

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 26, 2020 (TUESDAY) MINUTES

On May 26, 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.

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

Time: 7:03 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin M. Aguiar in Town Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT BY ZOOM: Linda L. Ujifusa, J. Mark Ryan, Keith E. Hamilton, Leonard B. Katzman, Andrew V. Kelly, Daniela T. Abbott

STAFF PRESENT: Richard Rainer and Jennifer West in Town Council Chambers

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. 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:

McGrath Clambakes, Inc., 64 Halsey St #5, Newport (#1707)

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 approval for a temporary seasonal expansion of the service area:

Smith Harbor House, LLC d/b/a 15 Point Road Restaurant, 15 Point Rd, to allow food and alcohol service in an additional outside dining area from May 27 to October 15 – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Holiday License – Annual NEW:

Smokey's Gallery LLC d/b/a Smaller State Smoke Shop, 1627 West Main Rd Unit 3 – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

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

MINUTES

TCM 5/11/20 & Exec. – Motion to receive as presented made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. COVID update – This weekend marked the unofficial start of summer. While spring and summer will be different due to COVID-19, it's my hope that our residents will still enjoy the best our community has to

offer. We can do this in a safe way by keeping our groups small, wearing face coverings, avoiding large crowds, and constantly washing our hands. We are halfway through Phase 1 of our State's reopening and a week away from the beginning of Phase 2. In Phase 2, we expect to see a greater relaxation of the restrictions and guidelines currently in place. Highlights of Phase 2 include: Social gatherings limited to 15 people; Domestic travel restrictions relaxed. 14-day quarantine remains only for those returning to RI from an area still under stay at home restrictions; Office-based businesses can allow up to 33% of their workforce to return, if viewed as necessary. Everyone who can work from home should continue working from home; All state parks and beaches will be open with capacity limitations and social distancing restrictions; Houses of worship can reopen at up to 25% capacity with restrictions; Non-critical retailers can further relax restrictions to allow for more customers in their stores. Malls can reopen with restrictions; Restaurants will be allowed to begin indoor dining at up to 50% capacity and other restrictions; Haircare & personal services including barbershops, salons, braiders, nail care, waxing, tanning, massage, and tattoo services reopen with restrictions; Gyms, fitness studios, and small group fitness classes allowed to reopen with restrictions; Outdoor entertainment and recreation activities (zoo & outdoor areas of historical sites) allowed to resume on a limited basis; Childcare services to resume June 1; Summer camps can resume June 29 with restrictions. Please monitor our Town Website for more information; and again, thank you for your support and cooperation during this unprecedented time.

2. Portsmouth Award – I'd just like to remind everyone again that throughout this month, the Town will be seeking nominations for the annual "Portsmouth Award." More information is available under the News and Announcements section of the front page of our website. Nominations will be accepted through this Friday, May 29th.

3. PHS Graduation – We have been working with the School Department to execute an alternative style graduation ceremony for the graduating senior class which complies with State and RIDE Guidelines. So far: Commencement on June 5th, "Drive-In" style at the Polo Grounds; Film to be shown on the Jumbotron and via Zoom; Virtual "stage crossing"; Pre-recorded speeches; Diplomas to be handed out on June 6th; Invitation only; Police, fire and DPW support. Final details are being worked out and will be disseminated by the School Department.

4. Stone Wall Initiative – Due to COVID, we have had to alter some of the arrangements we were planning on with respect to the Stone Wall refurbishment project this summer at the Glenn Farm area. We are still moving forward and will hold a two-day workshop for volunteers on July 13-14. Limit the volunteers to 16. They will be divided for the training workshop into two sets – with an instructor (or two), that's 9-10 people per set. We will have three instructors. All training and work will adhere to current COVID guidelines. Stone wall repair begins Wednesday (July 15) and will end Sept 4th (so 7 weeks inclusive of the workshop). We'll schedule the volunteers for morning and afternoon shifts, with a maximum of four people per any four-hour session.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request approval to award the 2020-2021 paving contract. – Motion to award Pawtucket Hot Mix Asphalt, Inc. the 2020-2021 paving contract in the amount of \$443,300 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

2. 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. Request approval to use the donation for the Post Prom Event for a one-year Reunion Celebration event to be held on July 14, 2021. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 7-0.

2. To approve curative ordinance reinstating Senior Citizen Tax Exemption. – Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Resolution in support for funding of the categorical fund for high cost special education. – Motion to approve New Business 3, New Business 4 and New Business 5, mirroring our School Departments letter of support, made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.
4. Resolution in support for funding of RIDE transportation offset ESSA.
5. Resolution urging the continued appropriation of state and local revenues to support public education.
6. Determine operating and implementation guidelines for Sandy Point and McCorrie Point Beaches. – Mr. Hamilton requested to have item placed on the June 8, 2020 agenda. No votes taken.

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

1. Resolution recognizing June as Barrington Pride Month. / Barrington Town Council
2. Invitation to the 7th Annual “Rock the Mansion” to Benefit Newport Mental Health on Thursday, October 8 from 6:00 – 10:00 pm at Ocean Cliff, Newport. / Newport Mental Health
3. Resolution in support for funding of the categorical fund for high cost special education. / Smithfield School Department
4. Resolution in support for funding of RIDE transportation offset ESSA. / Smithfield School Dept.
5. Letter encouraging the Council to conduct a budget hearing that is open to the people. / L. Fitzmorris, Portsmouth Concerned Citizens

FUTURE MEETINGS

June 8 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting
June 10 7:00 PM - Public Budget Hearing (Wednesday)
June 24 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting & Adoption of FY 2020-21 Budget

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

Time: 7:49 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk