

LELAND A. DINGEE  
President

CHARLES RYAN  
Vice President

HAROLD RANDOLPH  
At Large

CHARLES KOKOROS  
District 1

JOHN MULLANEY  
District 2



THOMAS BOWES  
District 3

HENRY JOYCE  
District 4

RONALD DENAPOLI  
District 5

PAUL "DAN" CLIFFORD  
District 6

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

### September 15, 2009

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Horace T. Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Council President Dingee was in the chair.

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

Present: Leland A. Dingee, President  
Charles B. Ryan, Vice-President  
Harold Randolph  
Charles Kokoros (left early 8:50p.m.)  
John C. Mullaney  
Thomas Bowes  
Henry N. Joyce  
Ronald DeNapoli  
Paul Dan Clifford (left early at 8:55p.m.)

Also Present: NationalGrid Representatives  
Braintree Retirement Board Members  
Various Residents

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**

- **090-09** Historical Society – Heritage Day
- **091-09** Councilor Kokoros – Dianne DeVanna Center
- **087-09** Councilor Ryan: Sustainable Braintree – Farmer’s Market
- - Councilor Mullaney: Kids Clothes Closet

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**September 1, 2009**

**Motion:** by Councilor Ryan to approve

**Second:** by Councilor Randolph

**Vote:** Unanimous

## **CITIZEN CONCERNS/COUNCIL RESPONSE**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **09 042** NationalGrid: Petition – Fountain Street, Victoria Avenue, Boscobel Street, Columbus Avenue and Sagamore Street
- **09 014** NationalGrid Petition – River Street/Lemoyne Street
- **09 015** NationalGrid Petition – President Road

**Motion:** by Councilor Ryan to take items 09 042, 09 014 & 09 015 off the table

**Second:** by Councilor Randolph

**Vote:** Unanimous

A lengthy discussion took place concerning the subject petitions for “curb-to-curb” resurfacing of these roadways after NationalGrid completes gasoline repair work. Each of the subject roadways were reconstructed in the past six years and are currently in good condition. Several Council Members expressed their displeasure with trench repairs that had been completed over the years. Further, discussion on the elimination of Victoria Avenue from the petition as residents on Victoria Avenue had presented a petition to the Council in July stating that they no longer had gas service and did not want the roadway dug up.

NationalGrid representative, Tom Mulkeen, explained that existing gaslines in these roadways are classified as “high risk” and are prone to leaks. Emergency repairs were made earlier in the year on several of these roadways and the trenches were temporarily patched. NationalGrid planned to come back during the year and replace these gaslines. Mr. Mulkeen stated that NationalGrid

was willing to grind down the trenches to a five foot width and use a spreader box to resurface the trench. He further explained, if the petitions were not approved it is highly likely that emergency repairs would be required as new leaks are detected. Additionally, if the residents on Victoria Avenue do not want gas service NationalGrid would be willing to disconnect the gasline to the street. He cautioned that if the gasline is disconnected and in the future a resident decides they want gas service, the cost of installing a new main would be at the homeowner's expense.

Councilor Clifford made a motion to develop a policy on utility repairs. A group consisting of representatives of NationalGrid, the Legislative and Executive Branch of Government meet to develop this policy.

**Motion:** by Councilor Clifford  
**Second:** by Councilor Ryan  
**Vote:** Unanimous

Councilor Randolph motioned to reconsider the three petitions before the Council.

**Motion:** by Councilor Randolph  
**Second:** by Councilor Ryan  
**Vote:** For (6), Against (3-Clifford, DeNapoli, Kokoros)

Councilor Randolph motioned that the three petitions be approved with the conditions recommended by staff.

Councilor Ryan amended the motion that approval of the three petitions be conditioned on the trenches be ground to five feet wide and resurfaced; the DPW would be required to sign-off on the trench repairs and Victoria Avenue be eliminated from Petition 09-042 and homeowners on Victoria Avenue be notified in writing by NationalGrid that any requests for future gas services would be at the homeowner's expense.

**Motion:** by Councilor Ryan on amended motion  
**Second:** by Councilor Mullaney  
**Vote:** For (6), Against (3-Clifford, DeNapoli, Kokoros)

**Motion:** by Councilor Randolph on main motion as amended  
**Second:** by Councilor Ryan  
**Vote:** For (6), Against (3-Clifford, DeNapoli, Kokoros)

- **09 050 NationalGrid: Petition – Partridge Hill Road**

**Motion:** by Councilor Ryan to open public hearing  
**Second:** by Councilor Randolph  
**Vote:** Unanimous

Councilor Ryan read the petition “To install and maintain approximately 130 feet, more or less of 2 inch gas main in Partridge Hill Road, Braintree. From the existing 2 inch gas main at 41 Southwesterly to 49 for a new gas service”. Staff had the following comments:

- BELD has no issues with this project and does not have electric underground utilities within the proposed scope of work.
- DPW – Partridge Hill Road has not been resurfaced in the recent past, and remains in fairly good condition. This petition should be approved with our “standard” repair specifications.

At this time the Council President asked if there were any public comments from those in attendances or from Council Members. No comments were made

**Motion:** by Councilor Ryan to Close Public Hearing

**Second:** by Councilor Randolph

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Motion:** by Councilor Ryan to approve with staff recommendations

**Second:** by Councilor Randolph

**Vote:** Unanimous

At 8:50p.m. Councilor Kokoros informed members that he had to leave the council meeting to attend a Planning Board meeting being held concurrently with the council meeting, to address an issue in his district.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **089-09** Councilor Mullaney – Discussion with Retirement Board

Councilor Clifford left the auditorium at 8:55p.m.

Representatives of the Braintree Retirement Board provided an overview of the Braintree Retirement System. No votes were taken.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
James M. Casey  
Clerk of the Council