

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

September 21, 2011

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Horace T. Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 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 Dingee
Sean Powers
John C. Mullaney (Arrived late at 7:39pm)
Thomas Bowes
Henry N. Joyce
Ronald DeNapoli
Paul Dan Clifford

Others: Jeanne Martineau, Director Braintree Contributory Retirement System
Braintree Contributory Retirement Board, Members
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

- 033 11 – Council President: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
- 037 11 – Council President: Norfolk County Register of Deeds Braintree Office Hours
- Council President: Friends of Joe Morelli
- Councilor Joyce: Grown-up Spelling Bee
- Councilor Joyce: Friends of the Poor Walk
- Councilor Powers: Super Saturday Comedy Night
- Councilor Bowes: Seasonal Flu Clinic
- Councilor DeNapoli: Braintree High School 25th Year Reunion
- Councilor Clifford: Highland Park Playground
- Councilor Clifford: Braintree Town Forest
- Councilor Dingee: Library Farewell to Betsy Wolfe

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to approve September 6, 2011 minutes

Second: by Councilor Bowes

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

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COUNCIL RESPONSE

- **034 11 – Council President: AARP Chapter 4042 Report on September 11 Memorial Ceremony**

Sandra Duffy provided an overview of the September 11th Memorial Ceremony

- **035 11 – Councilor Kokoros: Introduction – Fr. Philippe Mosis, Saint Catherine Greek Orthodox Church**

Fr. Philippe Mosis, new pastor of Saint Catherine Greek Orthodox Church, introduced himself to the Council.

- **036 11 – Councilor Kokoros: Discussion – Dog License Late Fee**

Councilor Kokoros reported that he had received a complaint from a resident regarding the \$50 fine for late registration of her dog and thought the fine was excessive.

Joseph Powers, Town Clerk, commented that the Town Ordinance on Dogs and Other Animals states that a \$50 fine shall be assessed for any dog that is not licensed within the licensing period, which extends from mid-April through the end of June. Year-to-date, 1,864 dogs have been licensed; versus 1,340 the previous year. This has resulted in a 40% revenue increase. Additionally, Mr. Powers noted that 98% of dogs licensed were on time. He had placed a notice in with the annual town census, placed a notice in the March BELD insert, made an announcement at a Council

meeting, and held a rabies clinic in May, had evening's hours and, in June, mailed 1,400 letters and provided a pamphlet showing the dog ordinance to dog owners who had not yet registered their dogs. Further, 20% of residents had taken advantage of registering their dogs via mail or on the internet.

Councilor Kokoros commented that the fine has worked in increasing the level of registering dogs and owners received many notices informing of the licensing period.

OLD BUSINESS

- **11 034 – Contributory Retirement Board: Proposal to Increase Allowance To Widows of Disabled Public Employees**

Jerry Kenny, Chairmen of the Braintree Contributory Retirement Board, called the Retirement Board meeting to order.

Councilor Dingee, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Ways & Means, reported that the existing allowance to widows of disabled public employees of \$6,000 was approved in the early 1930's and the proposed increase in the allowance, to \$9,000, has been approved by 41 other communities. Councilor Dingee noted that the immediate impact to the system would be \$5,619 with total exposure of approximately \$84,000. The Committee recommended favorable action.

Councilor Kokoros read the following motion: "That the Town vote to amend Chapter 131 Acts of 2010 Section 27 and Section 28 as follows:

Section 27: Section 101 of said chapter 32, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 8, the words "six thousand dollars" and inserting in place thereof the following words: "either \$6,000 or, in a retirement system accepting the supplemental annual allowance as provided in this section , \$9,000." And;

Section 28: Said section 101 of said chapter 32, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following paragraph: "Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, a retirement system may accept a supplemental annual allowance fixed at the rate of \$9,000, by a majority vote of the board of each such system, subject to the approval of the legislative body thereof. For the purposes of this section, "legislative body" shall mean, in the case of a city, the city council in accordance with its charter, in the case of a town, the town meeting, in the case of a county, the county retirement board advisory council, in the case of a region, the regional retirement board advisory council, in the case of a district, the district members and, in the case of an authority, the governing body of such authority. Acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred upon the filing of a certification of such votes with the commission. For purposes of this section, the state teachers' and state employees' retirement systems shall be deemed to have accepted the supplemental annual allowance provided for by this section."

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to approve
Second: by Councilor DeNapoli
Vote: Unanimous

Jerry Kenny, Chairmen of the Braintree Contributory Retirement Board, called the Retirement Board meeting to adjourn.

- **11 042 – Mayor: Appropriation from Community Preservation Fund – Town Clerk Historical Records Preservation Project Phase I**

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to Open Public Hearing
Second: by Councilor DeNapoli
Vote: Unanimous

Councilor Dingee, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Ways & Means, reported that the committee had recommended favorable action.

Council President Ryan asked if any member of the Council or the Public would like to speak on the issue. No one came forward.

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to Close Public Hearing
Second: by Councilor DeNapoli
Vote: Unanimous

Councilor Kokoros read the motion as printed in the August 16, 2011 memo from Mayor Sullivan.

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to approve
Second: by Councilor DeNapoli
Vote: Unanimous

- **11 043 – Mayor: Appropriation from Community Preservation Fund – Town Clerk Vital Records**

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to Open Public Hearing
Second: by Councilor DeNapoli
Vote: Unanimous

Councilor Dingee, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Ways & Means, reported that the committee had recommended favorable action.

Council President Ryan asked if any member of the Council or the Public would like to speak on the issue. Joseph Powers, Town Clerk, commented that the project would provide a long term payout for the Town. No one else came forward.

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to Close Public Hearing

Second: by Councilor DeNapoli

Vote: Unanimous

Councilor Kokoros read the motion as printed in the August 16, 2011 memo from Mayor Sullivan.

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to approve

Second: by Councilor DeNapoli

Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

None

Council President Ryan noted that the next meeting of the Council would be Tuesday, October 18, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James M. Casey
Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- **September 6, 2011 Minutes**
- 033 11 – Council President: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
- 037 11 – Council President: Norfolk County Register of Deeds Braintree Office Hours
- 034 11 – Council President: AARP Chapter 4042 Report on September 11 Memorial Ceremony
- 035 11 – Councilor Kokoros: Introduction – Fr. Philippe Mousis, Saint Catherine Greek Orthodox Church
- 036 11 – Councilor Kokoros: Discussion – Dog License Late Fee
- 11 034 – Contributory Retirement Board: Proposal to Increase Allowance To Widows of Disabled Public Employees
- 11 042 – Mayor: Appropriation from Community Preservation Fund – Town Clerk Historical Records Preservation Project Phase I
- 11 043 – Mayor: Appropriation from Community Preservation Fund – Town Clerk Vital Records