while the remaining fence (sides and back property) will be an 8' tall steel mesh fence. The groundwork will consist of the installation of a permeable ground support system. This will replace the matting system that has been previously used during the winter operations. This work will most likely start in early July (after July 4th) and last approximately 6 weeks (4 weeks for the ground work and 2 for the fence).
4. Automatic License Plate Readers update – I've received a request from a member of the Council to re-address the request 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. Police Chief Peters is unavailable to discuss, so this will be placed on the July 11th agenda.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointments:

a. Pension Investment (Re-Appt.) – Motion to reappoint Jonathan Harris and Steve Senteio made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Monthly Finance Report. – Not vote taken.

2. Final approval of proposed [FY 23 Town Budget](#) (The full budget is available for review on the Town’s website at www.portsmouthri.com)

a. Draft of FY 2023 Budget Ordinance (10)

– Motion to approve as amended made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Solar Ordinance Moratorium. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman. No second made. Motion fails.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request approval for the use of ARPA funds for Prudence Island Water District (PIWD) system upgrades. – Motion to approve \$77,081 from the \$300,000 ARPA money that was set aside made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

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

1. Resolution in Support of Legislation Restoring Funding for the State Aid to Libraries to the Full 25 Percent. / Barrington Town Council

2. Resolution Celebrating the Month of June as Barrington Pride Month, Honoring LGBTQIAP+ Residents and Centering Trans Youth. / Barrington Town Council

3. Public notice of submittal to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office for Coastal Management (OCM) proposed changes to the Federally-approved Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program. Requesting concurrence of OCM the incorporation of CRMC’s recently adopted Rules and Regulations Governing the Protection and Management of Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast. / CRMC

4. Neighborhoods are for neighbors letter. / S. Panaggio

5. Letter re: year-round owner occupied homes. / S. Panaggio

FUTURE MEETINGS

Jul 11 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

Jul 25 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting – CANCELLED

Aug 9 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

Aug 22 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

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

Time: 7:57 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk