

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2015

GCTV-15

7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 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. Councilor's Allis, Ronhave and Athey were absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William Martin; Director of Municipal Finance and Administration Marjorie L. Kelly; Town Clerk Deborah J. Tuttle; School Superintendent Jordana Harper; GCTV-15 staff; and members of the public.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: On a motion by Councilor Devlin, second by Councilor Mass, it was unanimously,

VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18, 2015.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ginger Carson, Senior Center Committee Chairwoman spoke regarding the attached document outlining reasons a new Senior Center was needed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Councilor Maloni read the following Public Hearing notice: In accordance with Home Rule Charter, the Greenfield Town Council will hold a public hearing on Wed., March. 18, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at GCTV-15, 393 Main St. to receive public input on the following:

- Appropriate \$10,000 from General Stabilization to move the Town Clerk's Office to the space adjacent to the Assessor's Office in Town Hall.

The Town Council will consider the same on Wed., March. 18, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at GCTV-15 Studio, 393 Main St. 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, x. 6163.

Hillary Hoffman, Greenfield Town Council President

President Hoffman opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 pm. She asked if anyone from the public wished to speak; seeing none she stated the Public Hearing would remain open.

Councilor Maloni held the following second reading: Appropriate \$10,000 from General Stabilization to move the Town Clerk's Office to the space adjacent to the Assessor's Office in Town Hall.

COMMUNICATIONS:

MAYOR: Mayor Martin requested the Town Council amend their authorization for a Special Election by deleting the date of April 14, 2015 and inserting May 12, 2015 to allow the election to be held. He summarized reasons were due to the State Legislature's working timeline for consideration.

Mayor Martin briefed members of the work being done around town to manage "potholes" on town roads as well as "leaky roofs" in municipal buildings.

Mayor Martin responded to questions from Councilor's regarding:

- The gas line leak on Federal Street.
- The Council on Aging utilizing elementary school gymnasiums for fitness classes as a temporary space solution.
- Update on the Parking Garage.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Superintendant Harper spoke of:

- Howard Barber had been offered the permanent School Business Manager position.

- Thanked Town Councilors who participated in the 4th grade configuration conversation; no conclusion had been reached to date.
- Enrollment information.

President Hoffman asked if anyone wished to speak regarding the Public Hearing, seeing none the hearing was closed at 7:24 pm.

TOWN OFFICERS: None.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

Order no. FY 15-115

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Siano, second by Councilor Mass, 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 YOUTH COMMISSION – SHARON A. ROTH, Ed.D. – REMAINDER OF A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2017.

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

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -115.

Order no. FY 15-116

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Siano, second by Councilor Mass, 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 CABLE ADVISORY COMMISSION:

- JOHN C. LUNT – REMAINDER OF A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2017.
- DAVID C. BROCK – 1ST ALTERNATE -REMAINDER OF A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2015.
- MICHAEL (MIK) MULLER – 2ND ALTERNATE -REMAINDER OF A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2016.

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

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -116.

Order no. FY 15-117

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Siano, second by Councilor Mass, 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 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION- MICHELLE TETREAULT – REMAINDER OF A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2016 (FILLING VACANCY LEFT BY THE RESIGNATION OF TROUBLE MANDESON).

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

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -117.

Order no. FY 15-118

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Siano, second by Councilor Mass, 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 LOCAL CULTURAL COMMISSION- KENNETH MURPHY – REMAINDER OF A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2016 (TO REPLACE THE VACANCY LEFT BY THE NON-RENEWAL OF DAVID KULP).

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

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -118.

Order no. FY15-114

Financial Order 15-25

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, THAT \$10,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO FUND THE MOVE OF THE CLERK’S OFFICE IN TOWN HALL.

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

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -114, Financial Order 15-25.

Order no. FY 15-120

Financial Order 15-28

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL CH. 44 §53E ½, THE SPENDING LIMIT FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE OF FORECLOSURES BE INCREASED FROM \$5,000 TO \$15,000 FOR THE BALANCE OF FISCAL YEAR 2015.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Maloni stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval. He noted the town had seven (7) properties they would be auctioning that needed some maintenance.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 15 -120, Financial Order 15-28.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

APPOINTMENTS AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- Chairman Siano stated a Public Hearing would be held in April relating to a Charter Amendment to Section 2-10 “Council Review of Certain

Appointments Section (B)”. The committee will also be holding a joint meeting with the License Commission to discuss proposed amendments to ordinance 21- Assemblies/Mass Public.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Councilor Devlin summarized conversation held at the February meeting with the School Superintendant, Recreation Director, and Susan Worgaftik. Chairwoman Kelner reminded the public that the committee has a portion at the beginning of the meeting for public to come and speak to the committee. Councilor’s requested the committee discuss the Facebook page and get an update relating to the Skate Park.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Councilor Devlin stated the committee had discussed the proposed Accessory Dwelling section being added to Zoning Ordinance. He noted there were questions from the Building Inspector to the Planning Board that my require amendments to the proposal and a subsequent Public Hearing. The committee would be forwarding a Biomass Ordinance to the Town Council in April for initial consideration.

TREASURER REPORT Councilor Malone reported the Town Council began the year with a total budget of \$49,330 and had \$8,853 remaining which was 18% of the total budget.

President Hoffman stated the GBA would hold their Member Showcase on Thursday, March 26, 2015 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Councilor Maloni noted the Sustainable Greenfield Implementation Committee met on the first Thursday of each month at 114 Main Street from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. He noted the committee was actively working on the implementation of the Master Plan including some amendments to ordinances which were already in the pipeline.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Maloni summarized discussion held at the last Ways and Means Committee meeting regarding the proposed Council/Community Funds. Comments included:

- Concern with the appearance that Town Councilors have expense accounts.
- Proposed structure for expenditures as outlined in the policy.
- Town Council priorities.
- Community Relations and Education Committee will discuss the topic on March 30, 2015.
- People interested in submitting ideas should send information to the Mayor and Town Council.

Ways and Means Committee members agreed this proposal was not favorable. No vote was taken but there was consensus of the members. There would be a joint meeting between the Ways and Means Committee and Community Relations and Education Committee, April 1, 2015, 6:30 pm, 114 Main Street for discussion of policy.

Councilor Maloni held the following first reading:

1. APPROPRIATE UP TO \$40,000 FROM GENERAL STABILIZATION FOR MOVING OF THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES FROM 141 DAVIS STREET.
2. \$200,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH AS FOLLOWS:
 - \$141,500 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS GENERAL FUND BUDGET
 - \$58,500 TO SEWER FUND RETAINED EARNINGS

- 3. \$100,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM SEWER RETAINED EARNINGS FOR EMERGENCY SEWER REPAIRS
- 4. THE SUM OF \$300,000 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPLACING THE NEWTON SCHOOL ROOF AND TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION THE TREASURER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BORROW SAID SUM OF \$300,000, PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 44, SECTION 7 (3A) 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.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Devlin, it was,
MOVED: TO AMEND ORDER # 15-030 BY STRIKING THE FOLLOWING “APRIL 14, 2015” AND INSERT IN ITS PLACE “MAY 12, 2015” TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Order no. FY 15-030

“THAT IT BE ORDERED, THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL VOTES TO PETITION THE STATE LEGISLATURE FOR AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD A SPECIAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015 TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RATIFY THE VOTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CREATION AND OPERATION OF A MUNICIPAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AS ALLOWED BY MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 164, § 36 AND 47E.”

DISCUSSION: Comments included:

- No minimum voter turnout was required for the initiative to pass.
- The election would cost the town between 10 and 13 thousand dollars.
- There were elections also being held in September and November.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO AMEND ORDER NUMBER FY15-030 TO READ AS FOLLOWS: “THAT IT BE ORDERED, THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL VOTES TO PETITION THE STATE LEGISLATURE FOR AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD A SPECIAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015 TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RATIFY THE VOTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CREATION AND OPERATION OF A MUNICIPAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AS ALLOWED BY MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 164, § 36 AND 47E”.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: None.

PUBLIC FORUM: None.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Mass, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was unanimously
VOTED: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:03 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: _____
 Deborah J. Tuttle, Town Clerk

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

GCTV-15
Regular Meeting
March 18, 2015

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