

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022
MINUTES

6:30 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

Time: 6:34 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar, Daniela T. Abbott, Keith E. Hamilton and Leonard B. Katzman

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion to go into Executive Session under RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1) – Personnel made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 4-0.

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 writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting. – Town Administrator – No votes taken

Time: 6:39 PM Linda L. Ujifusa enters room

Time: 6:52 PM J. Mark Ryan enters room

ADJOURN – Motion to seal the minutes and adjourn to open session made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

Time: 6:55 PM

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

Time: 7:02 PM

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – There were no votes taken during the Executive Session.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. Presentation of the Portsmouth Award to James E. Garman

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to approve as presented made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0. Mr. Kelly not present.

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 – Public Notice 2005-04-071

Sameh & Nancy Said, 14 Honeysuckle Lane, Portsmouth, RI 02871 – for a State of Rhode Island Assent to Modify existing residential boating facility. Modification to include:

Removal of unauthorized stairway adjacent to dock, “as-built” approval of fixed pier extending from platform at top of Coastal Feature (footpath over portion of Feature originally approved).

Time: 7:13 Andrew V. Kelly enters room

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. Request to change Public Hearing for transfer a Class BV Beverage License along with the expansion of service from Bracky Ltd d/b/a CJ’s Pub to Schooners LLC d/b/a Schooners, 568 Park Avenue from October 24 to October 11, 2022. – Motion to approve the request to move the public hearing to October 11, 2022 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

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

MINUTES – Motion to approve as presented made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

8/22/22 & Exec.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. Primary reminder – Tomorrow is the Primary election day. Polls will open at 7:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM. Note that Town Hall is a polling site for District 72, Precinct 2705. I’ve coordinated with the School Administration and directed Town Hall employees to utilize that lot tomorrow so we can keep our lot open for voters.
2. Sidewalk construction outside of Town Hall – Parking at Town Hall is especially tight this election due to the staging area utilized for the construction of a sidewalk and crosswalk adjacent to our building on East Main. This project is part of a RI DOT Highway Safety improvement Program (HSIP) for intersections and crosswalks, which will run through December. The work at Town Hall is due to finish this week.
3. Glen Manor House contract update – We are nearing completion of our negotiation with Russell Morin for the continuation of operations at the Glen Manor House after Katie and Don retire on December 31st. We hope to bring the proposed contract to the Council for approval at one of the next two Council meetings.
4. Transfer Station update – The current contract for operation of the Hedly Street Transfer Station expires June 30th of next year. A request for proposals for curbside collection and transportation of residential refuse, recyclables, yard waste, and bulky waste was released on August 8th. Bid proposals are due this Friday, September 16th. After review and analysis of the bid proposals, we will present to the Council a comparison of costs between continued operations of the Hedly Street Transfer Station vs Curbside pickup. Our goal is to present that to you at the next Council meeting on September 26th.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointment:

- a. Melville Park Committee (Re-App) – Motion to reappoint Raymond Abraham made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Ratification of Fire contract. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.
2. Resolution regarding the installation of the Mayflower Sakonnet River transmission cable. – Motion to approve made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH, RI
RESOLUTION # 2022-09-12

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH REGARDING THE INSTALLATION OF THE MAYFLOWER
SAKONNET RIVER TRANSMISSION CABLE

WHEREAS, the Council agrees with the need to reduce our carbon footprint and increase the use of renewable energy sources like wind and solar; and

WHEREAS, Portsmouth has been a leader in the renewable energy production as recognized by facilitating the construction and operation of the first municipal wind turbine in RI; and

WHEREAS, Mayflower Wind Energy LLC has filed an application for a license with the Rhode Island Energy Facilities Siting Board with a proposed transmission cable route across the Town of Portsmouth (EFSB Docket No. SB-2022-02); and

WHEREAS, the current design of the Mayflower transmission facilities proposal has not been fully evaluated by the Town or the EFSB and will require further review and consideration by the Town and the relevant State and local agencies, to assess, among other things, the impact of the transmission facilities on the Town’s utilities, public resources, environmental and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Town has limited energy infrastructure that will need to be assessed for impacts and/or coordination with any transmission facilities that are being considered by the EFSB; and

WHEREAS, the Town will likely be asked to provide the EFSB with Advisory Opinions from Town boards and officials, as well as this Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council intends to further review and conduct due diligence to fully evaluate the Mayflower Wind proposal, its impacts on the Town and to assess the costs and benefits associated with this project, so as to establish the Town’s position on this project in order to advise the EFSB at the appropriate time in their proceedings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the hiring of legal services and consultants deemed necessary to help protect the interests of the Town and to protect its property, its natural resources and its citizens.

Adopted this 12th day of September 2022.

Kevin M. Aguiar, President
Portsmouth Town Council

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Appeal decision by DPW to deny curb cut at 2984 East Main Road. – Motion allowing for the curb cut provided that, Mr. Hayes works with Mr. Woodhead (DPW director), Chief Peters (PPD) and Ms. Hitchen (Town Planner) to design the area in concert with the existing infrastructure and repair the Town property that is currently there. The entrance is to be on East Main Road and the exit on Patriots way. The applicant needs to provide an adequate engineered parking plan which shows the number of parking spaces for Mr. Woodhead to review, and if acceptable will be approved. If there is an impasse, it will come back to the Council. Motion made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.
2. Ratification of appointment of Finance Director. – Motion to ratify the appointment of Ryan Kilpatrick as the Finance Director made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 7-0.
3. Request ARPA funding in the amount of \$13,608.23 to purchase a LUCAS Chest Compression

System for the Prudence Island Volunteer Fire Department. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

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

1. Monthly RIRRC Report. / Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corp.
2. Thank you from Clean Ocean Access. / P. Cook, Executive Director
3. Portsmouth Water and Fire District Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending July 31, 2022. / N. J. Larsen, Senior Accountant
4. Drinking water warning, deficiencies in water system. / Prudence Island Water District
5. J. Clement Cicilline appointed to serve as the representative of the Newport County Branch – NAACP on the Black Regiment Monument Commission. / J. Winters, President
6. Invitation to “Walking the Battlefield” event at Heritage Park. / Portsmouth Conservation Commission
7. Resolution designating September 24th 2022 as the first Coventry Community Wellness Day. / Coventry Town Council

FUTURE MEETINGS

Sep 26 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
Oct 11 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting (Tuesday)
Oct 24 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

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

Time: 8:23 PM

Jennifer M. West, CMC, Town Clerk