

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2014

GCTV-15

7:00 pm

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Hoffman.

President Hoffman 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. All members were present.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor William Martin; Director of Municipal Finance and Administration Marjorie L. Kelly; Town Clerk Deborah J. Tuttle; Assistant Town Clerk Gail Zukowski; Retirement Board member Marilyn Matysiewicz; Chief Assessor Audrey Murphy; Board of Assessor Member Joseph Ruggeri; Recreation Director Christy Moore; School Committee Members Maryellen Calderwood and Francia Wisnewski; School Union President Thomas Bevacqua; Police Union President Lieutenant S. Daniel McCarthy; Fire Union President Peter McIver; Clerical Union President Gerald Marcano; DPW Director Michael Bissonnette; Chairman of the IAC Leonard Fritz; several town employees and retirees; GCTV-15 staff; Kathleen McKiernan, *the Recorder*; and members of the public.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Maloni, it was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF OCTOBER 15, 2014.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The following people spoke:

- Leonard Fritz, Chairman of the Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC) – read the attached recommendation from the IAC to Mayor Martin. He requested the Town Council not approve the proposed MGLC 32 A § 21-23.
- Kathy Blanchard, IAC Member – stated she had been a member of the IAC for 10 years and requested the Town Council vote no on the MGLC 32 A § 21-23 request.
- Thomas Bevacqua, IAC Member and School Union A & B President requested the Town Council allow the current form of Health Insurance remain in place.
- Mark Kalish, whose wife is a Town employee and the insurance carrier for his family – announced he had recently battled cancer and held a high value on the current insurance and the options it presented for members. He asked the Town Council to vote no on adopting MGLC 32 A § 21-23.
- Peter McIver, President of the Fire Fighters Union – asked the Council not to vote in favor of MGLC 32 A § 21-23. He stated this would limit the voices of employees during negotiations. Taking away Town employees bargaining ability removed the right to oppose health care changes.
- Marilyn Matysiewicz, Retirees Representative – noted all town retirees were happy with the current plan, regardless of geographic location. One of their largest concerns was that service choices would be limited in our area of the State. On behalf of many town retirees she noted they would choose the higher health plan which would cost more to both the employee and the town.
- S. Daniel McCarthy, Greenfield Police Department Union President and IAC Member – echoed previously made comments. He noted employees are just as concerned about the cost of Health Care as town representatives, the cost associated affects both parties. He requested the Town Council not approve MGLC 32 A § 21-23 and leave the control of Health Insurance up to the Town and Unions.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Councilor Allis read the following Public Hearing notice: In accordance with Section 56 of Chapter 40, MA General Laws the Greenfield Town Council will hold a public hearing on Wed., Nov.19, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at GCTV-15, 393 Main St. to receive public input on the following:

- To adopt a residential factor in accordance with the provisions of MA General Laws, Chapter 58, Sec.1A, which shall be used by the Board of Assessors to determine the percentages of the local tax levy to be borne by each class of real and personal property for Fiscal 2015. The Assessors shall provide all information and data relevant to making such determination and the fiscal effect of the available alternatives. The hearing is required under Section 56 of Chapter 40, MA General Laws.

The Town Council will consider the same on Wed., Nov.19, 2014, 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 Hoffman opened the Public Hearing at 7:36 pm and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. The following spoke:

- Joseph Ruggeri, Board of Assessors – Stated the Board of Assessors request and recommend the Town Council adopt a Classification of one for all tax classifications in Greenfield.

President Hoffman – stated the Public Hearing would remain open.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

**MAYOR:** Mayor Martin presented a “Super Citizen” award to Mr. Bruce Brownstein of 18 Keegan Lane. He presented this award to him for all of the trash/ litter Mr. Brownstein has picked up on the West side of town. Mr. Brownstein said he was honored to receive this award and he did this because his parents always taught their children to give back to the community. To date he has picked up a total of 4000 pounds of trash over a two (2) year period.

Mayor Martin introduced Interim DPW Director Michael Bissonnette to the Town Council. Mr. Bissonnette spoke of his public service background and how impressed he was with Town employees he has had the opportunity to meet and work with.

