

Shannon L. Hume
President
At Large

Charles B. Ryan
At Large

Julia Camille Flaherty
District 1

Steven A. Sciascia
District 2

Donna L. Connors
District 3



David M. Ringius, Jr.
Vice-President
At Large

Stephen C. O'Brien
District 4

Meredith L. Boericke
District 5

Lawrence C. Mackin, Jr.
District 6

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Johnson Chambers, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 beginning at 7:30p.m.

Council President Hume was in the chair.

Clerk of the Council, Susan M. Cimino conducted the roll call.

- Present:
- Shannon Hume, President
 - David M. Ringius, Jr., Vice-President
 - Charles Ryan
 - Julia Camille Flaherty
 - Steven A. Sciascia
 - Donna L. Connors
 - Stephen C. O'Brien
 - Meredith L. Boericke
 - Lawrence C. Mackin, Jr.
- Others:
- Nicole Taub, Chief of Staff/Town Solicitor
 - Ed Spellman, Director of Finance
 - Ed Cronin, Business Director of Schools
 - Karen Shanley, Human Resource Director
 - James Arsenault, DPW Director
 - Dan Sullivan, Town Auditor
 - Shawn McGoldrick, Town Auditor
 - Hannah York, Town Auditor
 - Timothy Carey, former Town Councilor
 - Luke A. Killeffer (Eagle Scout Award) and family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 030 20 Council President: Recognition - Luke A. Killeffer (Eagle Scout Award)
Luke's project was to clean out the rotunda room and attic in the Abington American Legion. It was full of trash and garbage. It was a lot of work. It took months to clean out half and then we began to restore, tidy up and replace a door. We finished the clean-up and they now use it for an office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- December 3, 2019
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to Approve Minutes of December 3, 2019
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- December 17, 2019
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to Approve Minutes of December 17, 2019
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- January 2, 2020
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to Approve Minutes of January 2, 2020
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- January 7, 2020
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to Approve Minutes of January 7, 2020
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- January 21, 2020
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to Approve Minutes of January 21, 2020
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

OLD BUSINESS

- **19 044 Mayor: To Approve the purchase and resale of an affordable-housing unit at Turtle Crossing and the expenditure of funds for that purpose or take up any action relative thereto** (Public Hearing to be continued)

Councilor Ringius made a Motion to TAKE off the TABLE Order 19 044

Motion: by Councilor Ringius to TAKE off the TABLE Order 19 044

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Councilor Ringius made a Motion to OPEN the Public Hearing on Order 19 044

Motion: by Councilor Ringius to OPEN the Public Hearing on Order 19 044

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Council President Hume read a statement from John Goldrosen, Assistant Town Solicitor to please continue this item, without action, until the March 17th meetings of the Ways & Means Committee and the Town Council. The unit owner is awaiting approval of a proposed loan modification agreement with her lender. If the agreement is approved, the scheduled foreclosure will be cancelled and there would be no need for any Town action. The decision on the loan modification agreement probably won’t be made before the next scheduled Council meeting on March 4th, and so I am requesting the continuance until March 17th.

Councilor Ringius made a Motion to TABLE the Public Hearing for Order 19 044 to March 17, 2020 at 7:30pm

Motion: by Councilor Ringius to TABLE Order 19 044 to March 17, 2020 at 7:30pm

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

• **20 016 Council President: Re-Appointment Town Auditor or take up any action relative thereto**

Council President Hume asked for a recommendation from the Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Councilor Boericke stated the committee met earlier this evening and Order 20 016 was discussed. Clifton Larson Allen has been the Town Auditor for the past three years and specializes in Municipal Government. CLA revised the contract and it will be a \$25,000 savings to the town over the life of the contract which is three years. It is noted there was a request that in 2 years the W&M begin looking at multiple vendors to be sure we get the best value for the next contractual term. The Committee unanimously voted for a favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Councilor O'Brien stated I want to thank Clifton Larson Allen. I do not think we could find a better firm to help us with all we go through in this job. You are a valued entity in this organization. I think in two years we will come to the same conclusion.

Councilor Ryan stated I am in support of this re-appointment of Town Auditors. I have been on the Council for 12 years and have seen the different auditors we have had. I feel with 5 new Council members and a new Mayor it is good to have a strong Town Auditor who is familiar with the Town.

Dan Sullivan, Town Auditor stated thank you for the past three years on behalf of Shawn McGoldrick and Hannah York, it has been a pleasure working for Braintree.

President Hume stated I served on the Council now for 6 years. In that time for Town Auditors there was an individual, a firm and then putting this position out to bid and interviewing many I feel there is no one better to serve our needs. I support this and look forward to working with you again.

Council President Hume asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 20 016?

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

Councilor Ringius read the Motion:

MOTION:

Pursuant to Section 2-8 (A) of the Charter of the Town of Braintree the Town Council appoints Clifton Larson Allen (CLA) as Town Auditor for a three year contract effective April 24, 2020 through April 23, 2023.

Motion: by Councilor Ringius to Approve Order 20 016

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

• **20 019 Mayor: Transfer Funds from Human Resources Salary Reserve or take up any action relative thereto**

Council President Hume asked for a recommendation from the Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means. Councilor Boericke stated the committee met earlier this evening and Order 20 019 was discussed. The monies are not new financial obligations they are transfers from the Human Resource Reserve Account set aside to fund union contracts. The Committee unanimously voted for a favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Councilor O'Brien stated please note I feel the 2-3-2 contract is a rich contract. I will rise to support this because I do know the funds have been set aside.

Councilor Ryan stated I will support this. This has been negotiated with the Union in good faith. The 2-3-2 is a fair and reasonable contract.

Council President Hume stated I will support this for the working men and women who work for the Town of Braintree.

Council President Hume asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 20 019?

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

Councilor Ringius read the Motion:

MOTION:

That the Town vote to amend the wage and salary classification schedules, as most recently amended by transferring the sum of \$9,351.76 for the purpose of funding a wage increase as detailed in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Braintree Library Staff Association, MLSA Local 4928, AFT Massachusetts, AFL-CIO, (BLSA) effective July 1, 2019, and for this purpose, the sum of \$9,351.76 be transferred from the Human Resources/ Program 04- Employee Benefits/ Benefits Reserve 5179 and further, that the Director of Municipal Finance is authorized to allocate said sums to and among the various accounts affected thereby in such amounts as are proper and required. In anticipation of approval of these agreements, funds were appropriated to a salary reserve account in the previously approved Fiscal Year 2020 budget.

Motion: by Councilor Ringius to Approve Order 20 019

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **20 020 Mayor: Appointment – Cultural Council, Anne Stuart or take up any action relative thereto**

Council President Hume asked for a recommendation from the Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means. Councilor Boericke stated the committee met earlier this evening and Order 20 020 was discussed. The Committee unanimously voted for a favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Council President Hume asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 20 020?

Councilor Flaherty stated I feel Ms. Stuart is a really good fit for this position and I support her fully.

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

Councilor Ringius read the Motion:

MOTION: To Approve in accordance with Section 3-3 of the Charter, the Appointment of Anne Stuart to the Cultural Council.

Motion: by Councilor Ringius to Approve Order 20 020

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- **20 021 Braintree School Department: Authorization to execute Memorandum of Understanding with Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services or take up any action relative thereto**

Council President Hume asked for a recommendation from the Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Councilor Boericke stated the committee met earlier this evening and Order 20 021 was discussed. This allows the Town to apply for a grant for federal reimbursement for some of the costs the schools incur by transporting children in foster care. The Committee unanimously voted for a favorable recommendation to the full Council.

Council President Hume asked if any member of the Council or General Public want to speak on Order 20 021?

Ed Cronin, stated this is a grant to help off-set the cost of transporting foster children. We will be refunded around 25% but unsure as to exact amount at this time.

Councilor Ringius stated when foster kids are taken out of their homes they can continue with the stability of the school system and it is great we will get some reimbursement for such an important program.

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

Councilor Ringius read the Motion:

MOTION:

To authorize the Superintendent of the Braintree Public School Department to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Department of Children and Families, in order to obtain Federal Title IV-E reimbursements for costs incurred by the Braintree Public School Department for foster care transportation, and to provide that payments for such foster care transportation costs may be made from the reimbursements that are received under the MOU, without appropriation of said reimbursements, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 70.

