

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 11, 2019 MINUTES

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar, Linda L. Ujifusa, J. Mark Ryan, Leonard B. Katzman, Andrew V. Kelly and Daniela T. Abbott

Time: 7:00 pm

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cub Scout Pack 82 and was followed by a Moment of Silence for our men and women serving around the world in harm's way.

Time: 7:01 pm Keith E. Hamilton enters the room.

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – There was no Executive Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Bills – Motion to receive and place on file made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Abbott. 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. Entertainment License

St. Barnabas Church, Annual Festival & Carnival, 1697 East Main Rd, June 21-23, 2019
(#1408) – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0

2. Class F Daily Liquor License

St. Barnabas Church, Annual Festival & Carnival, 1697 East Main Rd, June 21-23, 2019
(#1408) – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0

3. Victualler License – Specific Event With Fee Waiver Request

St. Barnabas Church, Annual Festival & Carnival, 1697 East Main Rd, June 21-23, 2019
(#1409) – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0

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

MINUTES

TCM 1/7/19

TCM 1/28/19 – Motion to approve the TCM for 1/7/19 and 1/28/19 made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion passed 7-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Report on Police safety grant – The Police Department was notified last week that their application for the RI Interlocal Risk Management Trust's Safety Enhancement Grant was approved. The Trust has awarded the Police approximately \$1000.00 for the purchase of traffic safety equipment.
2. Update on Coggeshall School building RFP – Bids for a Concession Agreement for Operation and Maintenance of the Portsmouth Coggeshall School Property were opened on January 30th. Since this was a Request for Proposals (RFP), not a Request for Quotes (RFQ), responses will be evaluated based on the relative merits of the proposal, in addition to cost. As such there was no public opening and reading of responses received by the Town pursuant to this solicitation, other than to name those offerors who have submitted proposals. The following responses to the RFP were opened: Portsmouth Youth Activities Center; Common Fence Point Improvement Association and the Newport County YMCA; The PLACE – Arts and Wellness Collaborative. We intend to present our evaluation of the proposals to the Council at your next meeting.
3. Report on Staff Disaster/Catastrophe Readiness training – Last week the Staff received Disaster Preparedness and Family Readiness training sponsored by the Safety Committee and presented by our EMA Director, Ray Perry. The training was aimed at presenting the staff guidance on how to prepare to meet the needs of both their families and our community should we face a disaster or catastrophic event. Training for elected officials will be offered later this year.
4. Police building construction update – We are entering the final few weeks of construction of the new Police Station. There are no changes from the last report regarding the budget and we are still on track to start moving in March 1st. Since the last report: the building now has full power and water; detention area steel doors and metal bed inserts are being installed and will be completed by end of the week; flooring installation on the second floor is complete; and the emergency generator has been installed and will be load tested this week.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Resignation:
 - a. Board of Canvassers – Motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Glenn Allen with thanks and regrets made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 7-0.
2. Appointments:
 - a. Conservation Commission – Motion to appoint Marybeth Clark made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion passed 7-0.
 - b. Dog Park Operating Committee – Motion to appoint Mil Kinsella made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Glen Manor House. – Motion to accept Mr. Rainer's recommendation to negotiate a contract with the current managers pursuant to the recommendation of the Glen Manor House Authority made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request to change the date that Commercial Mooring late fees are charged from March 15 to May

1. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.
2. “Evaluation of Hurricane Preparedness Outreach Brochure” project. – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.
3. Request approval to amend resolution #2018-02-12 – Exemption from Taxation of the Real Estate of Certain Income Eligible Senior Citizens. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH, RI
RESOLUTION # 2019-02-11 C

Exemption from Taxation of the Real Estate of
Certain Income Eligible Senior Citizens

<u>IF YOUR INCOME IS:</u>	<u>YOUR EXEMPTION IS:</u>																																													
<u>(DEC. 2018)</u>	<u>2019 TAX ROLL</u>																																													
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APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL
ACTION ON February 11, 2019

Kevin M. Aguiar, President
Portsmouth Town Council

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk

Time: 7:22 pm, Mr. Aguiar recused himself from agenda items 4a and 4b. Ms. Ujifusa presides.

4. Request approval for resolutions to the Rhode Island DOT. / D. Abbott (5)
 - a. Reject the cuts proposed to the Transportation Alternatives Program in Major Amendment #11 (R 2019-02-11A) – Motion to approve made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0-1. Mr. Aguiar recused.

**TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH, RI
RESOLUTION # 2019-02-11A**

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE RIDOT TO REJECT THE PROPOSED CUTS TO THE
TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)

WHEREAS, Major Amendment #11 to the State Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) presented by RIDOT to the State Transportation Advisory Committee on January 24th includes a 33% cut to Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) projects over four years, which includes bicycle, pedestrian, and road safety projects; and

WHEREAS, TAP projects comprise 23% of the state’s proposed transportation budget cuts but only 2.5% of the state’s approved transportation budget; and

WHEREAS, the 35 projects statewide proposed to be reduced or eliminated include Aquidneck Island Bikeway Melville Connector (\$2.16M), the Mount Hope Bay Bike Improvements (\$160k), and the East Main Road Shared Use Path (\$3M); and

WHEREAS, 20% of the statewide TAP reduction comes from eliminating bicycle and pedestrian projects in Portsmouth that are considered by this Council as urgent and long overdue improvements to road user safety; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Amendment eliminates a \$5M Bicycle Improvements Contingency Account funded by the 2016 Green Economy Bond, which was approved by 68% of voters, and such funds should not be redirected to highway or any project not part of the voter-approved bond; and

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Town Council believes that improvements to road user safety in our community are requirements for a safe, healthy community and economy; and

WHEREAS, the TIP process is designed for the state and municipalities to work together to strategically plan use of transportation funds and this relatively sudden and unexplained proposal dismisses significant prior work by municipal staff and contractors.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Portsmouth Town Council requests that the Transportation Advisory Committee and the State Planning Council reject the proposed TIP Amendment #11 and requests that the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) address the transportation budget shortfall within the more robust highway and pavement projects and leave the already underfunded Transportation Alternative Program intact. Furthermore, we request that RIDOT consider every road project a Complete Streets project, and work to maximize the safety of all road users by accounting for motorized traffic, bicycles, and pedestrians in every road design.

LET IT BE KNOWN, that this resolution was passed and adopted by the Portsmouth Town Council on 11th day of February, 2019.

Linda Ujifusa, Vice-President
Portsmouth Town Council
ATTEST: _____
Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk

b. Reject proposed delays to STIP Project ID 1379 and 1380 (R 2019-02-11B) – Motion to approve made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0-1. Mr. Aguiar recused.

**TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH, RI
RESOLUTION # 2019-02-11B**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE RIDOT TO REJECT PROPOSED DELAYS TO
STIP PROJECT ID 1379 AND 1380 IN PORTSMOUTH**

WHEREAS, Major Amendment #11 to the State Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) presented by RIDOT to the State Transportation Advisory Committee on January 24th proposes delaying STIP ID 1379 until 2027 and ID 1380 until 2024; and

WHEREAS, these projects include resurfacing, sidewalk installation, and other essential improvements to East Main Road in Portsmouth; and

WHEREAS, East Main Road is one of two main roads in Portsmouth, and a major thoroughfare for Middletown and Newport and is rapidly and dangerously deteriorating; and

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Town Council believes that improvements to East Main Road are critical to the safety and wellbeing of our community and economy; and

WHEREAS, these projects have already been delayed for many years and are long overdue, and the Portsmouth Town Council believes that the service life of East Main Road will expire before the new proposed project start date; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 there were 180 accidents on East Main Road, or roughly one accident every other day, putting far too many lives in danger and consuming significant resources for our town.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Portsmouth Town Council requests that the Transportation Advisory Committee and the State Planning Council reject the proposed TIP Amendment #11 and requests that the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) maintain STIP funding for East Main Road projects (ID 1379 & 1380) as they are currently scheduled, with completion in 2022. Furthermore, we request that RIDOT consider every road project a Complete Streets project, and work to maximize the safety of all road users by accounting for motorized traffic, bicycles, and pedestrians in every road design.

LET IT BE KNOWN that this resolution was passed and adopted by the Portsmouth Town Council on 11th day of February 2019.

Linda Ujifusa, Vice-President

Portsmouth Town Council
 ATTEST: _____
 Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk

Motion made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Abbott to have both resolutions sent to all members of the State Legislation and Town Officials throughout the State. Motion passed 6-0-1. Mr. Aguiar recused.

Time: 7:30 pm, Mr. Aguiar returns.

5. Request approval of guidelines for:

a. Town Council agenda items – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

b. Public comment on Town Council agenda items – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion to amend the motion to leave the 3-minute guideline up to the discretion of the Council President made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Amended motion fails 3-4. Ms. Ujifusa, Ms. Abbott, Dr. Ryan, and Mr. Katzman against. Main motion passed 4-3. Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Aguiar against.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Request the Town consider contracting with a parking lot in Bristol to meet the needs of visitors and residents of Prudence Island. – Motion made by Mr. Kelly to move from correspondence and place on the agenda for the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.
 2. Request to support soon-to-be proposed legislation re: The Energy Facility Siting Act. / L. Phaneuf, Burrillville Town Clerk
 3. Request for response re: interest in State financial support to education. / F. Landolfi, President, Hopkinton Town Council
 4. Invitation to a celebration for 125 years of Grange activities in Portsmouth on April 4, 2019 at 7:00 pm. / Portsmouth Grange # 29 Patrons of Husbandry
 5. Monthly RIRRC Report. / R. Antaya
 6. Letter to the House Committee on Labor, RI General Assembly, re: Perpetual Contracts. / R. Silvia, President, Middletown Town Council
 7. AIPC FY19 Q1 Report. / J. Shea, Executive Director, AIPC
- Motion to receive and place on file correspondence items 2-7 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 7-0.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Feb 25 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting
 Mar 11 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting
 Mar 25 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

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

Time: 8:50 pm

 Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk