

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2017

Greenfield High School, 21 Barr Avenue

7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Allis.

President Allis 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 Renaud was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William Martin; Town Clerk Deborah J. Tuttle; Finance Director/Town Auditor/Town Accountant Elizabeth Braccia; Director of Administration Mark Smith; School Committee Secretary Donald Alexander; School Committee Vice-Chairperson Adrienne Nunez; Fire Chief Robert Strahan and members of the Fire Department; Special Assistant to the Mayor for Special Projects John Lunt; GCTV-15 staff; Aviva Luttrell, *the Recorder*; and members of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: On a motion by Councilor Pyfrom, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was unanimously,

VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The following members of the public spoke:

George Gohl, 157 Montague City Road, Greenfield, business owner, GBA member and GCTV Board Member stated the following:

- Speaking as a resident, he was in favor of the proposed Charter change changing the word Town to City.
- Speaking as a GBA member, the GBA was in favor of a single tax rate, factor of 1, for 2018.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: President Allis opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 pm and asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Seeing none he closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 pm.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Chief Strahan presented certificates of recognition to the following members of the Greenfield Fire Department and Med Care Ambulance Service for the delivery of a child on December 5, 2017:

- EMT/Greenfield Fire Fighter, Tony Thurston.
- EMT/Greenfield Fire Fighter, Chip Thurston.
- Paramedic, Med Care Ambulance, Danielle Shaw
- Paramedic, Med Care Ambulance, Tim Toff

MAYOR: Mayor Martin spoke of the following:

- Concerns of the Town Council revisiting a previously approved TIF for Abercrombie LLC.
- Thanked Councilors whose terms were up for their service to the town.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM GCET BOARD OF COMMISSIONER AND/OR GCET DIRECTOR – Mr. Lunt and Ms Braccia presented the attached report to Councilors. They also answered questions from Town Councilor's regarding the following:

- Current monthly payroll and revenue needed to be self sustaining.
- Amount of time Town of Greenfield employees spent working on GCET issues. Would there be a memorandum of understanding for the Town to be reimbursed for this time?

- Length of time for GCET to be cash neutral.
- No expectation for GCET to come back to the Town for funds. Several avenues of funding including State and Federal grants are being pursued.
- When a determination would be made if GCET would operate as an MLP, Town department, or enterprise fund.
- Remaining funds from the construction of Greenfield High School would be used for additional projects, some would be rescinded. This was not cash on hand it was a borrowing.
- If GCET were a town department, interdepartmental transfers could be done.
- GCET could possibly need additional funds for fringe benefits, i.e. insurance or retirement.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Ms. Nunez read the attached statement from the Superintendent of Schools. She also spoke of:

- School Committees continued work regarding policy review.
- Additional information would be provided to the Council regarding a burst pipe in the Federal Street School, art room.

In response to an additional question, Mayor Martin stated the John Zon Community Center was expected to open in February or March. A committee would be created to determine how the building would be used for evenings. Councilors were welcome to participate.

TOWN OFFICERS: None.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

Councilor Childs noted the page numbers in the packet were off by one page.

Order no. FY 18-049

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Childs, second by Councilor Ricketts, 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 HISTORICAL COMMISSION – ROBERT MOORHEAD – FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2020.

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

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -049.

Order no. FY 18-050

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Childs, second by Councilor Ricketts, 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 – KRISTAL CLEAVER – FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2020.

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

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -050.

Order no. FY 18-051

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Childs, second by Councilor Ricketts, 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 AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION – ALISSA WILLIAMS – FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2020.

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

It was unanimously,
VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -051.

Order no. FY 18-048

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Childs,
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 – RACHEL GORDON – FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2020.

It was noted that the applicant had withdrawn. The Motion failed for lack of a second.

Order no. FY 18-055

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Mass, second by Councilor Leonovich, it was by majority, 2 no,
VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL SUSPEND THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, 6 ORDER OF MOTIONS.

§ 1261-6. Rule 6, Orders of Motions.

B. RECONSIDERATION

Unless otherwise provided by the charter, after vote has been taken, it shall be in order for any member voting with the prevailing side to move reconsideration thereof at the same meeting at which the vote was taken; or to file with the Clerk of the Council, written notice of a motion to reconsider such vote not later than 3:00 PM of the 2nd business day following such meeting.

- (1) After receiving such written notice of reconsideration the Clerk shall place it on the agenda for the next regular meeting.
- (2) Whenever a written notice of a motion to reconsider has been filed as aforesaid, the Clerk shall notify all of the members of the Town Council.
- (3) Not more than one motion for reconsideration for any vote shall be entertained, and no vote upon either of the following motions shall be reconsidered: to refer, to adjourn; to lay on the table; to take from the table; and move the question.

Order no. FY 18-056

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Mass, second by Councilor Leonovich, it was by show of hands,
DEFEATED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION, THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL RECONSIDERS THE FOLLOWING MOTION APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 15, 2017:

Order no. FY 18-043

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Leonovich, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was by majority 9 yes, 0 no and 2 abstentions,

VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF LOCAL INCENTIVE-ONLY APPLICATION AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR ABERCROMBIE LLC TO THE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR THE STATE INVESTMENT TAX CREDITS AND TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE RESOLUTION.

