

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 6, 2020 MINUTES

On April 6, 2020, the Portsmouth Town Council meeting at 7:00 PM will be live streamed on the web and by phone dial-in using the Zoom remote meeting service. Please note that any displayed documentation during the meeting will be visible through the web or mobile device but will not be visible using the phone dial-in option.

To access the meeting by phone dial-in, please dial: 1-888-788-0099

Once prompted for the meeting ID, please dial: 677-580-327

NOTE: The meeting ID changes for every scheduled meeting. The above ID is for the meeting scheduled 4/6/2020. To find the latest ID for a scheduled Town Council meeting, please visit the Town Hall for posted notification of upcoming meetings or visit the below web link.

Once prompted for a participant ID, dial # again.

You will now be in the meeting.

While in the audio conference, to raise your hand to ask a question, dial *9 and the host will be notified of your interest to ask a question.

To access the meeting through the web using a computer or mobile device, go to the following web link in any browser (i.e. Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, etc.) to run the Zoom app and view the meeting:

<https://livestream.portsmouthri.com/towncouncil>

Using your laptop or mobile device, you can raise your hand to ask a question, or pose the question in the moderated Question and Answering chat window. The host will then be able to respond to your raised hand or Q&A question.

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

Time: 7:00PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call – MEMBERS PRESENT at Town Hall: Kevin M. Aguiar

MEMBERS PRESENT by Zoom Virtual Video Conference due to COVID 19: Linda L. Ujifusa, J. Mark Ryan, Keith E. Hamilton, Leonard B. Katzman, Andrew V. Kelly and Daniela T. Abbott

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Mr. Aguiar thanked the Town Administrator, all department heads and the EOC volunteers for the long days they have put in to help protect and inform the Town residents.

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

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:
Greenwich Bay Oyster Bar Catering LLC, 52 Bald Hill Rd, Cranston, 1 vehicle (#1697)
3. CRMC – PUBLIC NOTICE:
An Application of Brian & Jennifer Shepherd, 15 Hammel Court, Portsmouth, RI 02871, for a State of RI Assent to construct and maintain: add a boat lift to the north side of a CRMC approved residential boating facility. Project Location: 15 Hammel Court.
4. CRMC – PUBLIC NOTICE:
An Application of Seaconnet Sportsmans Club, 145 Sakonnet Drive, Portsmouth, RI 02871, for a State of RI Assent to construct and maintain: A riprap seawall as per plans submitted. Project Location: 145 Sakonnet Drive.
5. CRMC has granted an interim approval for the Town of Portsmouth Harbor Management Plan.

MINUTES – Motion to approve, 3/9 as amended, made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

TCM 3/9/20

TCM 3/16/20

TAX VOUCHERS

Request approval for Tax Vouchers #20200406-01 to #20200406-04. – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. COVID-19 report – As everyone is aware, RI is under a stay at home order. And, as the crisis drags on and the weather gets nicer, it will be tempting to lower our guard and try to get back to our normal lives. However, we can only begin to return to work and school and open our economy if we all remain at home, keep our distance from each other, limit our contacts, and stay home if we are sick. Please keep in mind the first responders and healthcare workers who are on the front lines of this fight. Every time you put your own health at risk, you are putting their health at risk as well. Thank you to the vast majority of our residents who are following these critical directives. As a reminder, state parks and beaches are closed. Portsmouth playgrounds are closed but Portsmouth Parks remain open. We encourage residents to get out and walk our parks and we can continue to do so only if everyone follows the rules. Since the very start of the crises we have endeavored to do everything we can to keep our residents informed, and accurately assess the impact of COVID-19 on our community and provide information and assistance for families and businesses. Our recent initiatives include the set-up of a Portsmouth Foodbank, a Wellness Check survey of every Portsmouth Household, and the solicitation and procurement of PPE for our first responders. Information is updated every day on our website and I encourage everyone to check it out. Once there, you will find information covering everything from unemployment benefit information and small business loan programs to mental health resources and cloth face masks. Most importantly, I want everyone to know your Portsmouth staff are here to help. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need help, and thank you for your patience, support and cooperation during this unprecedented time.
2. Budget status – The proposed budget is ready for your review and has been posted on the Town's website. Town Council binders are available for pick-up at the Police Station. I hope you will forgive the delay in turning it over to you for your review, but I think you understand it was necessary to take a little more time to prepare it due to our current circumstances. Additionally, as noted in the correspondence included in the agenda for tonight, CRMC has granted interim approval of our Harbor Management Plan (HMP). However, the Army Corps of Engineers

(ACOE) is currently developing a new policy for HMP reviews so CRMC is providing a one-year interim approval for the HMP to be extended as necessary to accommodate the ACOE.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Resignations:

a. Housing Authority – Motion to accept with regret Ken Jones’ resignation made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

b. Solid Waste and Recycling Committee – Motion to accept with regret Mike Eyre’s resignation made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Appointments:

a. Agriculture Committee

b. Conservation Commission – Motion to appoint Jeffrey Reise to both the Agricultural Committee and Conservation Commission made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

c. Planning Board – Motion to appoint Seth Pilotte to the Planning Board made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Monthly finance report. – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. PUBLIC HEARING: To consider the proposed amendment to Chapter 405 of the Zoning Ordinance to include a Solar Ordinance. Request postponement to May 11. – Mr. Aguiar opened the Public Hearing. Motion to continue the Public Hearing to May 11 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Approval of an ordinance temporarily suspending enforcement of Chapter 326 Article VI: Plastic Bags of the Portsmouth Town Code. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 4-3. Ms. Ujifusa, Ms. Abbott and Dr. Ryan in dissent.

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

1. Monthly RIRRC Report. / R. Antaya

2. Resolution to support bills 2020-H7430, 2020-H7480, 2020-S2285 to move the Primary elections to Wednesday, if it is held the same week as Labor Day. / Hopkinton Town Council

3. Resolution to support bills 2020-H7430, 2020-H7480, 2020-S2285 to move the Primary elections to Wednesday, if it is held the same week as Labor Day. / Warren Town Council

4. Resolution to support bills 2020-H7430, 2020-H7480, 2020-S2285 to move the Primary elections to Wednesday, if it is held the same week as Labor Day. / South Kingstown Town Council

5. Resolution to support bills 2020-H7430, 2020-H7480, 2020-S2285 to move the Primary elections to Wednesday, if it is held the same week as Labor Day. / Charlestown Town Council

6. Resolution in support of 2020-H7755 and S2756 an act relating to criminal offenses, trespass, vandalism. / Charlestown Town Council

7. Resolution in support of legislation to establish an Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund (OSCAR). / Charlestown Town Council

8. Invitation to join Providence in participating in Community Choice Electricity Aggregation (CCA) buying group. / J. Rhodes, Sales Manager, Good Energy, LP

FUTURE MEETINGS

Apr 20 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting: Budget – Overview

Apr 21 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting: Budget – Discussion on Revenue, Town and School Expenditures

Apr 22 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting: Budget – Continuation of Budget Discussion as needed

Apr 23 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting: Budget – Continuation of Budget Discussion as needed

May 11 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

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

Time: 7:40 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk