

CHARLES RYAN  
President

LELAND DINGEE  
At Large

SEAN POWERS  
At Large

JOHN MULLANEY  
District 2

THOMAS BOWES  
District 3



CHARLES KOKOROS  
Vice President  
District 1

HENRY JOYCE  
District 4

RONALD DENAPOLI  
District 5

PAUL "DAN" CLIFFORD  
District 6

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

**March 16, 2010**

### MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Horace T. Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, March 16, 2010 beginning at 7:35p.m.

Council President Ryan was in the chair.

Clerk of the Council, James Casey, conducted the roll call.

Present: Charles B. Ryan, President  
Charles Kokoros, Vice President  
Leland A. Dingee (Left early, 8:00pm)  
Sean E. Powers  
John C. Mullaney  
Thomas Bowes  
Ronald DeNapoli

Not Present: Henry N. Joyce  
Paul Dan Clifford

Others: Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor  
Peter Morin, Chief of Staff  
Edward Spellman, Finance Director  
Paul Frazier, Chief of Police  
John Dennehy, Historical Society  
James Powers, Powers & Sullivan  
Michael Nelligan, Powers & Sullivan

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance and there was a moment of silence for all those serving in our armed services, past and present.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- **017 10 Mayor Sullivan:** Storm Update

Mayor Sullivan provided the following updates on the weekend rain storm:

- Breach at Great Pond on Sunday
- Highway Department flooded
- Pond Street Building without heat on Monday
- Evacuation of a number of homes
- Electrical transformer under water
- Roadways under water causing street closures and traffic issues
- Adams Street bridge possible damage
- Shelter established at the Daugherty Gym
- Governor declared a State of Emergency; possible funding from State/Federal Government
- Residents' should itemize expenses for claims and submit a letter with all documentation and file with the Town Clerk's Office. Information on Town website

Councilor Dingee left the Meeting at 8:00pm

- **012 10 John Dennehy:** Sacco & Vanzetti

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **008 10 Councilor Kokoros:** Prayers for Charlotte
- **013 10 Councilor Ryan:** Ross School PTO Upcoming Events
- **016 10 Councilor Dingee:** Meeting Notice – Article V, Amusement Games
- **017 10 Councilor Dingee:** Town Website – e-Government Award
- **018 10 Councilor Dingee:** Meeting Notice – Weymouth Landing PWED Project
- **019 10 Councilor Kokoros:** Online Bill Pay
- **Councilor Kokoros:** Hartland Company closing facility

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- March 2, 2010

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to approve as amended

**Second:** by Councilor DeNapoli

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

## **CITIZEN CONCERNS/COUNCIL RESPONSE**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Committee on Ways & Means**

- **10 021 Mayor:** Appointment – Conservation Commission

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to take from the table

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Committee Chairman Mullaney noted that the background information on the candidate has been provided and he recommends approval of the Mayor's appointment of Diane Francis to the Conservation Commission.

**Motion:** by Councilor Mullaney

**Second:** by Councilor Kokoros

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

- **10 022 Mayor:** Appointment – Zoning Board of Appeals

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to take from the table

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Committee Chairman Mullaney noted that the background information on the candidate has been provided and he recommends approval of the Mayor's appointment of Michael Calder to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**Motion:** by Councilor Mullaney

**Second:** by Councilor Kokoros

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **Committee on Ways & Means**

- **10 015 Town Council:** FY2009 Unpaid Bill

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to open Public Hearing

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Mullaney read into the records the February 12, 2010 memo from the Clerk of the Council explaining the request.

Council President Ryan asked if any members of the Council or Public would like to comment. No one came forward.

- Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to close Public Hearing
- Second:** by Councilor Bowes
- Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Kokoros read the motion as printed in the February 12, 2010 memo from the Clerk of the Council.

- Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to approve as read
- Second:** by Councilor Bowes
- Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

- **10 017 Mayor:** Appropriations – Water & Sewer FY2010

- Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to open Public Hearing
- Second:** by Councilor Bowes
- Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Mullaney read into the records the February 22, 2010 memo from Mayor Sullivan explaining the request.

Peter Morin, Chief of Staff, commented that the Department of Revenue (DOR) questioned the level of expenses being supported by revenues and would not certify the tax rate without a rate increase. The Town resolved the issue by showing that the Town had bonded some capital improvements that were originally to be funded via Water/Sewer reserves. Prior to the bonding, reserves were at \$1.4 million and after, \$5.9 million.

Council President Ryan asked if any members of the Council or Public would like to comment. No one came forward.

- Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to close Public Hearing
- Second:** by Councilor Bowes
- Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Kokoros read the motion as printed in the February 22, 2010 memo from Mayor Sullivan.

- Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to approve as read
- Second:** by Councilor Bowes
- Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

- **10 018 Mayor:** Borrowing Authorization General Municipal Purposes

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to open Public Hearing

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Mullaney read into the records the February 18, 2010 memo from Mayor Sullivan explaining the request and updated the funding request as described in the amendment outlined in the March 16, 2010 memo from Peter Morin.

Peter Morin, Chief of Staff, provided members' with an amendment to the proposed borrowing request; increasing the request by \$140,000 to \$3, 040,000. In a memo dated March 16, 2010 from Mr. Morin, it explained that the increase was attributable to a need to replace ceiling tiles and lighting in the Police Department. The original request was \$500,000 to replace the HVAC system. The addition of the ceiling tiles and lighting increased the cost by \$140,000 to \$640,000.

Council President Ryan asked if any members of the Council or Public would like to comment. No one came forward.

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to close Public Hearing

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Kokoros read the motion as printed in the February 18, 2010 memo from Mayor Sullivan and amended as described in the March 16, 2010 memo from Peter Morin.

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to approve as amended

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

- **10 019 Mayor:** Borrowing Authorization South Middle School

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to open Public Hearing

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Mullaney read into the records the February 18, 2010 memo from Mayor Sullivan explaining the request.

Peter Morin, Chief of Staff, commented that overall costs of the renovations are in line with the cost estimate previously set by the School Building Committee and approved by the Town Council.

Council President Ryan asked if any members of the Council or Public would like to comment. No one came forward.

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to close Public Hearing  
**Second:** by Councilor Bowes  
**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Kokoros read the motion as printed in the February 18, 2010 memo from Mayor Sullivan.

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to approve as amended  
**Second:** by Councilor Bowes  
**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

- **10 020 Mayor:** Borrowing Authorization Land Purchase

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to open Public Hearing  
**Second:** by Councilor Bowes  
**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Mullaney read into the records the February 18, 2010 memo from Mayor Sullivan explaining the request.

Peter Morin, Chief of Staff, commented that in 1997 the Town negotiated the right of first refusal on the property with the Norfolk County Commissions and the acquisition of the property would be an asset to the Town.

Council President Ryan asked if any members of the Council or Public would like to comment. No one came forward.

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to close Public Hearing  
**Second:** by Councilor Bowes  
**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor Kokoros read the motion as printed in the February 18, 2010 memo from Mayor Sullivan.

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to approve as amended  
**Second:** by Councilor Bowes  
**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

## COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND TOWN BOARDS

- **014 10 Councilor Mullaney:** FY2009 Annual Audit Report

James Powers and Michael Nelligan of Powers & Sullivan, the Town's outside audit firm, provided an overview of the recently completed FY2009 audit. It was pointed out that there was one "significant Deficiency" to report. This was attributable to the staffing shortage within the Treasury Operations. It noted that the department has retained the help of a part-time outside consultant to assist in getting the cash postings and bank reconciliations brought up-to-date but the situation continues to exist.

Additionally, it was pointed out that for the Town to remain compliant with the GASB Statement #45 requirements should work with their actuarial firm to assure that information needed for the next valuation report is provided in ample time for the fiscal year 2010 audit.

## NEW BUSINESS

### REFER TO COMMITTEE

#### Committee on Ways & Means (March 30, 2010)

- **10 034 Mayor:** Appropriations – Golf Course

#### Committee on Public Works (April 27, 2010)

- **10 024 NationalGrid:** Petition – Hollingsworth Avenue
- **10 025 NationalGrid:** Petition – Hillview Road
- **10 026 NationalGrid:** Petition – Tremont Street
- **10 027 NationalGrid:** Petition – White Road
- **10 028 NationalGrid:** Petition – Park Avenue
- **10 029 NationalGrid:** Petition – Devon Road
- **10 030 NationalGrid:** Petition – Blanchard Boulevard
- **10 031 NationalGrid:** Petition – Hillcrest Road

**Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to refer each of the above orders to their appropriate committee.

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (6), Against (0), Absent (3-Clifford, Dingee, Joyce)

Councilor DeNapoli commented that he received a number of complaints from residents regarding previous work performed by NationalGrid and would like the Clerk of the Council to set up a meeting with NationalGrid representatives prior to taking up the above orders. The Clerk of the Council asked Councilor DeNapoli to send him an email with the street locations so he could communicate the problems areas to NationalGrid to allow them to investigate the problems prior to the meeting.

## **OTHER**

- **015 10 Councilor Ryan:** Employee Evaluations

The Council President asked members to submit their employee evaluation for the Town Clerk by the end of the week and submit them to the Director of Human Resources.

The Clerk of the Council pointed out to the Council President that the Town Clerk has provided members with a monthly update of the Town Clerk's Office. The Council President commented that they will take them up at a future meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
James M. Casey  
Clerk of the Council