Order no. FY 18-052

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Childs, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD BY DELETING THE WORD “TOWN” AND INSERTING IN ITS PLACE THE WORD “CITY” THROUGHOUT THE DOCUMENT **EXCEPT** IN:

Article 1, Section 1-7 Definitions (d) *general laws* -- The words "general laws" (all lower case letters) shall mean laws, which apply alike to all cities and Towns, to all cities, or to a class of municipalities of which Greenfield is a member. The ~~Town~~ **City** of Greenfield shall be governed by the general laws applicable to cities.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Childs stated the Appointment and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. Councilor Mass reviewed the history associated with the proposed amendment. Councilor Childs stated no one attended the Appointment and Ordinance Committee to speak. President Allis stated emails had been received in the office relating to the proposal, which would be attached to the minutes.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -052.

Order no. FY 18-056

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THE TOWN COUNCIL VOTES THEIR INTENTION TO CONSIDER LAYING OUT SILVER CREST LANE AND SILVER CREST CIRCLE AS PUBLIC WAYS AND REFERS THE PETITION TO THE PLANNING BOARD.

DISCUSSION: President Allis noted this only initiated the process; the Town Council would vote on the proposal at a later date.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -056.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: Councilor Mass noted information had been brought to the attention of the Council this morning that suggested the Town Council should confirm by properly wording their intention to split the tax rate voted on November 29, 2017. He would request the motion be tabled for consideration at the Town Council Special meeting of December 29, 2017.

Order no. FY 18-059

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, BE IT RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED THAT ON NOVEMBER 29, 2017 THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL BY MAJORITY 6 YES AND 4 NO VOTED THAT IT BE ORDERED, THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT A MINIMUM

RESIDENTIAL FACTOR OF .9192 RESULTING IN A SPLIT TAX RATE WITH A FACTOR OF 1.0808 FOR ALL CLASSES OF PROPERTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018. THIS WAS THE TRUE INTENT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ORDER NUMBER FY 18-041 A. THE VETO OF WHICH BY THE MAYOR ON DECEMBER 15, 2017 IS HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGED.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Mass, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously, **TABLED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED, BE IT RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED THAT ON NOVEMBER 29, 2017 THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL BY MAJORITY 6 YES AND 4 NO VOTED THAT IT BE ORDERED, THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT A MINIMUM RESIDENTIAL FACTOR OF .9192 RESULTING IN A SPLIT TAX RATE WITH A FACTOR OF 1.0808 FOR ALL CLASSES OF PROPERTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018. THIS WAS THE TRUE INTENT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ORDER NUMBER FY 18-041 A. THE VETO OF WHICH BY THE MAYOR ON DECEMBER 15, 2017 IS HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGED.

President Allis stated the Public Hearing notice for the Charter Amendment had not been read. To correct this oversight he requested the Public Hearing notice be read, the hearing would be opened, public allowed to speak, Public Hearing closed and the Town Council revote or affirm the previous vote.

Councilor Mass read the Public Hearing notice: In accordance with Home Rule Charter, the Greenfield Town Council will hold a public hearing on Wed., Dec. 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Greenfield High School Cafeteria, 21 Barr Avenue. To receive public input on the following:

- Charter Amendment - "TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD BY DELETING THE WORD "TOWN" AND INSERTING IN ITS PLACE THE WORD "CITY" THROUGHTOUT THE DOCUMENT **EXCEPT** IN: Article 1, Section 1-7 Definitions (d) *general laws* -- The words "general laws" (all lower case letters) shall mean laws, which apply alike to all cities and Towns, to all cities, or to a class of municipalities of which Greenfield is a member. The ~~Town~~ **City** of Greenfield shall be governed by the general laws applicable to cities".

The Town Council will consider the same on Wed., Dec 20, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Greenfield High School Cafeteria, 21 Barr Avenue. 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.

Brickett Allis, Greenfield Town Council President

President Allis opened the Public Hearing at 7:52 pm, he asked if anyone from the public wished to speak, seeing none he closed the Public Hearing at 7:53 pm.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Mass, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously, **VOTED:** TO REAFFIRM THE VOTE OF THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL TO ADOPT THE CHARTER CHANGES AS WRITTEN IN THE PACKET.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Burge held the following first reading:

- The Sum of \$ 529,271.23 to be reassigned from the excess funds of the Hurricane Irene Bond to the Parking Garage Capital project.
- The Sum Not to Exceed \$150,000 to be appropriated from the General Stabilization Fund for the purpose of performing a Town Wide Revaluation of Town Properties not included in annual valuations.

Councilor Ricketts stated she had received two gift certificates 1.) from Bakers Office for \$75.00 2.) from Wilsons for \$150.00. The Ethics commission recommended a vote be taken by the full Town Council to donate the certificates.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Maloni, it was unanimously, 1 abstention,

VOTED: TO DONATE THE BAKER’S OFFICE CERTIFICATE TO THE LITERACY PROJECT AND THE WILSON’S CERTIFICATE TO THE GREENFIELD FAMILY INN.

President Allis wished everyone a happy holiday season and acknowledged the help and pleasure of working with Councilors.

Councilor Maloni thanked his colleagues and the voting public noting the time spent serving as a Councilor had made him a better person.

Councilor Sund thanked everyone for a great job and wished everyone a happy holiday.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously

VOTED: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:59 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: _____

Deborah J. Tuttle, Town Clerk

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Greenfield High School, 21 Barr Ave
Regular Meeting
December 20, 2017

Attendance

1. Sund, Verne	Y					
2. Lobik, John	Y					
3. Allis, Brickett	Y					
4. Muzyka-Pyfrom, Wanda	Y					
5. Wainstein, Robert	Y					
6. Burge, Maria	Y					
7. Childs, William	Y					
8. Vacant	---					
9. Leonovich, Daniel	Y					
10. Mass, Isaac	Y					
11. Renaud, Karen	A					
12. Ricketts, Penny	Y					
13. Maloni, Mark	Y					