

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2018

Greenfield High School, 21 Barr Avenue

7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Renaud.

President Renaud 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 Leonovich was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William Martin; Administrative Assistant to the Town Clerk Kathryn J. Scott; Finance Director/Town Auditor/Town Accountant Elizabeth Braccia; Director of Administration Mark Smith; Greenfield School Superintendent Jordana Harper; School Committee Chairperson Adrian Nunez; School Committee Secretary Donald Alexander; Special Assistant to the Mayor for Special Projects John Lunt; GCTV-15 staff; DPW Director Donald Ouellette; Dan Desrochers, *the Recorder*; and members of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

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

VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 29, 2017, DECEMBER 5, 2017, DECEMBER 20, 2017, DECEMBER 28, 2017, JANUARY 2, 2018 AND JANUARY 17, 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The following members of the public spoke regarding:

- Robert Cooley, 44 Overland Road, spoke in support of Baystate Franklin Hospital Nurses and the appointment of Sarah Ahern to the Human Rights Commission.
- Emma Morgan, 50 Solar Way, read a statement regarding the movement of “Not in our Town” and invited the Town Council to sign the pledge she presented.
- Holly Kosiski, 85 Maple Street, read the “Dignity and Civility Pledge” and invited Councilors to sign the pledge.
- Susan Worgaftik, 45 Forest Avenue, thanked the Town Council for supporting Baystate Franklin Hospital Nurses and spoke in opposition of the privatization of trash pickup in Greenfield and urged the town to fund the purchase of vehicles necessary to continue town trash pickup.
- Hazel Dawkins, 91 Smith Street, spoke in support of Baystate Franklin Hospital Nurses.
- Armene Margosian, 186 Petty Plain Road, spoke of the deteriorating conditions and her concerns for public safety on Wisdom Way hill down to River Street.
- Theodore Hinman, 186 Petty Plain Road, spoke of the deteriorating conditions and his concerns for public safety on Wisdom Way hill down to River Street.
- Sandra Boston, 15 Abbott Street, spoke of the following:
 - Endorsed the appointment of Sarah Ahern to the Human Rights Commission.
 - Thanked Councilors who whet to Springfield in support of Baystate Franklin Hospital Nurses.
 - Opposition of the privatization of trash pickup.
 - Questioned when the funds appropriated for the repair of Poets Seat Town would be used to repair the structure.
- Ann Mayo, 143 Wells Street, spoke regarding:
 - Support for the appointment of Sarah Ahern to the Human Rights Commission.

- Opposition of the privatization of trash pickup.
- Support for Baystate Franklin Hospital Nurses.
- Sammy Rahab, 15 Abbott Street, spoke in support for the appointment of Sarah Ahern to the Human Rights Commission.
- Virginia Desorgher, 43 Silver Crest Lane, spoke regarding:
 - Requested the Town Council approve the acceptance of Silver Crest Lane and Silver Crest Circle.
 - Would like to serve on the proposed “2019 Split Tax Rate Advisory Committee” as a resident.
 - Concerns for the funding request for the reuse of Hurricane Irene funds for the Parking Garage.
- Carolyn Como, 20 Iris Court, spoke in support of the appointment of Sarah Ahern to the Human Rights Commission.
- Donald Ouellette, 52 Newell Pond Road spoke of:
 - The work on Poets Seat Tower would begin in April 2018. He spoke of the bids received and a future request for additional funding based on the bids.
 - Items to be completed at Silver Crest Lane and Silver Crest Circle before the streets were officially accepted by the Town.
 - Wisdom Way repair cost and timeline depending when the project was placed on the State Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) list.
 - DPW forum at Greenfield High School tomorrow night regarding sludge disposal and solid waste.
- David Moscaritolo, 43 Country Club Road, discussed:
 - Issues with the lack of communication from the Town relating to increases in amounts in water and sewer taxes.
 - Concerns for the funding request for the reuse of Hurricane Irene funds for the Parking Garage.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

MAYOR: Mr. Ouellette spoke further regarding:

- Current and increased rates for Water and Sewer. Greenfields rates remain 25% to 30% below the state average including the increase.
- Remaining repairs to the pump station to be paid out of water and sewer enterprise funds.
- Wisdom Way repairs and possibility of closing the road or making it a one way temporarily.

Question and answers between the Town Council and Mr. Ouellette included:

- When there are additional rate increase the Town Council would appreciate being told before constituents began asking questions.
- At what point did the Mayor and Mr. Ouellette know the rates would need to be increased.
- Enterprise funds balances and deficits due to recent expenditures including the new DPW building.
- Fiscal Year 2019 water and sewer budgets.
- Provide a breakdown of increases to explain to citizens.
- Explanation of what needed to be completed at Silver Crest Lane and Silver Crest Circle.

