

MINUTES OF THE BRAINTREE TOWN COUNCIL
Council Chambers, Cahill Auditorium, Town Hall

April 29, 2008

Present: Leland A. Dingee, President
Charles B. Ryan, Vice-President
Harold J. Randolph
Charles C. Kokoros
John C. Mullaney
Thomas M. Bowes
Paul Dan Clifford
Ronald E. DeNapoli
Henry N. Joyce

Also Present: Donna Fabiano, Town Clerk

Council President Dingee called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Town Clerk Donna Fabiano conducted the roll call.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Vice-President Ryan read a letter from Mr. Kuntz (Chairman of the Recycling Committee) to Mayor Sullivan regarding the semi-annual household hazardous waste collection on Saturday, May 17, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Robert Salvagio Recycling Center on Ivory Street.

Council President Dingee received a letter from Ms. Phelan (Conservation Planner) regarding river herring in the Monatiquot River. A “Run of the Herring Day” is planned for Saturday, May 10, from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Councilor Kokoros reported that the Highlands School will hold a silent auction at the D.A.V. on May 2 at 7:00 p.m. He encouraged all the Councilors to attend.

Councilor Clifford received correspondence from a concerned resident regarding the recent passage of a waste transfer station that Holbrook is

proposing. Councilor Clifford stated that he will inform the constituents of any developments.

MINUTES

Town Council Meeting – April 8, 2008

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Ryan to approve the Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2008

SECOND: by Councilor Randolph

VOTE: Unanimous

Ways and Means Committee Meeting – March 25, 2008

MOTION: by Councilor Joyce to approve the Ways and Means Committee Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2008

SECOND: by Council Vice-President Ryan

VOTE: Unanimous

Ways and Means Committee Meeting – April 22, 2008

MOTION: by Councilor Randolph to approve the Ways and Means Committee Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2008

SECOND: by Council Vice-President Ryan

VOTE: Unanimous

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

08-026 Mayor, Appointments to Committees
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate Members
Mayor’s Committee on Braintree and South Braintree Squares
Board of Health
Mayor’s Health and Wellness Advisory Committee

Councilor Mullaney stated that the Ways and Means Committee has unanimously recommended that Michelle Lauria and Jay Nuss be appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals as alternate members.

MOTION: by Councilor Mullaney to appoint Michelle Lauria and Jay Nuss to the Zoning Board of Appeals as alternate members

SECOND: by Councilor Kokoros
VOTE: Unanimous to approve 08-026

Councilor Mullaney stated that the Ways and Means Committee has unanimously recommended the nominees for the following three committees:

The Mayor's Committee on Braintree and South Braintree Square (Michael Ford, Tom Kettel, Angela Geso, Suzanne Andrade, Ron O'Brien, John Moran).

Board of Health (Paula Dowd, Philip Nedelman, M.D., Mark Samuelson, M.D.).

Mayor's Health and Wellness Advisory Committee (Marybeth McGrath, Arthur Graziano, Stephen Pratt, Gerard Jernegan, D.D.M., Thomas Corcoran).

MOTION: by Councilor Mullaney to approve these nominees
SECOND: by Councilor Randolph
VOTE: Unanimous to approve 08-026

PUBLIC HEARING

08-027 Keyspan – Gas Main Margaret Road

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Ryan to open the Public Hearing
SECOND: by Councilor Randolph
VOTE: Unanimous

Council President Dingee stated that this was an emergency opening and it was approved by Mr. Whalen, D.P.W. Director.

Council Vice-President Ryan read the specifics of the request.

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Ryan to close the Public Hearing
SECOND: by Councilor Randolph
VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Ryan to approve the petition

SECOND: by Councilor Randolph
VOTE: Unanimous to approve 08-027

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR, TOWN OFFICERS AND TOWN BOARDS

Mayor's Office, Road Improvement Program

The Councilors received a memo from the Mayor (April 25, 2008) regarding the Road Improvement Program. Council Vice-President Ryan read the memo. He informed the Council that as the Chairman of the D.P.W. Committee, he will ask to meet with the Mayor's applicable staff to discuss this program. He will then ask the appropriate people to come before the full Council to give an update.

NEW BUSINESS

08-028 Mayor – Re-appropriation for Finance Consultant – Refer to Ways and Means Committee

Council Vice-President Ryan read the Mayor's April 11, 2008 memo regarding the request for re-appropriation for Financial Consultant. The Mayor retained the services of Eric Kinsherf and his accounting firm, Thevenin, Lynch, Bienvenue, LLP, to assist with revenue forecasting and the preparation of the Fiscal Year 2009 budget.

If approved by the Council, the proper motion is as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF BRAINTREE THAT THE SUM OF \$17,000 BE RE-APPROPRIATED FROM THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT/PERSONNEL SERVICES/DEPARTMENT HEAD LINE ITEM AND THE SUM OF \$3,000 BE RE-APPROPRIATED FROM THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT/PERSONNEL SERVICES/DEPARTMENT HEAD LINE ITEM TO THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT/GENERAL EXPENSES/CONSULTANT LINE ITEM FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE CONTRACT WITH THE FINANCIAL CONSULTANT.

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Ryan to refer this to the Ways and Means Committee

SECOND: by Councilor Randolph
VOTE: Unanimous to refer 08-028 to the Ways and Means Committee

Interviews with Five Finalists for the Clerk of the Council Position

The finalists are: Deirdre Berry, Nance LaPlante, Jacqueline Erskine, Mary Diamond and James Casey. At the Council's meeting last week, they decided that there would be closing remarks allowed by the candidates, but no opening remarks. Council Vice-President Ryan suggested that the candidates be allowed to give opening remarks.

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Ryan to allow the candidates to give opening remarks
SECOND: by Councilor Joyce
VOTE: Unanimous

Kristen Capen was listed as a finalist, but was not present for the interviews.

The Councilors interviewed the five finalists.

MOTION: by Councilor Clifford to take a 10-minute recess at 8:55 p.m.
SECOND: by Councilor Randolph
VOTE: Unanimous

The meeting resumed at 9:05 p.m.

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Ryan to open up the nominations for the Clerk of the Council position
SECOND: by Councilor Randolph
VOTE: Unanimous

Councilor Mullaney nominated Nancy LaPlante.

Councilor Kokoros nominated Deirdre Berry.

Councilor Randolph nominated James Casey.

There were no further nominations.

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Casey to close nominations

SECOND: by Councilor Randolph

VOTE: Unanimous

Votes for Nancy LaPlante: (2 votes) Councilors Mullaney and DeNapoli voted in favor.

Votes for Deirdre Berry: (3 votes) Councilors Kokoros, Ryan and Clifford voted in favor.

Votes for James Casey: (4 votes) Councilors Bowes, Randolph, Joyce and Dingee voted in favor.

No nominee received the majority vote.

MOTION: by Council Vice-President Ryan to drop the candidate who received the least amount of votes and move forward with the two who received the most votes

SECOND: by Councilor Randolph for discussion

Discussion: Council Vice-President Ryan made the motion to move things along unless someone could convince him that they felt strongly against it. Councilor Mullaney felt strongly against it because he didn't want a compromised candidate.

Council Vice-President Ryan withdrew his Motion.

The Councilors continued the voting.

Votes for Nancy LaPlante: (1 vote) Councilor Mullaney voted in favor.

Votes for Deirdre Berry: (4 votes) Councilors DeNapoli, Kokoros, Clifford and Ryan voted in favor.

Votes for James Casey: (4 votes) Councilors Bowes, Randolph, Joyce and Dingee voted in favor.

Councilor Clifford suggested further discussion regarding the candidates.

Votes for Nancy LaPlante: (4 votes) Councilors Clifford, DeNapoli, Kokoros and Mullaney voted in favor.

Votes for Deirdre Berry: (1 vote) Councilor Ryan voted in favor.

Votes for James Casey: (4 votes) Councilors Bowes, Randolph, Dingee and Joyce voted in favor.

Votes for Nancy LaPlante: (4 votes) Councilors Clifford, DeNapoli, Kokoros and Mullaney voted in favor.

Votes for Deirdre Berry: (1 vote) Councilor Ryan voted in favor.

Votes for James Casey: (4 votes) Councilors Bowes, Randolph, Dingee and Joyce voted in favor.

Votes for Nancy LaPlante: (4 votes) Councilors DeNapoli, Kokoros, Clifford and Mullaney voted in favor.

Votes for Deirdre Berry: Zero votes

James Casey: (5 votes) Councilors Bowes, Joyce, Randolph, Dingee and Ryan voted in favor.

Council President Dingee announced that Mr. Casey achieved the majority vote and he has been chosen for the position of Clerk of the Council.

MOTION: by Councilor Mullaney to make the vote for Mr. Casey unanimous.

SECOND: by Council Vice-President Ryan

VOTE: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Councilor Joyce to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

SECOND: by Council Vice-President Ryan

VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Thorpe
Recording Secretary

