

Charles B. Ryan
President
At Large

Sean E. Powers
At Large

Shannon L. Hume
At Large

Thomas W. Whalen
District 2

Thomas M. Bowes
District 3



CHARLES C. Kokoros
Vice President
District 1

Stephen C. O'Brien
District 4

David M. Ringius, Jr.
District 5

Timothy P. Carey
District 6

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

April 24, 2018 MINUTES

A SPECIAL meeting of the Town Council was held in the Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 beginning at 7:30p.m.

Council President Ryan was in the chair.
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Charles Ryan, President
Charles Kokoros, Vice President
Thomas Bowes
Timothy P. Carey
Shannon Hume
Stephen C. O'Brien
Sean Powers
David M. Ringius, Jr.
Thomas W. Whalen

Not Present: Thomas W. Whalen

Also Present: Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor
Joseph Reynold, Chief of Staff
Ed Spellman, Finance Director
Christine Stickney, Director Planning & Community Development
Al Varasso, American Legion representative
James Arsenault, DPW Director
Mike Nelligan, Powers & Sullivan Partner
Romina Mameli, Powers & Sullivan Manager
Meredith Berricca, resident

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

• March 27, 2018

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to Approve Minutes of March 27, 2018

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (9), Against (0), Absent (1 - Whalen), Abstain (0)

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND TOWN BOARDS

- 008 18 Powers & Sullivan – FY2017 Year End Reports

Powers & Sullivan conducts the Town's Annual Audit. Mike Nelligan explained what Powers & Sullivan does and what the results were. P&S issues 4 main reports as part of the audit:

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, a special audit of the elements of the pension system, a report on federal award programs called the single audit, and a management letter this year with three relatively minor comments in it.

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report - It is a nice achievement to get this award on your financial statements each year. Congratulations to Ed Spellman and his team for doing that again this year. On all of our audit reports we had no findings or questions on costs to report. We had full cooperation from management on all departments we worked with. All reports are full GAP compliant with no issues. The OPEB standard will come on this year in full. This is a lot more work for auditors. The pension plan in total is funded about 62%. Your appropriation for all the units combined is about \$9.5 million combining Town, Water & Sewer, Golf, BELD, and the Housing Authority – all part of this retirement system. OPEB has about \$8.8 million in the trust fund. Pension should be fully funded by 2034. The Town of Braintree is in the top tier of those funding their OPEB. You had about \$3.5 million in federal grants of which 90% were expended at the schools. Our management letter had three comments. Two were repeat comments. One being COSO or documentation of internal controls, another being on future GASB statements which is the OPEB funding going into effect this year and another new comment on the timeliness of reporting budget transfers. This was due to an appropriation approved through a Council Order where the transfer was taken out of a fund but not placed in the new fund.

Councilor O'Brien stated our internal auditors are working on these internal controls with our town departments.

OLD BUSINESS

- 17 067 Rezone: Thayer Sports Center or take up any action relative thereto (Public Hearing)

Motion by Councilor Kokoros to Open Public Hearing for Order 17 067

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros

Second: by Councilor Bowes

Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1 - Whalen), Abstain (0)

Council President Ryan referred to Councilor Powers, Chairman for Committee on Ordinance & Rules for a recommendation. Councilor Powers stated the committee met earlier this evening and we saw a presentation from the petitioner represented by Attorney Carl Johnson. Committee members asked questions and this was voted to be continued and taken up on June 5, 2018 possibly with a Committee on Ordinance & Rules meeting taken up prior to that.

Council President Ryan asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 17 067?

Carl Johnson, Attorney stated on behalf of Thayer Academy if this is to be continued as the public hearing has been opened I request a time certain on June 5, 2018.

Meredith Berricca, resident came to the podium and would like to come back on June 5, 2018 to address the rezone. She stated her largest concern is Thayer owns a lot of property in Town, they are not taxed on it so I want to make sure the public has full disclosure and it understood on what the rezoning looks like and that it is transparent to the citizens of the town.

Council President asked if there is anyone else wishing to speak? Hearing none.

Motion by Councilor Kokoros to CONTINUE the Public Hearing to June 5, 2018 at 7:30pm

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1 - Whalen), Abstain (0)

- 18 019 Mayor: Funding Request for Community Preservation Project - 435 Washington Street or take up any action relative thereto (Public Hearing)

Motion by Councilor Kokoros to Open Public Hearing for Order 18 019

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1 - Whalen), Abstain (0)

Council President Ryan referred to Councilor Bowes, Chairman for Committee of Ways & Means for a recommendation. Councilor Bowes stated the committee met earlier this evening and it was a favorable recommendation to the full Council hoping this work will be complete by July 2019 for the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion.

Council President Ryan asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 18 019?

Councilor Powers stated I would like to commend Al Varasso and the folks of the American Legion on the stewardship of that property.

Al Varasso stated it is a labor of love.

Councilor O'Brien stated if there is any overage he asked Chief of Staff, Joe Reynolds that the mayor would in fact step up and take care of the funding and he did approve that.

Councilor O'Brien stated we rise in support to keep the character for these types of buildings in Braintree.

Councilor Kokoros stated the American Legion will take back American flags that are "tired" and they will dispose of them properly.

Council President asked if there is a motion to close the public hearing?

Motion by Councilor Kokoros to Close Public Hearing for Order 18 019

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1 - Whalen), Abstain (0)

Motion read by Councilor Kokoros:

Motion: In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44B of the General Laws and with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, appropriate \$650,000.00 from the CPA Unreserved account for the preservation and restoration construction of the historic exterior and

universal accessibility project of the former Union School located at 435 Washington Street. Said funds are to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee and by the Director of Planning and Community Development.

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1 - Whalen), Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS

- None

Councilor Kokoros read the following Motions for referral to committee(s):

Refer to the Committee on the Department of Public Works

- 18 022 National Grid Petition: Grove Street or take up any action relative thereto

Refer to the Committee of Ways & Means

- 18 023 Mayor: Supplemental Appropriations #4 or take up any action relative thereto
- 18 024 Mayor: Funding Request for School Roof Replacement or take any action relative thereto
- 18 030 Mayor: Appointment to Conservation Commission – Christopher Hayward

Refer to the Committee on Ordinance & Rules

- 18 025 Mayor: Demolition Delay Ordinance or take up any action relative thereto
- 18 029 Mayor: Amendments to the Zoning Ordinances and the General Ordinances to Create a Planning Board Associate Member Position or take any action relative thereto

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1 - Whalen), Abstain (0)

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:38p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cimino

Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 008 18 Powers & Sullivan – FY2017 Year End Reports
- 17 067 Rezone: Thayer Sports Center or take up any action relative thereto (Public Hearing)
- 18 019 Mayor: Funding Request for Community Preservation Project - 435 Washington Street or take up any action relative thereto (Public Hearing)