Motion: by Councilor Ringius to Approve Order 20 021

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS

• **20 031 Town Clerk: Call of the Election – March 28, 2020 or take up any action relative thereto**

Council President Hume stated this is a placeholder for vote on be held at the March 4, 2020 Town Council meeting. No further action required at this time.

Councilor Ringius read the following referral to the Committee on Personnel Issues:

Refer to the Committee on Personnel Issues

• **20 022 Council President: Re-Appointment Town Clerk or take up any action relative thereto**

Motion: by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee on Personnel Issues Order 20 022

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Councilor Ringius read the following referral to the Committee on the Department of Public Works:

Refer to the Committee on the Department of Public Works

- 20 023 National Grid Petition: Liberty Street or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee on the Department of Public Works Order 20 023
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- 20 024 National Grid Petition: Stonewood Lane or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee on the Department of Public Works Order 20 024
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- 20 025 National Grid Petition: Wynot Road or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee on the Department of Public Works Order 20 025
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- 20 026 National Grid Petition: Elm Street or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee on the Department of Public Works Order 20 026
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Councilor Ringius read the following referral to the Committee of Ways & Means:

Refer to the Committee of Ways & Means

- 20 027 Mayor: Request to Approve the Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Plan or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 20 027
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- 20 028 Mayor: Request for Appropriation - Fiscal Year 2020 General Fund Capital Budget or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 20 028
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia),
Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Councilor Ringius read the following referrals to the Committee of Ways & Means:

- 20 029 Mayor: Request for Appropriation – Fiscal Year 2020 Enterprise Funds Capital Budget or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 20 029
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- 20 030 Mayor: Request for Appropriation – Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Budget - Other Available Funds or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 20 030
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- 20 032 Mayor: FY2020 Supplemental Appropriation #2 (Master Plan) or take up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 20 032
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

- 20 033 Mayor FY2020 Supplemental Appropriation #3 (PFAS Removal-Water Treatment Plant) up any action relative thereto
 - Motion:** by Councilor Ringius to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 20 033
 - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
 - Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O’Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Councilor O'Brien referred to Town Council Rules to make a motion to add an item to the agenda requesting a Proposed Bylaw of Single-Use Plastic Bag Reduction be referred to the Committee on Ordinance & Rules for consideration. Councilor O'Brien stated he is making this referral on behalf of Girl Scout Troop 76066. I would ask Troop 76066 invited for a presentation to demonstrate they can make a difference and demonstrate that their voice matters. Submitted is drafted documentation to be given a Council Order number and titled Councilor O'Brien: Chapter 8.800 Single Use Plastic Bag By-Law.

Council President Hume stated I did receive your email and replied. The Girl Scout Troop 76066 reached out to me as well and due to their schedule we were planning to meet in March. After that meeting I was having them come before the Council.

- Motion:** by Councilor O'Brien to add a Measure to the Agenda for Councilor O'Brien: Chapter 8.800 Single Use Plastic Bag By-Law for referral to the Committee on Ordinance & Rules
- Second:** by Councilor Mackin
- Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Refer to the Committee on Ordinance & Rules

- 20 034 Councilor O'Brien: Chapter 8.800 Single Use Plastic Bag By-Law or take up any action relative thereto

- Motion:** by Councilor O'Brien to add a Measure to the Agenda for Councilor O'Brien: Chapter 8.800 Single Use Plastic Bag By-Law for referral to the Committee on Ordinance & Rules
- Second:** by Councilor Mackin
- Vote:** For (9 – Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

Topics the Chair does not reasonably anticipate will be discussed

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Next Council Meeting scheduled on: [**Wednesday, March 4, 2020 @7:30pm**](#)

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:23p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Cimino, Clerk of the Council

Meeting Documents

- 20 016 Council President: Re-Appointment Town Auditor or take up any action relative thereto
- 20 019 Mayor: Transfer Funds from Human Resources Salary Reserve or take up any action relative thereto
- 20 020 Mayor: Appointment – Cultural Council, Anne Stuart or take up any action relative thereto
- 20 021 Braintree School Department: Authorization to execute Memorandum of Understanding with Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services or take up any action relative thereto
- 20 031 Town Clerk: Call of the Election – March 28, 2020 or take up any action relative thereto
- 20 034 Councilor O’Brien: Chapter 8.800 Single Use Plastic Bag By-Law or take up any action relative thereto