



Town of Bridgewater  
Town Council Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 25, 2018

**CALL TO ORDER:**

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Edward Haley called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:30 pm, on September 25, 2018 in the Academy Building Council Chambers, 66 Central Square, Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

**PRESENT:**

Council members present were, Francis Sousa, Peter Colombotos, William Wood, Dennis Gallagher, Edward Haley, Shawn George (arriving at 8:06 p.m.), Aisha Losche, and Timothy Fitzgibbons. Town Attorney Jason Rawlins was also present.

**ABSENT:**

- Town Manager Michael Dutton
- Councilor Fred Chase

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

A moment of silence was held for all veterans who have passed including:

- Robert Santos

*\*President Haley noted the meeting was being aired live and recorded.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- September 11, 2018

**Motion:** A motion to approve was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gallagher.

**Discussion:** None

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0 (Councilors George and Chase not present)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

- President Haley announced a Family Caregiver Support Program being offered at the Senior Center on October 2, 2018 and Autumnfest which is being held September 29, 2018.

**PROCLAMATIONS - None**

**CITIZENS OPEN FORUM - None**

**APPOINTMENTS - None**

**HEARINGS –**

- **7:35 p.m.:** Order O-FY19-015: Transfer Order – Capital Transfer – LED Light Conversion Project  
President Haley opened the hearing at 7:35 p.m.

Finance Director Sulmonte provided a brief explanation of the order.

President Haley explained this matter would need to be postponed pending a disposition by Finance Committee.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to continue the hearing to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sousa.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0 (Councilor Chase absent, Councilor George not present).

- **7:38 p.m.:** Order O-FY19-018: Transfer Order – Appropriation for Street Assessment  
President Haley opened the hearing at 7:38 p.m.

Finance Director Sulmonte provided a brief explanation of the order.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to continue the hearing to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.

**Discussion:** Councilor Fitzgibbons explained the reason for postponing; is the Finance Committee has been unable to meet due to a lack of quorum. He explained the impact and requested people volunteer.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0 (councilor Chase absent, Councilor George not present).



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- **7:40 p.m. (Continued from 9/11/18):** License Revocation Hearing: Skips Liquors  
President Haley read a portion of the hearing notice.  
President Haley opened the continued hearing at: 7:40 p.m.  
President Haley invited the petitioner to provide an update:  
Mr. Patel came forward and explained the store has been open since last Saturday and has been doing business.  
President Haley invited questions from Councilors:
  - At Councilor Wood's request, Building Inspector Steve Solari explained he did issue a temporary Certificate of Occupancy (CO) which is for the liquor store only. There needs to be a final site plan review by the Planning Board and Mr. Patel needs to file for modification because he did extra tarring of the parking lot than wasn't in the original plan. Mr. Solari confirmed the store meets all CMR 780 requirements, he therefore issued the 60-day temporary CO for the store. He advised; the residency space above shouldn't be used. The kitchen cabinets were not installed yet. Mr. Solari confirmed; there is an office and 1-unit apartment upstairs.
  - Councilor Wood asked questions relative to the handicapped parking available and the proximity to the entrance. Mr. Solari explained the handicapped spot is the closest location to the ramp. The original plan was approved in 2016 by the former Building Inspector. He also asked about the number of parking spaces. Mr. Solari confirmed there were 8 spots in the back for which the petitioner received a variance.
  - President Haley asked several questions of the Building Inspector relative to the paving on the side of the building, outstanding items and the source of the delay. Mr. Solar explained; the pavement on the right side of the building was not on the original plan, so needs to be reviewed by the Planning Board. Mr. Solari then explained the history of the building construction and permitting, noting when he came on, the permit was already issued. He spoke about the footings, and the foundation as sources for the delays. Mr. Solari then addressed comments made at the last meeting about additions being made to the requirements. He explained many things are required by MGL even if they're not on the plans.
  - Councilor Wood asked Mr. Patel several questions about the name of the business, and the hours of operation. Mr. Patel confirmed the business will be known as Seaside Liquors and he has not notified the licensing board yet and explained he has told the manager he should not have opened at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, however he will be putting in a request to open at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Patel intends to be the manager but will have another person doing day to day.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Councilor Wood to continue the hearing to 12/4/18 at 7:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgibbons.

**Discussion:** Councilor Wood explained his intention to be sure the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy becomes full occupancy or the temporary is extended and the business is operational.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0 (Councilor Chase absent, Councilor George not present).

#### LICENSE TRANSACTIONS - None

#### PRESENTATIONS

- Hometown Hero's Banner Project Update – David Moore  
Mr. David Moore provided an update on the program. They will be displaying banners, hopefully beginning 10/8, in and around town including on the High School roadway to and from Bridgewater-Raynham. He thanked the business men and women have been so supportive. Mr. Moore then introduced some of the local Veterans.  
*\*8:06 p.m. President Haley called a brief recess.*  
*\*8:10 p.m. President Haley called the meeting back to order.*
- Financial Update – Anthony Sulmonte, Finance Director  
Finance Director, Anthony Sulmonte offered a presentation on the Town's finances. Mr. Sulmonte highlighted and explained General Fund Revenues including: property tax collections, tax title historical information, and efforts made to collect on outstanding debts. He spoke about local receipts, highlighting excise taxes and principle & interest (P&I) on excise taxes. Mr. Sulmonte then spoke about projected local receipts focusing on revenue sharing and the history of revenue sharing.  
Discussion followed as councilors asked questions of Mr. Sulmonte based on information presented.



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Mr. Sulmonte then presented an executive summary of town-wide expenses by department/category and spoke about the Free Cash estimates by source including historical information.

Councilors asked various questions relative to the expense and free cash information presented.

*\*9:02 p.m. President Haley called a brief recess.*

*\*9:06 p.m. President Haley called the meeting back to order.*

- Water & Sewer Update – Jonas Kazlauskas, Water & Sewer Superintendent  
Members of Stantec offered a Water & Sewer update to the Town Council. Mr. George Allen from Stantec spoke about water usage, supply and storage. He highlighted the Water Management Act and the permitting process. He then spoke about current projects: water meters, water mains on Hayward and Wall St, Carvers Pond WTP Roof).  
Ms. Katie Chamberlain from Stantec then provided an update on High Street Water Treatment Plant; improvements and costs, showing a rendering and walking through the design timeline noting they are on schedule.  
Mr. Steve Calabro then spoke about wastewater giving an overview of the system. He outlined the goals of the sewer rehabilitation project and showed examples of pipes found in poor condition and project costs. He also spoke about WWTP NPDES Permit Goals. When asked if the improvements will help with the odor, Mr. Calabro explained; the new facility will have state of the art odor control, clarifying the odor is compost. Finally, at Mr. Colombotos' request, Ms. Chamberlain confirmed the pipes in downtown were already done.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - None**

**DISCUSSIONS - None**

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Rules & Procedures: Committee Chair Losche gave a brief update noting, the committee will be meeting 10/1/18.
- Strategic Planning: Committee Chair Losche gave a brief update noting, the committee will be meeting 10/1.

**LEGISLATION FOR ACTION**

- Order O-FY19-016: Transfer Order – Sewer & Water Reserve Special Purpose for Loan Paydown  
**Motion:** A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to postpone items a), b), and d) to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.  
**Discussion:** At Councilor Colombotos' request, the Council Clerk clarified there is one vacancy on the Finance Committee.  
A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 8-0.
- Order O-FY19-017: Transfer Order – Town Manager Special Account to Capital Funds  
*Postponed per motion above.*
- Order O-FY19-019: Rescind and Revote Order O-FY18-046: Ratification of American Tower Lease Agreement  
**Motion:** A motion to approve was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons. The motion was seconded by Councilor George.  
**Discussion:** Councilor Wood explained the need for this order is; the length of contract needed to be corrected.  
A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:  
Sousa – YEA; Colombotos – YEA; Wood – YEA; Gallagher – YEA; Haley – YEA; Chase – ABSENT; George - YEA; Losche – YEA; Fitzgibbons - YEA. The motion passed 8-0.
- Order O-FY19-022: Transfer Order – Bridgewater Police Association Contract Settlement Funding  
*Postponed per motion above.*

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Order O-FY19-023: Transfer Order - General Fund Free Cash Allocation to Trust Funds  
**Motion:** A motion was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons to refer all items under New Business to the Budget & Finance and Finance Committees. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood.



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**Discussion:** President Haley read the titles of each order for the public. Councilor Colombotos noted \$100,000 was being allocated to OPEB and suggested perhaps it could be more.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 8-0.

- Order O-FY19-024: Transfer Order – Capital Plan 2019-1 – Town Clerk Voting Booths  
*Referred to Budget & Finance Committee and Finance Committee per motion above.*
- Order O-FY19-025: Transfer Order - Water Reserve Transfer for Carver's Pond Treatment Plant Roof Repairs  
*Referred to Budget & Finance Committee and Finance Committee per motion above.*

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - None

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- Councilor Sousa: No comments.
- Councilor Colombotos: No comments.
- Councilor Wood: Spoke about Autumnfest.
- Councilor Gallagher: Appreciated the presentations this evening. Mr. Gallagher spoke about the Bridgewater Police 5K, which will be held before Autumnfest.
- Councilor Chase: Absent
- Councilor George: Apologized for being late. Mr. George also spoke about Autumnfest.
- Councilor Losche: Echoed comments about Autumnfest and reminded all that the Town is still looking for volunteers for committees.
- Councilor Fitzgibbons: No comments
- Councilor Haley: None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – *No Executive Session was held.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** A motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Fitzgibbons. The motion was seconded by Councilor Losche. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Ann Holmberg

**In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, to approve the aforementioned minutes, as submitted by a voice vote (8-0) (Councilor Colombotos not present).**

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST:**

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Ann M. Holmberg  
Town Council Clerk