

CHARLES C. KOKOROS
President
District 1

LELAND A. DINGEE
At Large

SEAN E. POWERS
At Large

CHARLES B. RYAN
At Large

JOHN C. MULLANEY
District 2



THOMAS M. BOWES
Vice President
District 3

HENRY N. JOYCE
District 4

RONALD E. DENAPOLI
District 5

PAUL "DAN" CLIFFORD
District 6

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

September 17, 2013

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Horace T. Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 beginning at 7:30p.m.

Council President Kokoros was in the chair.

The Clerk of the Council conducted the roll call.

Present: Charles Kokoros, President
Leland Dingee
Sean Powers
Charles Ryan
John Mullaney
Henry Joyce
Paul Dan Clifford

Not Present: Thomas Bowes, Vice President
Ronald DeNapoli

Others: Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor
Peter Morin, Chief of Staff
Jeff Kunz, Recycling Coordinator
Dennis Regan, National Grid Representative

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 028 13 Council President: Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day
- Councilor Joyce: St. Vincent DePaul / St. Thomas More Walk for Poor
- Councilor Joyce: Braintree Rotary – Annual Spelling Bee
- Councilor Powers: Liberty Bank – July 4th Sponsor

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **September 3, 2013**

Motion: by Councilor Bowes to approve minutes of September 3, 2013

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (7), Against (0), Absent (2-Bowes, DeNapoli)

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COUNCIL RESPONSE

- 017 13 Council President: Thea Showstack – 1528 Liberty Street

Mrs. Showstack explained to members that her property is right after a curve on Liberty Street, across from Wildwood Avenue, which makes it unsafe for her family to exit their driveway and to cross the street. Her side of Liberty Street does not have sidewalks, and her son, during the next school year, will be attending the Highlands School, which is a short distance down Wildwood Avenue. Mrs. Showstack has asked if signage and/or lighted signal could be installed to alert drivers that a dangerous curve is ahead. Additionally, Mrs. Showstack has asked that a crosswalk be located to allow her to cross her family to the other side of Liberty Street to allow her to walk her son to school.

Council members recommended that the Traffic Advisory Safety Committee (TASC) be notified and request a recommendation to address the issue.

- 026 13 Council President: Household Waste Collection – Resident Meeting

Mayor Sullivan commented that he has received a number of resident concerns and a number of favorable comments regarding the new waste collection program. The distribution of carts is about fifty-percent complete and he expects all carts will be distributed by September 25th. Mayor Sullivan noted that the vast majority of residents will live within the program; 64-gallon cart. Smaller carts, 35-gallon, will be made available to residents who want them after they have given the larger carts a try. The goal of the new program is to lower overall tonnage through increased recycling. His staff will be monitoring the program and will make any adjustments needed. If after short trial period, residents who require a second cart can obtain them at an annual cost of \$100.

Brendon Leaf of Storrs Avenue said he has six children and the one cart will not accommodate his family. He believes that larger families should be able to acquire a second cart and he has no problem paying the \$100 added costs. Mayor Sullivan comments he will review his comments with his staff and have a response prior to the September 30th start of the new trash program.

Chris Parks of Milton Road commented that he has three children and he knows that the single waste cart will not accommodate needs. He recycles now and does not expect any changes to his purchasing that produce waste. He asked what are residents are to do with their old trash barrels. Mr. Morin stated that they can be dropped off at recycling center or they could be put to use during the leaf collection weeks by placing a “yard waste” sticker on the barrel.

Council Mullaney asked if the trucks would be able to pick-up the carts on an uneven surface from snow. Mr. Morin stated that the town will be using larger trucks to plow this winter and plowing should be curb-to-curb. The surface does not need to be completely flat however; the carts should not be placed on snow-banks.

Councilor Kokoros provided members a copy of fees various families now pay the town for services. He noted that the school has over the years added extracurricular fees, athletic fees, bus transportation fees, hockey fees and it is costing families with children a significant amount of money. The trash fee and the extra cost for a cart is an added burden to this group of residents. Large families should not be required to pay this additional fee.

- 029 13 Council President: Policy and Procedure for Residential Drop-off at Transfer Station

Council President Kokoros reported that he was at the transfer station and a resident was treated with disrespect when trying to dispose of a pick-up truck of household material. He stated that the drop-off center is not user friendly and is unsafe and a hazard for residents to line up behind trash trucks to dispose of this type of household material. Further, the cost of disposable at 10-cents per pound amounts to \$200 per ton. The town cost to dispose of waste by the transfer station is only \$25 per ton. He has asked members to support a motion to suspend the fees for this construction material.

Councilor Joyce commented that he uses the transfer station 2-3 times per week and has always found the employees very friendly; taking the bags of trash out of his vehicle.

Councilor Dingee stated “point of order”; this item is not properly before the council for a motion. It should be sent to committee for a recommendation. And, at that time, a motion can be made.

Councilor Clifford commented that we cannot have residents lined up behind trash trucks; it’s unsafe and must be a violation of OSHA. Additionally, the customer service help desk needs to be at tentative and sensitive to resident’s issues.

Councilor Dingee commented that his has faith in the Council President drafting a letter requesting a member of the Mayor’s staff come to a future meeting to address the issue. Councilor Dingee suggested that it first go to committee before it is discussed again with the full council.

Motion: by Councilor Ryans to refer to Committee on Public Works

Second: by Councilor Clifford

Vote: For (7), Against (0), Absent (2-Bowes, DeNapoli)

OLD BUSINESS

Committee on Public Works

- **13 038 NationalGrid: Petition – 621 Pond Street**

Councilor Ryan, Chairman of the Committee on Public Works, reported that the committee recommend favorable action on the petition to install and maintain approximately 55 feet, more or less of 2 inch gas main in Pond Street from the existing 3 inch gas main near Messina Drive, Southerly to building #621 for a new gas service.

Councilor Ryan then read the following staff recommendation for the petition:

BELD Engineering has reviewed petition #13 038 and has no special conditions or electric utility conflicts within the proposed scope of work.

DPW – Pond Street, 55 foot extension from Georgianna’s to Sonny Johnson Tire, 621 Pond Street. The proposed location is to the edge of Pond St beyond the overlay and is not under the moratorium. We recommend that the petition be granted under the normal conditions, with emphasis on the requirement that the gas main be laid outside of the trench of the water main in service.

Motion: by Councilor Ryans to approve Order 13 039 with staff recommendations

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (7), Against (0), Absent (2-Bowes, DeNapoli)

Committee on Ordinance & Rules

- **13 029 Mayor: Proposed Zoning Ordinance – Medical Marijuana Moratorium (PUBLIC HEARING)**

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to open public hearing

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (7), Against (0), Absent (2-Bowes, DeNapoli)

Councilor Powers, Chairman of the Committee on Ordinance & Rules reported that the committee has recommended favorable action on the medical marijuana moratorium and reported that the Planning Board voted a favorable recommendation on the moratorium on a vote of 3 -2 at their September 13, 2013 meeting.

Council President Kokoros asked if any member of the Council or anyone from the public would like to speak on Order 13 029. No one came forward.

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to close public hearing

Second: by Councilor Powers

Vote: For (7), Against (0), Absent (2-Bowes, DeNapoli)

Councilor Ryan read into the records the motion as printed in the August 5, 2013 memo from Mayor Sullivan.

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to approve Order 13 029
Second: by Councilor Powers
Vote: For (7), Against (0), Absent (2-Bowes, DeNapoli)

NEW BUSINESS

Refer to Committee on Public Works

- **13 039 NationalGrid: Petition – 648 Commercial Street**

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to refer Orders 13 039 to Committee
Second: by Councilor Powers
Vote: For (7), Against (0), Absent (2-Bowes, DeNapoli)

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:44p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James M. Casey
Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- September 3, 2013
- 028 13 Council President: Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day
- 017 13 Council President: Thea Showstack – 1528 Liberty Street
- 026 13 Council President: Household Waste Collection – Resident Meeting
- 029 13 Council President: Policy and Procedure for Residential Drop-off at Transfer Station
- 13 038 NationalGrid: Petition – 621 Pond Street
- 13 029 Mayor: Proposed Zoning Ordinance – Medical Marijuana Moratorium
- 13 039 NationalGrid: Petition – 648 Commercial Street