Mayor Martin spoke of:

- The Town of Greenfield’s 2015 operating budget.
- The State’s Fiscal Year 2015 budget and the Governor’s 9 C cuts.
- Massachusetts General Insurance Commissions deficit.

Mayor Martin and Ms. Kelly stated reasons why the Town Council should accept MGLC 32B § 21-23 and advantages to the Town. The following was discussed:

- The Mayor did not recommend adopting MGLC 32B § 19.
- Need to have a regulated process so that we don’t have distracted negotiations.
- The proposed replacement plan would offer 100% vision and 50% dental as well as increasing employee pay by 1%.
- 32 B would be a tool in the tool chest to be used if needed. There could be a delayed start to the implementation of Chapter 32 B.
- The Mayor will not recommend this action again because it causes too much stress in the workforce and creates misinformation.
- Being proposed to satisfy the sustainability of local government.
- Future deficits would restrict the town making cuts to programs, departments, services and employees.
- Employees were offered a 1% in their salary and the possibility of between 3 and 8% during contract negotiations.
- An exact amount the Town would save has not been determined because negotiations have not occurred.
- The request would shift 10% of the Health Insurance cost from the tax payers to the employees.
- In 2012 the employees agreed to a shift in Health Insurance which saved the town \$ 300,000.
- In 2013 Health Insurance increased 9 ½.
- Chapter 32 B was the frame work for negotiations.
- Other Massachusetts municipalities have succeeded under Chapter 32 B.

**SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE:** School Committee Chairwoman Calderwood spoke regarding:

- Superintendent Harper was currently attending a Parents Advisory committee meeting.
- Communication between the committee and administration.
- Everyone was welcome to attend the School Committee meeting held on the second (2nd) Wednesday of each month at GCTV-15.
- Concerns with cuts from the Governors 9 C budget.
- Negotiations were going well.
- Study of school choice in process.
- Communication from the School Building Committee to the School Committee.

- The School Committee did not receive an invitation from the School Building Committee to the open house at Greenfield High School last weekend.

TOWN OFFICERS: None.

**MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS**

President Hoffman asked if anyone from the public wished to speak at the Public Hearing relating to the Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Classification. Seeing none she closed the Public Hearing at 8:30 pm.

Councilor Mass recused himself from the discussion, stating he receives Town Health Insurance through his wife who was a town employee.

**Order no. FY15-086**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Siano, second by Councilor Mass, it was,

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH GLC 268A 20 (b), HEREBY APPROVES THE DESIGNATION OF ANTHONY WONSESKI AS A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE SO THAT HE MAY SERVE ON THE GREENFIELD SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE AS WELL AS REPRESENT CLIENTS ON OTHER UNASSOCIATED BOARDS, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN COUNCIL.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Siano stated Mr. Wonseski attended the Appointment and Ordinance Committee meeting and the committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -086.

**Order no. FY 15-080**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Siano, second by Councilor Allis, it was,

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: JAMES WINN– ONE YEAR TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2015 (1<sup>ST</sup> ALTERNATE).

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Siano stated the Appointment and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -080.

**Order No. FY 15-082**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Siano, second by Councilor Allis, it was,

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE: TONY WONSESKI– TO REPLACE MICHAEL MURPHY – UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Siano stated the Appointment and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -082.

**Order no. FY 15 -050**

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

**VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL TAKE FROM THE TABLE ORDER NO. FY 15-048 “THE TOWN COUNCIL, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, ELECTS THAT THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD ENGAGES IN THE PROCESS TO CHANGE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS UNDER M.G.L. CH. 32B §21-23 ” WHICH WAS TABLED AT THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

**MOTION ON THE FLOOR**

**Order no. FY 15-048**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Renaud, it was unanimously,

**TABLED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, ELECTS THAT THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD ENGAGES IN THE PROCESS TO CHANGE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS UNDER M.G.L. CH. 32B §21-23.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous negative recommendation for the acceptance of MGLC 32B §21-23. Councilor’s stated the following as to reason they would not vote in favor of the proposed order:

- It was not the democratic way or fair to the unions.
- Private sector unions do have a chance to negotiate health insurance.
- Once this MGLC was accepted it could not be reversed.
- This was a basic fundamental right of negotiations. We must trust the system.
- There was a national trend to weaken unions and strengthen corporations.
- Want strong unions who have the health of the Town in mind.
- Concern for the employee as well as the tax payer.
- This would eventually be voted in, but not tonight.
- Not the correct tool to fix the problem.
- Allow the process to work and people will support the end result.
- This is the result of the uncontrolled increases in the operating budget.
- Conversation needs to continue after tonight.
- Employees have as much responsibility in solving this problem as the Mayor and Town Council.

It was unanimously, 1 yes, 11 no, 0 abstain,

**DEFEATED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, ELECTS THAT THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD ENGAGES IN THE PROCESS TO CHANGE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS UNDER M.G.L. CH. 32B §21-23.

**Order no. FY 15 -090**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was,

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTS MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW CHAPTER 32 B SECTION 19 AS ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBITA.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a majority negative recommendation, 1 yes, 2 no and 1 abstention, for this order. Councilor Maloni and Hirschfeld spoke of reasons they would not support the proposal.

It was unanimously,

**DEFEATED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTS MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW CHAPTER 32 B SECTION 19 AS ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBITA.

**Order no. FY 15 -081**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was unanimously,

**VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL TAKE FROM THE TABLE ORDER NO. FY 15-067 “THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, THAT \$425,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT STABILIZATION FUND” WHICH WAS TABLED AT THE OCTOBER 15, 2014 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

### **MOTION ON THE FLOOR**

#### **Order no. FY 15-067**

#### **Financial Order 15-09**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Hirschfeld, second by Councilor Devlin, it was by majority 7 yes and 4 no,  
**TABLED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, THAT \$425,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT STABILIZATION FUND.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Allis sited a request from the Mayor to amend the motion by deleting the amount of \$425,000 and inserting \$175,000. Councilor Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation to approve the amend motion.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Mass, it was,  
**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED TO AMEND THE MOTION BY DELETING “\$425,000” AND INSERTING “\$175,000” IN ITS PLACE.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Siano stated he would not vote in favor of the order. He suggested the remaining funds be given directly back to the tax payers to reduce their taxes. Councilor Mass stated by placing the funds into stabilization accounts it would raise the taxes slower than without stabilization.

It was by majority, 11 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain,

**VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, THAT **\$175,000** BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT STABILIZATION FUND, AS AMENDED.

Councilor Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded unanimous positive recommendation on all orders relating to the Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Classification.

#### **Order no. FY 15 -083 A**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was unanimously,  
**VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT A MINIMUM RESIDENTIAL FACTOR OF ONE (1) RESULTING IN AN EQUAL TAX RATE FOR ALL CLASSES OF PROPERTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015.

#### **Order no. FY 15 -083 B**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was unanimously,  
**VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL VOTES THAT NO RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION BE ADOPTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015.

#### **Order no. FY 15 -083 C**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was unanimously,  
**VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL VOTES THAT NO SMALL COMMERCIAL EXEMPTION BE ADOPTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015.

#### **Order no. FY 15-084**

#### Financial Order 15-21

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was,  
**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, THAT \$4,569.64 BE PAID FROM ACCOUNT

0100.940.5742 TO COVER THE PAYMENT OF FIVE POLICE IOD BILLS FROM FY2013 AND ONE FROM FY2014.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval of the previous year medical bills.

It was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15-084 FINANCIAL ORDER 15-21.

**Order no. FY 15 -077**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Mass, second by Councilor Renaud, it was unanimously,

**VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION TITLED “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS TO DEDICATE THE LAND WITHIN THE GREEN RIVER PARK PERMANENTLY FOR PARK, PLAYGROUND OR RECREATION PURPOSES”.

**A RESOLUTION  
OF THE TOWN COUNCIL  
OF  
THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**TO DEDICATE THE LAND WITHIN THE GREEN RIVER PARK PERMANENTLY FOR PARK,  
PLAYGROUND OR RECREATION PURPOSES**

Whereas, the Green River Park is a public open space and recreation area that was taken under MGL Chapter 45, §3,  
and

Whereas Green River Park is intensively used by families and people with disabilities; and

Whereas, the Town wishes to upgrade and maintain the existing playground facilities to meet the present and future  
needs of all Town residents; and

Whereas, the Town wishes to preserve this resource for recreational purposes in perpetuity; and

Whereas, the Town has the opportunity to make improvements to the site using state grant funds that require Green  
River Park be permanently dedicated for park, playground or recreation purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

That the Mayor is hereby authorized to take such action as is required to comply with the requirement of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant Program that the Green River Park, as shown on Greenfield Assessor’s Map R42, Block 1, become permanently dedicated for park, playground or recreation purposes.

**Order no. FY 15 -078**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was,

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION TITLED “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENOVATIONS AT GREEN RIVER PARK BY APPROPRIATION OR BORROWING SUBJECT TO REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE “PARKLAND ACQUISITIONS AND RENOVATIONS FOR COMMUNITIES (PARC) GRANT PROGRAM”.

**A RESOLUTION  
AUTHORIZING RENOVATIONS AT GREEN RIVER PARK  
BY APPROPRIATION OR BORROWING SUBJECT TO REIMBURSEMENT  
FROM THE “PARKLAND ACQUISITIONS AND RENOVATIONS FOR COMMUNITIES (PARC)”  
GRANT.**

Resolve, that the Town Council of the Town of Greenfield hereby votes to appropriate, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, to borrow up to the sum of \$690,000 for the purpose of renovating Green River Park; and that the Town of Greenfield be authorized to file any and all applications deemed necessary for grants

and/or reimbursements from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts deemed necessary under the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations For Communities (PARC) Grant Program and/or any others in any way connected with the scope of this Resolution, and the Town of Greenfield and the Recreation Department be authorized to enter into all agreements all instruments as behalf of the Town affect said project.

and execute any and may be necessary on of Greenfield to

<b>Green River Park Renovations Budget</b>	
<b>Project Element</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Design	\$ 50,000.00
<b>Design Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 50,000.00</b>
Demolition/Site Preparation	\$ 55,902.00
Earthwork	\$ 40,300.00
Pedestrian Pathways	\$ 33,378.00
Storm Drainage Improvements	\$ 18,000.00
Paving	\$ 30,719.00
Playground, Pavilion, Courts, Etc	\$ 263,610.00
Site Furnishings	\$ 50,000.00
Fencing	\$ 35,000.00
Interpretive Signage	\$ 6,000.00
Electrical Services	\$ 10,000.00
Water Services	\$ 31,000.00
Lawn Seeding	\$ 46,091.00
Tree Planting	\$ 10,000.00
Construction Administration	\$ 10,000.00
<b>Construction Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 640,000.00</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 690,000.00</b>

<b>PARC Request</b>	
FY15 PARC Request	\$ 35,000.00
FY16 PARC Request	\$ 365,000.00
<b>Total PARC Request</b>	<b>\$ 400,000.00</b>

<b>City Share Breakdown</b>	
City Contribution	\$ 50,000.00
Dog Park Foundation	\$ 240,000.00
<b>Total City Share Breakdown</b>	<b>\$ 290,000.00</b>

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval. He noted there would be a first reading tonight requesting \$50,000 be appropriated from existing funds for this project.

It was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -078.

**Order no. FY 15 -076**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was,

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR HEREBY EXTENDS THE ACCEPTANCE OF MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW CH. 60A §1 AS IT APPLIES TO ALLOWING MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES DEPLOYED OUTSIDE OF THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval.

It was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -076.

**Order no. FY 15 -089**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was,

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE \$15,000 AUTHORIZED FROM CAPITAL STABILIZATION ON OCTOBER 15, 2014 FOR CENTRAL MAINTENANCE BE TRANSFERRED TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval.

It was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -089.

**Order no. FY 15-087**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Siano, second by Councilor Ronhave, it was,

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN CHARTER ARTICLE 2, SECTION 2-4: COMPENSATION; EXPENSES SECTION (B) BE AMENDED BY DELETING THE WORD "THREE (3)" AND INSERTING THE WORD "FOUR (4)" AND THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE TOWN CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE TOWN CHARTER.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Siano stated the Appointment and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval.

It was unanimously,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15-087.

**Order no. FY 15-088**

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

**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN CHARTER ARTICLE 2, SECTION 2-10: COUNCIL REVIEW OF CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS SECTION (B) BE AMENDED BY INSERTING AFTER THE WORD "EFFECTIVE" AND BEFORE THE WORDS "ON THE 35<sup>TH</sup> DAY" THE WORDS

“UPON ACCEPTANCE BY A MAJORITY OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OR” AND ADDING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORDS “CLERK OF THE COUNCIL” THE WORDS “, WHICH EVER MAY OCCUR FIRST” AND THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE TOWN CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE TOWN CHARTER.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilor Siano stated the Appointment and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation with one (1) abstention for approval. Councilor Mass stated the amendment was intended to have an affirming affect from the Town Council for the Mayoral appointments and allow the appointee to take the oath of office immediately rather than wait 35 days. Councilor Renaud submitted the attached proposed language. She requested the original Charter Commission members be invited to attend the next Appointment and Ordinance Committee meeting for discussion. Comments from Councilor’s included the following:

- The proposed language was acceptable.
- During the last charter review in 2010-2011 this language was discussed but no amendment was proposed.
- Proposal does not simplify or clarify the language.
- The proposal does not positively effect public service.
- This could be dealt with during the next Charter review process.
- Vote to table the proposal to fix it not to kill it.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Renaud, second by Councilor Kelner, it was by roll call, 9 yes and 3 no,

**TABLED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN CHARTER ARTICLE 2, SECTION 2-10: COUNCIL REVIEW OF CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS SECTION (B) BE AMENDED BY INSERTING AFTER THE WORD “EFFECTIVE” AND BEFORE THE WORDS “ON THE 35<sup>TH</sup> DAY” THE WORDS “UPON ACCEPTANCE BY A MAJORITY OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OR” AND ADDING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORDS “CLERK OF THE COUNCIL” THE WORDS “, WHICH EVER MAY OCCUR FIRST” AND THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL FURTHER INSTRUCTS THE TOWN CLERK TO SUBMIT THE APPROVED VOTE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND REQUEST SAID LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE TOWN CHARTER.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS** None.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE** – Chairman Kelner announced the committee would hold a public forum on Monday, December 1, 2014 at 6:30 pm, 114 Main Street regarding a proposed resolution to form a Baystate Advisory Committee. She urged citizens to attend.

**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE** – Chairman Allis stated the Ways and Means Committee meeting would now be held on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm at a location to be determined. The committee would also meet if necessary preceding the Town Council meeting at 6:30 pm at GCTV-15.

**APPOINTMENTS AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE-** Chairman Siano announced the committee had several discussions relating to the Noise Ordinance and had voted to remove the topic from the agenda until new language was submitted for consideration.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** – Chairman Devlin noted the committee would vote and forward a recommendation to the Town Council in December relating to the Vacant and Foreclosed property ordinance. Councilor Ronhave stated the ZBA had commented that having a Noise Ordinance would be helpful.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Councilor Allis held the following first reading:

- Appropriate \$18,000 from Parking Receipts Reserved for updating parking signage and permit program in downtown

- Appropriate \$50,000 from Free Cash, appropriation or borrowing to provide Town funds for the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant program, at Green River Park.
- Appropriate \$ 150,000 for the demolition of the HAPCO Building in preparation for the parking garage
- Appropriate \$ 720,000 from Free Cash to General Stabilization
- Appropriate \$ 250,000 from Free cash to Building Maintenance Stabilization

**MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION:** None.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was unanimously **VOTED:** TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:45 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah J. Tuttle, Town Clerk

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

GCTV-15  
Regular Meeting  
November 19, 2014

FY15-088  
Table

1. Kelner, Marian	P	Y					
2. Siano, Alfred	P	Y					
3. Allis, Brickett	P	Y					
4. Ronhave, Steven	P	Y					
5. Ricketts, Penny	P	N					
6. Hoffman, Hillary	P	---					
7. Renaud, Karen	P	Y					
8. Shapiro Miller, Karen	P	Y					
9. Hirschfeld, Norman	P	Y					
10. Athey, Dalton	P	N					
11. Mass, Isaac	P	Y					
12. Devlin, Patrick	P	N					
13. Maloni, Mark	P	Y					

9 yes  
3 no