Mayor Martin spoke of:

- Support for the funding request for the reuse of Hurricane Irene funds for the Parking Garage.

- Public Safety in schools and a request to the Police Chief to submit a plan for increased School Resource Officers for the Schools.
- Support for the recension of Borrowing Authorities.
- There would be an open house for Town Council at the John Zon Community Center on March 2nd from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. There would be a public open house on March 3rd from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Council on Aging would move from their current location to the Community Center the following week.

Question and answers between the Town Council and Mayor Martin included:

- Councilor Pyfrom asked questions for a constituent to the Mayor regarding tax bills, expenses and why the Town spends money.
- Request for an Executive Session to discuss the plan proposed by the Police Chief regarding school safety.
- The Community Center was not on the FRTA schedule; was there any way to discuss this issue.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM GCET BOARD OF COMMISSIONER AND/OR GCET DIRECTOR:

Mr. Lunt spoke of the following:

- Current and proposed budget for GCET.
- The Board had been sworn in and would take over governance and oversight of the entity.
- GCET would move back to 324 Main Street tomorrow.
- Town Attorney had submitted an updated legal opinion today regarding Order number 7 and 8 on tonight's agenda. To allow everyone time to review the information, Mr. Lunt requested these orders be tabled.
- Current financial information and projected timeline for profitability.

Mr. Smith stated the legal opinion was not requested, it was the Town Attorney doing due diligence providing information to the Town Council for their consideration.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Superintendent Harper and Ms. Nunez spoke regarding:

- School preparedness meetings.
- School Committee Subcommittee meetings and activities including budget proposals and workshops.
- Upcoming fundraising efforts include "Dining for a cause" and the "Greenfield High School Band Telethon."
- Superintendants draft Fiscal Year 2019 budget had been released.
- Combined collaboration between the Recreation Department and Schools during the Winter Carnival.
- Three Grinn Spoon Awards were presented to the following Greenfield Teachers:
 - Ms. Gina Clark, Music Teacher, Federal Street School
 - Ms. Marguerite Rancourt, Grade 4 Teacher, Discovery School at Four Corners
 - Ms. Angela Mass, Math Teacher, Greenfield High School

TOWN OFFICERS: None.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

Order no. FY 18-071

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Stempel, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was unanimously by roll call,

VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL TAKE FROM THE TABLE ORDER NO. FY 18 -053 “THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER TO REPURPOSE \$ 529,271.23 FROM EXCESS FUNDS BORROWED FOR PAYING EXPENSES INCURRED FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY HURRICANE IRENE ORDERED, THAT: THE SUM OF \$ 529,271.23 TO BE REASSIGNED FROM THE EXCESS FUNDS OF THE HURRICANE IRENE BOND TO THE PARKING GARAGE CAPITAL PROJECT” WHICH WAS TABLED AT THE JANUARY 17, 2018 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

Councilor Stempel read the Motion on the floor: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER, TO REPURPOSE \$ 529,271.23 FROM EXCESS FUNDS BORROWED FOR PAYING EXPENSES INCURRED FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY HURRICANE IRENE ORDERED, THAT: THE SUM OF \$ 529,271.23 TO BE REASSIGNED FROM THE EXCESS FUNDS OF THE HURRICANE IRENE BOND TO THE PARKING GARAGE CAPITAL PROJECT.

DISCUSSION: President Renaud stated the vote requires a 2/3 (9 Councilors) to pass. Councilor Stempel stated the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a majority negative, 3 no and 2 yes, recommendation. Ways and Means discussed what the funds would be used for the parking garage and needs and wants for the garage structure. Council discussion included the following:

- The project budget is \$10,000,000 and we need to stick within the budget.
- Snags in the project required contingency funding which was necessary.
- “Features” which make the building more attractive are not necessary items.
- Propose an amendment to reduce the funds to \$250,000.
- The Town Council should receive weekly updates of the project and financial information.
- Would like to know specifically what would be excluded from the project to remain at \$10,000,000.

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

MOVED: TO AMEND THE MOTION BY STRIKING “\$529,271.23” AND INSERTING IN ITS PLACE “\$250,000” IN TWO LOCATIONS IN THE ORDER TO READ AS FOLLOWS: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER, TO REPURPOSE \$ ~~529,271.23~~ **\$250,000** FROM EXCESS FUNDS BORROWED FOR PAYING EXPENSES INCURRED FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY HURRICANE IRENE ORDERED, THAT: THE SUM OF \$ ~~529,271.23~~ **\$250,000** TO BE REASSIGNED FROM THE EXCESS FUNDS OF THE HURRICANE IRENE BOND TO THE PARKING GARAGE CAPITAL PROJECT.

DISCUSSION: Comments on the motion including the amendment included:

- This project was currently 1.3% over budget including all of the unforeseen issues.
- Frustration with Councilors comments of irresponsible financial dealings of the town.
- For the record, the town has not been irresponsible in this project, any issues with this project had been outside the scope of the town.
- It would be irresponsible for a project of this magnitude not to have a contingency fund.
- There has been a lot of confusion lately with communication regarding finances.
- This Council requires transparency on projects.
- “Frills” are a minute portion of this project. The structure should be visibly pleasing to fit into the downtown.
- Dislike of consistent “showboating” to cut every budget proposed.
- Conversation should be held regarding the priorities for the town.
- Requested explanation of what the \$250,000 would cover for the project and what would happen to the remainder of the funds.

- The Mayor proposed reducing the amount to \$250,000.
- 80 % of the subterranean work had been completed.
- For a 10 million dollar project it was not unreasonable to have a \$530,000 contingency fund.

It was by roll call, 9 yes and 1 no, majority,
VOTED: TO AMEND THE MOTION.

President Renaud stated the Town Council would now vote on the motion as amended.

It was by roll call unanimously, 9 yes (Councilor Allis was not present for the vote),
VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER, TO REPURPOSE ~~\$ 529,274.23~~ **\$250,000** FROM EXCESS FUNDS BORROWED FOR PAYING EXPENSES INCURRED FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY HURRICANE IRENE ORDERED, THAT: THE SUM OF ~~\$ 529,274.23~~ **\$250,000** TO BE REASSIGNED FROM THE EXCESS FUNDS OF THE HURRICANE IRENE BOND TO THE PARKING GARAGE CAPITAL PROJECT, AS AMENDED.

Councilor Ricketts stated the Appointment and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for all proposed appointees.

Order no. FY 18-067

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously,
VOTED: 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: SARAH AHERN – FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2021.

Order no. FY 18-068

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously,
VOTED: 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: ANDREW NIGHSWANDER – FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2021.

Order no. FY 18-069

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously,
VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR TO THE PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE: JOHN ANDREWS – FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2021.

Order no. FY 18-070

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously,
VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10, ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR TO THE MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: JOANNE N. LEONARD – THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 2021.

Order no. FY 18-063

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER TO RESCIND BORROWING AUTHORITIES, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, THE FOLLOWING BORROWING AUTHORITIES TOTALING \$48,254,980 BE RESCINDED:

Purpose	Rescind
Upgrade School Energy Equipment	25,000
FEMA – Hurricane Irene	3,867,521
High School Construction	43,594,660
Purchase Lunt Property	68,271
Newton School Roof	91,500
North Parish Roof	3,029
Engineering Nash’s Mill Bridget	75,000
Replace Fuel Tank	100,000
Rehab Rocky Mountain Water Tank	400,000
DPW Garage Roof	30,000
	48,254,980

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

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -063.

It was noted the following two orders were recommended by Mr. Lunt to be tabled.

Order no. FY 18-064 A

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A TELECOMMUNICATION / BROAD BAND ENTERPRISE FUND, TO SEE IF THE CITY OF GREENFIELD WILL ACCEPT THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 44, SECTION 53F1/2 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS ESTABLISHING A TELECOMMUNICATION / BROAD BAND AS AN ENTERPRISE FUND EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Wheeler, second by Councilor Gilmour, it was unanimously,

TABLED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A TELECOMMUNICATION / BROAD BAND ENTERPRISE FUND, TO SEE IF THE CITY OF GREENFIELD WILL ACCEPT THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 44, SECTION 53F1/2 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS ESTABLISHING A TELECOMMUNICATION / BROAD BAND AS AN ENTERPRISE FUND EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018.

Order no. FY 18-064 B

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Stempel, second by Councilor Dolan, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER TO TRANSFER A TELECOMMUNICATION ENTERPRISE FUND, TO SEE IF THE CITY OF GREENFIELD WILL TRANSFER ALL CAPITAL ITEMS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS OF THE GCET MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT TO THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED TELECOMMUNICATIONS / BROAD BAND ENTERPRISE FUND.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sund, second by Councilor Ricketts, it was unanimously, **TABLED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF MAYOR MARTIN, AN ORDER TO TRANSFER A TELECOMMUNICATION ENTERPRISE FUND, TO SEE IF THE CITY OF GREENFIELD WILL TRANSFER ALL CAPITAL ITEMS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS OF THE GCET MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT TO THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED TELECOMMUNICATIONS / BROAD BAND ENTERPRISE FUND.

Councilor Ricketts stated the Economic Development Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation for approval for the following three orders for Silver Crest Lane and Silver Crest Circle. Discussion was held relating to the advantages for the residents and town for the acceptance.

Order no. FY 18-066 A

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously, **VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE CITY OF GREENFIELD KNOWN AS THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD THROUGH ITS TOWN COUNCIL TAKE BY EMINENT DOMAIN SO MUCH OF THE FEE SIMPLE INTEREST IN SILVER CREST LANE AND SILVER CREST CIRCLE AS WELL AS EASEMENTS DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT A AND MADE PART OF THIS MOTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF A PUBLIC WAY.

Order no. FY 18-066 B

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously, **VOTED:** THAT IT BE THAT THE CITY OF GREENFIELD KNOWN AS THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD THROUGH ITS TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTS A QUITCLAIM DEED FROM SILVER CREST LANE AND SILVER CREST CIRCLE TO THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD AND AUTHORIZED THE MAYOR AND TREASURER TO TAKE SUCH OTHER ACTION TO ACCOMPLISH THE SAME.

Order no. FY 18-066 C

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was unanimously, **VOTED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE CITY OF GREENFIELD KNOWN AS THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD THROUGH ITS TOWN COUNCIL LAYS OUT AND ACCEPT IN SILVER CREST LANE AND SILVER CREST CIRCLE AS A PUBLIC WAY AS DESCRIBED ON EXHIBIT A ATTACHED TO THIS MOTION AND MADE A PART OF IT.

Order no. FY 18-073

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ricketts, second by Councilor Pyfrom, it was, **MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL VOTES TO APPROVE THE FORMATION OF THE "2019 SPLIT TAX RATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE" FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION. THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIST OF 2 COUNCILORS, 2 RESIDENTS, AND 2 BUSINESS OWNERS WHICH WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT. THIS COMMITTEE WILL EXPIRE ON MARCH 1, 2019.

DISCUSSION: President Renaud stated persons who were interested in serving on this committee should contact her or Vice-President Ricketts.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -073.

Order no. FY 18-073

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

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT A PAGE IN THE MINUTES FOR TONIGHT'S MEETING, FEBRUARY 21, 2018, BE DEDICATED TO MR. WILLIAM BUDNESS A LONG TIME (RETIRED) GREENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER AND FORMER NFL OAKLAND RAIDER AND MR. EDWARD CLAYTON "ED" PHELPS (RETIRED) ENGLISH TEACHER AT GREENFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL.

DISCUSSION: Councilors discussed fond memories of Coach Budness. Councilor Allis requested a separate page in the minutes for each person.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE ORDER NO. FY 18 -073.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

APPOINTMENTS AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE- Chairperson Ricketts summarized discussion held during the February 14, 2018 meeting including two proposed Charter amendments by Councilor Mass and an ordinance relating to privatization of town services proposed by Councilor Mayo.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Councilor Ricketts reviewed discussion held during the February 13, 2018 meeting and noted Chairperson Leonovich would be back for the March meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Stempel held the following first reading:

- 85,000 to be appropriated from the General Stabilization Fund for the purpose of demolition of 188 Main Street
- \$76,000 to be appropriated from the General Stabilization Fund for the purpose of the Green Communities Grant Town Match.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: None.

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

VOTED: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:32 P.M.

A true copy,

Attest: _____
Deborah J. Tuttle, Town Clerk

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Greenfield High School Cafeteria
 Regular Meeting
 February 21, 2018

	Attendance	Amend 18-053	Amend 18-053	18-053			
1. Sund, Verne	Y	Y	Y	Y			
2. Lobik, John	Y	Y	Y	Y			
3. Allis, Brickett	Y	Y	Y	---			
4. Muzyka-Pyfrom, Wanda	Y	Y	Y	Y			
5. Dolan, Timothy	Y	Y	Y	Y			
6. Gilmour, Sheila	Y	Y	Y	Y			
7. Wheeler, Otis	Y	Y	Y	Y			
8. Mayo, Douglas	Y	Y	Y	Y			
9. Leonovich, Daniel	N	---	---	---			
10. Mass, Isaac	N	---	---	---			
11. Renaud, Karen	Y	---	---	---			
12. Ricketts, Penny	Y	Y	Y	Y			
13. Stempel, Ashley	Y	Y	N	Y			

10 yes
 9 yes
 1 no
 9 yes