

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

6:45 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Andrew V. Kelly

Time: 6:45 PM

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

Time: 6:46 PM Mr. Kelly Enters.

1. RIGL §42-46-5 (a)(2) Collective Bargaining – Fire Department

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

Time: 6:58 PM

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

Time: 7:01 PM

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a Moment of Silence for our men and women serving around the world in harm's way.

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Mr. Aguiar stated that there was one vote taken regarding Fire Department Collective Bargaining. Motion passed 7-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

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. CRMC – Finding & Notice of Violation 19-0158

Amy Ells, P.O. Box 234, Prudence Island – Have undertaken earthwork on, and within 200 feet of, a coastal feature from your property located at 632 Narragansett Ave., Portsmouth, Plat 78, Lot 14 without benefit of a CRMC assent. You have also constructed a dock on the beach without benefit of a CRMC assent.

3. Peddler License – Annual:

Sandra Urban-Lynch d/b/a Sat Nam Togs, 96 Prospect Farm Road (#1548)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman.

Motion passed 7-0.

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. Daily Liquor License, Class F

Island Park Preservation Society, 21 Beach Street, for a Fireworks Fundraiser/Oktoberfest Theme at 706 Park Avenue on October 12, 2019 from 12:00-8:00 pm (#1553)

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

MINUTES

TCM 8/26/19 & Exec. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

TAX VOUCHERS

Request approval for Tax Vouchers #20190909-01 to #20190909-02. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Electronic Waste Day – Our next E-Waste collection will be this Saturday at the Portsmouth High School from 9-12. The event is open to all residents. We've held two so far this year and have collected over 18 tons of e-waste. In addition to the e-waste collection day, we will be collecting hard plastics at the Transfer Station on Saturday, September 21st from 8:00 am to noon. This event is for Transfer Station sticker holders. And, there will be another scrap metal collection event on Saturday, October 5th, in the lower area of the Transfer Station, which will be open to all Portsmouth residents.

2. CIP Status – Each Department Head and Division Managers have met with me to discuss the status of the current CIP and provide input for the rolling five-year CIP. Our next step will be to consolidate the inputs into a draft document for a round of discussions with staff for the purpose of prioritizing our needs. After that, the Finance Director and I will ask for Council input. I anticipate this will be done in October.

3. Mt. Hope Park – DPW has completed work on Mt. Hope Park. As reported previously, our focus was on making the park safe for use. The fence barring entrance has been removed and the park is open for public enjoyment. I'd like to again thank our DPW Department for making this project happen.

4. Financial Audit Status – The audit of our 2018-19 FY commenced today. This week will focus on interviews, gathering of financial statements, and testing of our internal controls and compliance with Government Accounting Standards. Audit field work will take place October 7th through 25th. The auditor is committed to a financial statement delivery date no later than December 31st and a single audit/compliance delivery date no later than March 31st.

Additionally, I received word this morning of an excessive amount of dust being blown off mounds of dirt at Tank Farm 1. I've discussed this with Cornelia Mueller, the Community Planning Liaison Officer at the Naval Station. The mounds are piles of soil which has been decontaminated. As cleanup work has progressed, a contaminate has been discovered which cannot be treated by the current method. Until a solution is developed, the contractor has suspended the cleanup work. We discussed the blowing dust and the Navy has directed the contractor to keep the mounds of soil wet to prevent any further dust from blowing in the vicinity.

And lastly, I'd like to announce that Colonel Brian Peters was sworn in as the Police Chief on Friday, the 6th of September, and he is no longer the interim Police Chief. Congratulations Brian!

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Submission of Stage 1 Necessity of School Construction 5-year plan. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Request approval for bid results for P20-001 (Parks and Recreation Community Needs Survey) recommendation. – Motion to award RFP to the Center for Research and Public Policy made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Coggeshall School proposals. – Motion to delay a decision until the Parks and Recreation Community Needs Survey has been completed and reviewed made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion passed 4-3. Mr. Aguiar, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Hamilton in dissent. Motion to task the Town Administrator and the Solicitor to begin entertaining a proposal and working out an agreement with the Portsmouth Youth Activity Center made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-2. Ms. Ujifusa and Ms. Abbott in dissent.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request approval of Parks and Recreation Committee By-Laws. – Motion to approve made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion to amend Article IV- Meetings, section 1C to change the following sentence from “A determination will be made as to a recommendation for their resignation or termination. Notification will be given to the Town Council of the vacancy.” to “A determination will be made as to a recommendation to be given to the Town Council for their removal. Upon approval of the removal the request will be given to the Town Council to advertise the vacancy” made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0. Main motion passed as amended 7-0.

2. Request permission to conduct the annual fundraiser “Race for Open Space” in Portsmouth on November 2, 2019. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Resolution requesting the State of Rhode Island conduct a safety review of East Main Road with town officials and members of the public and incorporation of green and complete streets policies into town ordinances and the Comprehensive Community Plan. – Motion to approve as amended by Ms. Abbott to her resolution made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 5-2. Mr. Aguiar and Mr. Hamilton in dissent. Motion to send a request to DOT to come and give a presentation on the status of all upgrades on East Main Road and also the Town Center project at our 1st meeting in October, October 15, 2019 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Resolution requesting an update to the Town Center Plan and proposal for a Town Center Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District. – Motion to table to October made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Portsmouth Water and Fire District’s Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending July 31, 2019. – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Sept 14 12:00 PM - Town Council Meeting - Prudence Island (Saturday)

Sept 23 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

Oct 15 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting (Tuesday)

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

Time: 10:10 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk