

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2013

GCTV-15

7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Wisnewski.

President Wisnewski stated this meeting was being recorded. If any other person present was doing the same, they must notify the chairperson at this time. It was noted the Town Council was audio recording and GCTV-15 was video recording the meeting for future broadcast.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Roll Call was taken. Councilor Allis was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William Martin; Director of Municipal Finance and Administration Marjorie L. Kelly; Town Clerk Maureen Winseck; Western Mass Electric Company (WMECO) employee Bill Freeman, GCTV-15 staff; Anita Fritz, *the Recorder*; and members of the public.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: On a motion by Councilor Singer, second by Councilor Hoffman, it was, **MOVED:** TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2013.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Singer, it was unanimously, **VOTED:** TO AMEND THE NOVEMBER 20, 2013 MINUETS TO REFLECT THE FOLLOWING: ORDER NUMBER 082 C WAS SECONDED BY VICE-PRESIDENT HOFFMAN; CORRECT THE SPELLING OF COUNCILOR ZALTZBERG NAME ON THE LAST PAGE; AND ORDER NUMBER 14-079 WAS VOTED BY MAJORITY NOT UNANIMOUSLY.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2013 AS AMENDED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Bill Freeman, WMECO employee updated the Town Council on the activity related to keeping WMECO facilities in Greenfield.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Vice-President Hoffman read the following Public Hearing notice: In accordance with Home Rule Charter, the Greenfield Town Council will hold a public hearing on Weds., Dec 18, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at GCTV-15, 393 Main St. to receive public input on the following:

- Appropriate \$800,000 from Free Cash to the Contractual Stabilization account
- Appropriate \$300,000 from Free Cash to Capital Stabilization
- Appropriate \$20,000 from Free Cash to the Building Department
- Appropriate \$40,000 from borrowing to purchase 1 Marked police cruiser
- Appropriate \$100,000 from borrowing to repave Chapman & Davis Parking Lot

The Town Council will consider the same on Wed., Dec. 18, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at GCTV-15 Studio, 393 Main Street. Materials can be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office, 14 Court Sq. from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon. - Fri. or phone 413-772-1555, xt. 112

President Wisnewski opened the Public Hearing at 7:18 pm and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Seeing none he noted the hearing would remain open.

Vice-President Hoffman held the following second reading:

- Appropriate \$800,000 from Free Cash to the Contractual Stabilization account
- Appropriate \$300,000 from Free Cash to Capital Stabilization
- Appropriate \$20,000 from Free Cash to the Building Department
- Appropriate \$40,000 from borrowing to purchase 1 Marked police cruiser
- Appropriate \$100,000 from borrowing to repave Chapman & Davis Parking Lot

COMMUNICATIONS:

MAYOR: None.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE: None.

TOWN OFFICERS: Ms. Kelly stated the Treasurer/Collector Office would increase the demand fee for late Water/ Sewer bills from \$5.00 to \$10.00. She further stated in the near future the Town Council would be requested to consider legislation establishing a liability trust for post employment benefits. She noted the Town was reviewing and discussing options for senior and veteran tax exemptions.

President Wisniewski closed the Public Hearing at 7:25 pm.

President Wisniewski stated if any Councilors had questions regarding the motion to appropriate \$800,000 from free cash to the contractual agreement stabilization fund the Town Council would need to adjourn to Executive Session.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Devlin, it was unanimously,
VOTED: BY ROLL CALL TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:35 PM FOR THE PURPOSED OF DISCUSSING STRATEGY WITH RESPECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING. THE COUNCIL WOULD RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION.

President Wisniewski stated the Town Council reconvened from Executive session at 7:55 pm.

Order no. FY 14-088

Financial Order 14-22

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Devlin, it was,
MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, THAT \$800,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT STABILIZATION FUND.

DISCUSSION: Vice-President Hoffman stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval. Councilor Athey expressed concern with spending any amount of money until the topic of Other Post Employee Benefits was dealt with. He would abstain from this vote.

It was unanimously, Councilor Athey abstained,
VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 14 -088.

Order no. FY 14-089

Financial Order 14-21

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Devlin, it was,
MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, THAT THE SUM OF \$300,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT STABILIZATION FUND.

DISCUSSION: Vice-President Hoffman stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval.

It was unanimously, Councilor Athey abstained,
VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 14 -089.

Order no. FY 14-090

Financial Order 14-21

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Singer, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, THAT \$20,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

DISCUSSION: Vice-President Hoffman stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a majority positive recommendation for approval, 4 yes and 1 no. Ms. Kelly briefed the Councilors regarding the request. (See attached) She stated with the High School inspections and the other growth the Inspections Office was not able to keep up. The request would be for a 19 hour non-benefited potion.

It was by majority,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 14 -090.

Order no. FY 14-075

Financial Order 14-016

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Singer, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, THAT THE SUM OF \$40,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) MARKED POLICE CRUISER AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, THE TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$40,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, SECTION 7 (9) OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE, AND THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THESE PROJECTS. AND THAT THE TREASURER IS AUTHORIZED TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE OVERSIGHT BOARD TO QUALIFY UNDER CHAPTER 44A OF THE GENERAL LAWS ANY OR ALL OF THE BONDS AUTHORIZED BY THIS ORDER AND TO PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION AND EXECUTE SUCH DOCUMENTS AS THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE OVERSIGHT BOARD MAY REQUIRE FOR THESE PURPOSES.

DISCUSSION: Vice-President Hoffman stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval. Ms. Kelly stated there were issues with the legal publication for Bond Council with this and the next vote.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 14 -075, Financial Order 14-16.

Order no. FY14-076

Financial Order 14-017

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Renaud, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, THAT THE SUM OF \$100,000 BE APPROPRIATED TO REPAVE THE CHAPMAN & DAVIS PARKING LOT AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, THE TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$100,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, SECTION 7 (6) OR ANY OTHER ENABLING STATUTE, AND THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR, CONTRACT FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND ANY FEDERAL AND/OR STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE WITHIN APPROPRIATION, AND FURTHER, THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THESE PROJECTS. AND THAT THE TREASURER IS AUTHORIZED TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE OVERSIGHT BOARD TO QUALIFY UNDER CHAPTER 44A OF THE GENERAL LAWS ANY OR ALL OF THE BONDS AUTHORIZED BY THIS ORDER AND TO PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION AND

EXECUTE SUCH DOCUMENTS AS THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE OVERSIGHT BOARD MAY REQUIRE FOR THESE PURPOSES.

DISCUSSION: Vice-President Hoffman stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 14 -076, Financial Order 14-017.

Order no. FY 14-087

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Maloni, it was unanimously,

VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, THAT PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 7-2 (a), THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES APRIL 15, 2014 AS THE DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN PRELIMINARY ELECTION.

Order no. FY 14-091

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Renaud, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE, THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTS MASS GENERAL LAW CHAPTER 40§13D PROVIDING FOR A RESERVE FUND FOR FUTURE PAYMENT OF ACCRUED LIABILITIES FOR COMPENSATED ABSENCES DUE ANY EMPLOYEE UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Kelly reviewed this relatively new statute. Councilor Singer requested a committee make a recommendation. President Wisnewski would forward this to Ways and Means Committee.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Singer, second by Councilor Devlin, it was unanimously,

TABLED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE, THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTS MASS GENERAL LAW CHAPTER 40§13D PROVIDING FOR A RESERVE FUND FOR FUTURE PAYMENT OF ACCRUED LIABILITIES FOR COMPENSATED ABSENCES DUE ANY EMPLOYEE UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

Order no. FY 14-092

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Hoffman, second by Councilor Hirschfeld, it was unanimously,

VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH GLC 268A 20 (b), HEREBY APPROVES THE DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE, JESSE SINCLAIR SO THAT HE MAY BE PAID ON A PER DIEM BASIS FOR HOURS WORKED AS A DISPATCHER IN THE GREENFIELD DISPATCH CENTER, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZE THE TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN COUNCIL.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Chairman Renaud announced the committee would meet on Monday, December 23, 2013 and discuss a resolution relating to WMECO.

APPOINTMENTS AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- Chairman Singer stated the committee would hold a public discussion regarding the proposed plastic bag ordinance.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Chairman Devlin noted would be discussing the proposed nuisance and blight ordinance and the proposed purchase to the Golf course in January.

Chairman Devlin spoke of the impressive jobs by the Police and Fire Departments at the Mill House fire.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: President Wisnewski noted letters of interest for the vacated Precinct 2 seat could be sent to the Town Clerks Office until December 23, 2013. He wished everyone a happy holiday.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: None.

PUBLIC FORUM: None.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Singer, second by Councilor Maloni, it was unanimously **VOTED: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:27 P.M.**

A true copy,

Attest: _____
Maureen T. Winseck, Town Clerk

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

GCTV-15
Regular Meeting
December 18, 2013

		Executive Session					
		IN	OUT				
1. Kelner, Marian	P	Y	Y				
2. Vacant	---	---	---				
3. Allis, Brickett	A	Y	Y				
4. Ronhave, Steven	P	Y	Y				
5. Singer, David	P	Y	Y				
6. Hoffman, Hillary	P	Y	Y				
7. Renaud, Karen	P	Y	Y				
8. Shapiro Miller, Karen	P	Y	Y				
9. Hirschfeld, Norman	P	Y	Y				
10. Athey, Dalton	P	Y	Y				
11. Wisnewski, Mark	P	Y	Y				
12. Devlin, Patrick	P	Y	Y				
13. Maloni, Mark	P	Y	Y				