

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

May 3, 2011

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Horace T. Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 beginning at 7:30p.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 (Arrived Late: 8:05pm)
Leland Dingee
Sean Powers
John C. Mullaney
Thomas Bowes
Henry N. Joyce
Paul Dan Clifford (Arrived Late: 7:35pm)

Note Present: Ronald DeNapoli

Others: Joseph Sullivan, Mayor
Mark Cusack, State Representative
Edward Spellman, Finance Director
Paul Frazier, Police Chief
Marybeth McGrath, Building Division Director
Christine Stickney, Director of Planning and Community Development
Betsy Wolfe, Library Director
Sharmila Biswas, Director Elder Affairs
Peter Kurzberg, Superintendent of Schools
Joseph Powers, Town Clerk
Eric Kinsherf, Town Auditor

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

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **014 11 Councilor Joyce:** Recreation Department - Upcoming Events
- **015 11 Councilor Dingee:** Thayer Public Library - Upcoming Events
- **Councilor Ryan:** Special Education Advisory Council

Councilor Cliffored arrived at 7:35pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- April 26, 2011

Motion: by Councilor Bowes

Second: by Councilor Dingee

Vote: For (7), Against (0), Abstain (2-DeNapoli, Kokoros)

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COUNCIL RESPONSE

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND TOWN BOARDS

- 11 011 – **Mayor:** FY2012 Operating Budget

Mayor Sullivan provided an overview of his fourth budget proposal. He commented that services are sustainable for the FY2012 budget year. Moody's Investor Service lauded Braintree for its performance over the past several years. Cash reserves, Stabilization Fund and Free Cash, have doubled over the past three years to \$11.2 million dollars. Due to a favorable bond rating, Braintree refinanced its debt and saved over one-quarter of a million dollars in principal and interest costs. The FY2012 budget proposal does not carry-over any debt from snow and ice costs.

Mayor Sullivan stated that education was a top priority; receiving two-thirds of new revenues. There was a \$2 million dollar increase in the school operating budget over the previous fiscal year; replacing federal funds as well as adding an all day kindergarten. The budget adds one additional police officer, expands the civilian dispatcher program, and provides funding for new equipment,

improvements to the police and fire department buildings. All departments will be receiving an increase; though departments will not be getting all they had wanted. He pointed out there are no budget cuts to any department.

A second one-hundred road program will be presented this year; with road repairs across all six districts.

Through collective bargaining agreements, health care costs are now under control. Employees will see a modest increase in co-pays with a 3% premium increase; the lowest increase of any community.

Mayor Sullivan announced that the Treasure Office will now be open on Tuesday until 8:00pm to provided added service hours for the public. There are no additional costs for the extended hours.

Councilor Kokoros arrived at 8:05pm

NEW BUSINESS

Refer to Committee on Public Works

- 11 017 – **NationalGrid Petition:** Pleasant Street
- 11 018 – **NationalGrid Petition:** Weston Avenue
- 11 019 – **NationalGrid Petition:** Georganna Street
- 11 020 – **NationalGrid Petition:** Plain Street
- 11 021 – **NationalGrid Petition:** Jefferson Street

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to refer all five Orders to Committee

Second: by Councilor Bowes

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

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:17p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James M. Casey
Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- **April 26, 2011 Minutes**
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