

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 10, 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, Keith E. Hamilton, Leonard B. Katzman and Daniela T. Abbott

MEMBERS ABSENT: Andrew V. Kelly

Time: 7:00 PM

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

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

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Mr. Aguiar extended his congratulations to the Portsmouth High School Class of 2019 graduates.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Bills
2. Peddler Licenses – Annual:
 - a. Viking Hot Dog, LLC, 1 Courthouse Square, Newport (#1466)
 - b. Sarianna T. Honkola d/b/a Seaside Designs, P.O. Box 2556, Duxbury, MA (#1467)
 - c. SIREN Women's Cooperative LLC, 934 East Main Rd. Building C (#1470)
3. Entertainment License:

newportFilm, 174 Bellevue Avenue, Suite 314, Newport, for a film screening at the International Polo Grounds, Linden Lane on June 27 from 6:00-10:00 PM (#1465)
4. Request permission to hold a small procession on Sat. July 20 at 6:00 pm and a larger procession on Sun. July 21 at 10:00 am to commemorate the 90th annual St. Anthony’s Feast. Invitation to the Council to take part in Sunday’s procession. / D. Comfort, Feast Chairman, Portsmouth Portuguese American Citizens Club

Motion to approve and place on file all Consent Agenda items made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

MINUTES

TCM 5/13/19 Exec.

TCM 5/28/19

Motion to approve the Executive minutes of 5/13/19 and the minutes of 5/28/19 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Mt. Hope Park update – RI Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) has granted the Town a Maintenance Assent which allows DPW to begin actions necessary to open Mt. Hope Park. IAW the assent, DPW will: install a fence around the failing wall, patch a concrete slab, remove fill piles, remove timbers, pump and fill old holding tanks, repair the wooden dock, install a six-car parking lot, and replace grass and loam as needed. This work is budgeted in the current CIP and we expect to begin next week.

2. Actions to be taken to curb vandalism and abuse of Town Property – Unfortunately, we are experiencing an increase in incidents of vandalism and uncivil behavior on town property – particularly Glen Park, Sandy Point, and McCorrie Point. People are deliberately damaging the stone walls, parking on sports fields, damaging lifeguard chairs, sabotaging restrooms, littering the beaches, speeding on access roads, and leaving human waste in public areas. Beginning last week, we: Started enforcing a ban of vehicular traffic in those areas from 9:00 PM to 6:00 AM; Strengthened our enforcement of the open fire permit ordinance and the Fire Department has started to share the fire permit data base with police dispatchers; Authorized overtime for an extra patrol on Friday and Saturday nights; Authorized the purchase of two motion activated cameras; and, placed additional no parking signs on Linden Lane and will issue tickets to violators. Additionally: we have communicated our concerns to the presidents of the sports leagues and solicited their help in helping enforce good behavior; Sent two DPW employees to a stone wall repair course; Will purchase two radar activated speed control signs next month. Our hope is that all these measures together will help us get ahead of the problem and mitigate the abuse of our parks and open spaces.

3. Annual Navy League Military Appreciation Night – On May 29, I attended the annual Navy League Military Appreciation Night. The event recognizes outstanding Sailors and Coast Guardsmen stationed on Aquidneck Island and I was honored to represent Portsmouth at the event.

4. Police Station Construction Report – Since the last report, the grand opening was held on Friday, May 31st. I'd like to thank the Police Force, DPW, and our Facilities Manager for setting up and hosting a fitting beginning to a new era in Portsmouth public safety. A final construction report will be prepared for presentation to the Council on the 24th. As you know, Colonel Lee announced his decision to retire last week and we will truly miss him. Since the last report, we received CO 17. This is the last CO and our reconciliation of all project bills confirms the project was completed within the budget authorized by the Council. What a great way for Tom to cement his legacy in our Town.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Resignation:

a. West Side Development Advisory Committee – Motion to accept Mr. Gary Gump's resignation with regrets made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Appointments:

a. Solid Waste/Recycling Committee (3 Vacancies, 1 Applicant) – Motion to approve Mr. Paul Crabb made by Dr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

b. West Side Development Advisory Committee (1 Vacancy, 5 Applicants) – Motion to approve Ms. Cynthia Andreola made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. Request to reschedule Public Hearing for proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment to Article XIX for a “payment in lieu” option for low and moderate income housing requirements from June 10 to July 8, 2019. – Motion to move the Public Hearing to July 8 made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.
2. Request to increase the size of the Parks and Recreation Committee from 7 to 9 members. – No motions made.
3. Request to appoint a Town Council Liaison to the Parks and Recreation Committee. – Motion to appoint Ms. Abbott as the Town Council Liaison to the Parks and Recreation Committee made by Ms. Ujifusa, seconded by Mr. Katzman. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. School Visioning Brief. – No action taken.
2. Request reconsideration of the May 28 Council appointments of Mr. Alan Shers and Mr. Thomas Vadney to the West Side Development Advisory Committee. – No motions made.
3. Permission to place a modular recreational rink on the Gardner Seveney fields. (cont. fr. 5/28/19) – Motion to table until the June 24, 2019 meeting made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.
4. Request approval to abate all 2007 delinquent taxes in the amount of \$14,431.07. – Motion to approve made by Mr. Katzman, seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Motion passed 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Request support of resolution entitled “Support of Authorization to Fully Fund E-911 Service to Provide Adequate Support, Training and Equipment Services that Fully Serve the Public Safety Health Care Needs of Rhode Islanders.” – Motion to receive and place on file made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Jun 12 7:00 PM - Public Budget Hearing: Town Council Chambers (Wednesday)
Jun 24 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting & Adoption of FY 2019-20 Budget
Jul 8 7:00 PM - Town Council Meeting
There will be no July 22, 2019 Town Council Meeting.

Motion to go into Executive Session under RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel: Discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person provided that such person affected shall have been notified in advance in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

Time: 7:44 PM

Break: 7:44 PM

Return from Break: 7:49

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel: Discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person provided that such person affected shall have been notified in advance in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

ADJOURN – Motion to seal the minutes and adjourn to open session made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Ryan. Motion passed 6-0.

Time: 7:58 PM

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION – Discussion took place regarding personnel. No votes taken.

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

Time: 8:00 PM

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk