

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 10, 2021
MINUTES

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda L. Ujifusa and Andrew V. Kelly in Town Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT BY ZOOM: Linda L. Ujifusa, Michael Buddemeyer, Keith E. Hamilton and J. Mark Ryan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin M. Aguiar

Time: 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Time: 7:02 PM Daniela T. Abbott arrives via Zoom

Motion by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton to add an informational presentation by Mr. Brian Hogan from CommerceRI regarding PPP and the current Small Business Relief Grants to New Business. Motion passed 6-0. Motion to move New Business number 4 before Old Business number 1 made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. Proclamation in Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Portsmouth Police Department
2. Proclamation of Appreciation and Thanks to the City Council of Portsmouth, United Kingdom and Its Citizens

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to approve as presented made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton.

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. Hawaiian Jim Shave Ice & Co. II, 144 Greystone Terrace, Portsmouth, 1 truck (#1917)
 - b. Longade LLC d/b/a Del’s Lemonade, 729 West Main Rd, Middletown, 1 truck, 1 cart (#1918)
 - c. The Ish LLC, 56 Hawthorne St, North Providence, 1 truck (#1919)

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. Class F Daily Liquor License

St. Barnabas Church, Annual Festival & Carnival, 1697 East Main Rd, Aug. 20-22, 2021 (#1698) – Motion to approve all three of St. Barnabas’ license requests made by Mr.

Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0

2. Entertainment License

St. Barnabas Church, Annual Festival & Carnival, 1697 East Main Rd, Aug. 20-22, 2021 (#1698)

3. Victualler License – Specific Event With Fee Waiver Request

St. Barnabas Church, Annual Festival & Carnival, 1697 East Main Rd, Aug. 20-22, 2021 (#1699)

4. Peddler License - Mobile Food Establishment (MFE) New:

a. My Bros’ Gyros, 159 Stoneham Dr, Woonsocket, 1 truck (#1920)

b. Kona Ice Cumberland RI, Inc., 277 York Ave, Pawtucket, 1 truck (#1921) – Motion to approve both peddler licenses made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0.

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

MINUTES – Motion to approve all minutes made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0

4/26/21

4/27/21

4/28/21

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. Covid-19 Update

- Just a reminder that capacity limits have increased for a number of different venues -- generally 80% of capacity with a 3-foot distancing requirement. An overview is available at the RI DOH or Portsmouth websites.
- Fully vaccinated people no longer have to wear a mask outdoors when they are at least three feet apart from others. Fully vaccinated means you’ve gotten all recommended doses of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or World Health Organization (WHO) and more than 14 days have passed since the final dose.
 - Someone is considered fully vaccinated 14 days after their final recommended dose. A crowded setting is defined as one where someone cannot consistently maintain three feet of distance.
 - People still need to wear masks when indoors in public settings. Additionally, people should keep their groups consistent and avoid crowds whenever possible.
- Lastly – I want to thank the Volunteers who have stepped up to help support the High School Vaccination Clinic. This was organized in record time and could not have been executed without their tireless support. The first doses were administered last Friday and second doses will be administered on May 28th, from 12 noon to 5 PM.

2. West Main Road Safety Assessment Update

- RIDOT and FHWA, through the RI Highway Safety Improvement Program, are planning a Road Safety Assessment (RSA) along West Main Road in Portsmouth, which will include multiple intersections between Route 24 and the Middletown Town Line. This roadway segment was chosen for an RSA due to observed speeding issues, its crash history, and due to a request from the Portsmouth Police Department and Town Council. The outcome from this RSA could lead to improvements through RIDOT over the next few years
- We would like to solicit input from the public, which we will pass on to the assessment team. Information and a link to an email address for this purpose will be advertised on the Town website starting tomorrow afternoon.

3. Linden Lane Stone Wall Update

- We look forward to continuing the Linden Lane Stone Wall repair program again this year. We are tentatively planning on a Tuesday through Saturday schedule beginning with a training workshop on July 13 from 9AM-5PM. Regular weekday shifts will be from 9AM-12PM and then 12:30PM-3:30PM. The second training workshop will be on July 17 from 9AM-5PM. We expect this to be a consistent group that will likely only work Saturdays (based on their availability). On the non-training Saturdays, the schedule will be 9AM-2PM and we will expect the volunteers to stay for the duration of that time. The program will end on August 28, and the only Saturday we anticipate not working on site will be August 21.
- We will meet with Preserve RI this week to firm up the schedule and coordinate a plan to reach out to previous volunteers and determine if and how many new volunteers can be added.
- More information will be posted to our website as it becomes available.

4. Portsmouth Award

- It is time again for Portsmouth to solicit nominations for the annual Portsmouth Award.
- This award is an annual recognition for an individual, a local business or an organization, that exemplifies the best characteristics of and for Portsmouth:
 - Consistently demonstrated excellence in professional and community leadership;
 - Exhibited outstanding initiative, inspiration, leadership and organizational skills which produced significant results directly benefiting the community and its citizens;
 - Made, or is making, significant contributions to the welfare of the community through involvement and participation; and
 - Given freely of their time and energy for the betterment of our community.
- Details will be posted on the Town website and in a press release to be issued this week.
- Nominations will be due May 31st.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Resignations: - Motion accept with regret made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0.

- a. Housing Authority, Solid Waste and Recycling and Economic Development – M. Credle

2. Appointments:

a. Bristol Ferry Town Common Committee - (Re-Appt.) – M. Elliott, R. Sears, N. Smith – Motion to reappoint all to the Bristol Ferry Town Common Committee made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

b. Melville Park Committee – Motion to appoint Erin Felder made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Proposed changes and revised provisional budget approval of the Town Administrator’s Budget.
- Motion to provisionally approve \$275,877 for the Information Technology budget made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0. Motion to provisionally approve the Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$300,000 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 6-0. Motion to provisionally approve the Town Contingency in the amount of \$49,727 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0. Motion to \$30,000 from the DPW Maintenance Ground line item and move it to the new Police line item School Safety Zone Enforcement made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Buddemeyer. Motion passed 5-1. Ms. Abbott in dissent. Motion to provisionally approve the DPW budget in the amount of \$3,026,744 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Buddemeyer. Motion passed 5-1. Ms. Abbott in dissent. Motion to provisionally approve the Police budget in the amount of \$7,198,471 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Buddemeyer. Motion passed 5-1. Ms. Abbott in dissent. Motion to provisionally approve the total DPW budget in the amount of \$4,087,109 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Buddemeyer. Motion passed 5-1. Ms. Abbott in dissent. Motion to provisionally approve of total Town revenues and expenditures in the of \$69,740, 575 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

Proposed Budget is Available on the Town’s Website or by using the following:

[FY 22 Town Administrator's Budget](#)

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Presentation from the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) Concerning Bus Shelters.
- Motion to move New Business 1 and 2 to the May 24, 2021 meeting made by
2. Resolution on RIPTA Bus Shelter. / A. Kelly (5)
3. Request Approval to Award the 2021-2022 Paving Contract. Motion to award PJ Keating, Inc. the 2021-2022 Road Paving Contract made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. 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 of the Town of Burrillville Legalization of Adult Recreation Use of Marijuana. / Burrillville Town Council
2. Resolution of the Town of Burrillville Request to Waive the Local Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Requirements for Schools. / Burrillville Town Council
3. Resolution Expressing Support for a Moratorium on the Expansion of Charter Schools Bill H-5193. / Smithfield School Committee
4. Smithfield School Committee Resolution on Gun Free Schools Bill H-5555. / Smithfield School Committee
5. Smithfield School Committee Resolution Expressing Support for the State Reimbursement of Transportation Services Cost For Public and Private School Pupils Bill H-6030. / Smithfield School Committee
6. Monthly RIRRC Report. / R. Antaya

FUTURE MEETINGS

- May 17 7:00 PM – Comprehensive Comp. Plan Public Hearing
- May 18 7:00 PM – Comprehensive Comp. Plan Public Hearing (continued if needed)
- May 19 7:00 PM – Comprehensive Comp. Plan Public Hearing (continued if needed)
- May 20 7:00 PM – Comprehensive Comp. Plan Public Hearing (continued if needed)
- May 24 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
- Jun 09 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting – Budget Hearing (Wednesday)
- Jun 14 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

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

Time: 8:04 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk