

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2020 MINUTES

On June 8, 2020, the Portsmouth Town Council met in Executive Session at 6:30 PM. At 7:00 PM, the Portsmouth Town Council Meeting was live streamed on the web and by phone dial-in using the Zoom remote meeting service due to Covid-19 and the Governor's Executive order on social distancing and gatherings of no more than 5 people.

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

STAFF PRESENT BY ZOOM: Lisa Puglia, Brian Peters

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

Time: 6:38 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion to go into Executive Session under RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

1. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation. One vote taken. Motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn and return to Open Session made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Ujifusa. Motion passed 7-0.

Time: 6:47 PM

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

Time: 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – One vote was taken during the Executive Session held prior to the start of this meeting. Motion passed 7-0. Mr. Aguiar also took a moment to congratulate the Portsmouth High School Class of 2020 on their graduation last Friday. He thanked the school administration, Newport Polo and all of the families who helped to make the night a success during a difficult time.

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:
Longade LLC d/b/a Del's Lemonade, 729 West Main Rd, Middletown, 1 truck, 1 cart
(#1714)

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 from the Island Park Preservation Society, 21 Beach Street, to reschedule the date of the approved Class F1 Daily Liquor License for an Easter Brunch on April 12 (cancelled due to COVID-19) to June 21, 2020, for a Father's Day event at Thriving Tree Coffee House, 706 Park Avenue from 9:00 am-8:00 pm (#1675) – Motion to approve made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 7-0.
2. Peddler License - Mobile Food Establishment (MFE), New:
Derek Ardito d/b/a Mooseman's Kettle Corn, 87 Van Zandt Ave, Newport, 1 vehicle (#1715)
– Motion to approve made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

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

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

TCM 5/20/20

TCM 5/26/20

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Police grant – The Police Dept. has been approved to receive a grant from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation. The grant award, in the amount of \$5,530, will fund installation of handicapped accessible hardware for the front doors to the police station. There are no matching funds required.
2. Covid-19 update – Phase 2 of Reopening RI has started. During this phase: Social gatherings are 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; Many businesses and venues can reopen under restrictions, but everyone who can work from home should continue working from home; Restaurants may begin indoor dining at up to 50% capacity and other restrictions; Childcare services have been allowed to resume and summer camps can resume on 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. The Portsmouth Emergency Operations Center has transitioned from a Hot to a Warm status. Staffing has been reduced, however, we are still monitoring and responding to the COVID email and hotline. Additionally, we are still maintaining: Wellness Team; Food Bank (St Barnabas); PPE Team (Remote); Public Information; Business Recovery; MEDS POD planning; Volunteer Reception Center; Enforcement of Executive Orders; Cost Tracking. Town Hall remains closed throughout Phase 2, but we anticipate opening with restrictions as guidance allows in Phase 3.
3. Portsmouth High School graduation – I'd like to thank Mother Nature, Newport Polo, and the Police, Fire and Public Works departments for their support in assisting the School Department to provide an alternative style Graduation Ceremony for the Graduating Senior Class. It was a pleasure

to assist the School and the dedicated parents who all came together to create something special and unique for our graduates and make lemonade out of lemons. Well done to everyone!

4. Tree City USA – The Arbor Day Foundation has named Portsmouth a 2019 Tree City USA. With Tree City USA recognition, Portsmouth has demonstrated a commitment to effective urban forest management and is doing its part to helping to preserve our important resources for residents now and in the future. Thanks to the members of our Tree Commission, John Fitzgerald (Tree Warden), and Brian Woodhead (Director of Public Works) for all they do for our community.

5. Additionally: In the same vein, the Portsmouth Garden Club has completed spring planting at Town Hall, Church Lane and the Library. They did a great job. Please drive by when you get the chance and see what they have done to make Portsmouth a nicer place to live.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointment:

a. Melville Park Committee – Motion to approve Jennifer Haga made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Determine operating and implementation guidelines for Sandy Point and McCorrie Point Beaches. – Motion to cap the cars at Sandy Point to 50% of the parking spaces made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion to amend to 60 cars with a maximum of 150 people made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-1. Ms. Ujifusa in dissent. Motion to approve the main motion as amended passed 5-2. Ms. Ujifusa and Mr. Kelly in dissent.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request approval for a drive-in movie night at Glen Park on June 25, 2020. – Motion to approve made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Request approval of resolution condemning racist attacks and urging efforts to recognize and stop racism. – Motion to approve made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Ms. Abbott. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Discussion of School budget adjustment. – Motion made by Mr. Hamilton. No second. No action taken.

4. Request approval to abate 2004-2008 delinquent taxes in the amount of \$16,165.01. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 7-0.

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

1. Letter voicing displeasure at a possible property tax increase. / J. Stalk
2. Portsmouth Water and Fire District's Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2020. / N. J. Larsen, Senior Accountant

FUTURE MEETINGS

June 10 7:00 PM - Public Budget Hearing (Wednesday)

June 22 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting & Adoption of FY 2020-21 Budget

July 13 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting

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

Time: 8:32 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk