

Thomas M. Bowes
President
District 3

Shannon L. Hume
At Large

CHARLES B. Ryan
At Large

CHARLES C. Kokoros
District 1

JOHN C. MULLANEY
District 2



Sean E. Powers
Vice President
At Large

Stephen C. O'Brien
District 4

Michael J. Owens
District 5

PAUL "DAN" CLIFFORD
District 6

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

April 7, 2015

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Horace T. Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 beginning at 7:32p.m.

Council President Bowes was in the chair.

The Town Clerk conducted the roll call.

Present: Thomas Bowes, President
Sean Powers, Vice President
Paul Dan Clifford
Shannon Hume
John Mullaney
Stephen C. O'Brien
Michael Owens
Charles Ryan

Not Present: Charles Kokoros

Others: Mike Coughlin, Chief of Staff
Peter Morin, Town Solicitor
Edward Spellman, Finance Director
Russell Jenkins, Chief of Police
Maureen Murray, Superintendent of Schools
Paul McSoley, Police Department Finance Director
Erick Kinsherf, Town Auditor
David Ringius, School Committee member
Michael Nelligan, Powers & Sullivan CPA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Braintree Girls Basketball Champions received Recognition Certificates.

Council President Bowes called a 5 minute recess at 8:03pm. Council was called back in to session at 8:08pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- March 17, 2015

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve minutes of March 17, 2015

Second: by Councilor Hume

Vote: For (5), Against (0), Absent (1-Kokoros), Abstain (3-Ryan, O'Brien, Clifford)

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND TOWN BOARDS

• 010 15 Powers & Sullivan Year End Report – June 30, 2014

Michael Nelligan, Powers & Sullivan CPA, discussed the Year End Reports. All statements fully GAP compliant. He stated there were no issues with management. There were no financial adjustments.

The Town of Braintree has a AA2 Bond Rating. On page 73-75 of the report collections higher than Budgeted and Expenditures were 2.3 million less than Budgeted. This shows how well the Town Budgets. Stabilizations Fund has \$945,000 in it. Capital Fund has \$1 million. Both folded into the General Fund. Councilor Clifford asked if the Computation of Legal Debt Margins – in terms of Bond Rating, is there a range to enhance our Bond Rating.

Mike Nelligan stated I would not worry about that number. Braintree has never had a heavy debt load.

OLD BUSINESS

• 15 010 Mayor: FY15 Supplemental Appropriations or take up any action relative thereto (PUBLIC HEARING)

Motion by Councilor Powers to open public hearing.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to open public hearing

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

Council President Bowes referred to Councilor Mullaney (Committee Chair) for Committee on Ways & Means recommendation. Councilor Mullaney stated favorable recommendations on all requests. Council President Bowes asked the Fire Department the year-end figures of overtime expenses. Mike Coughlin replied the expected overtime to be less than shown on the chart.

Eric Kinsherf, Town Auditor stated the original appropriations asked for of 1.26 million might not be needed. The Town might only need to use 986,000. Mike Coughlin agreed that is correct.

Council President Bowes asked if any member of the Council or the General Public would like to speak on Order 15 010.

John Cullinane approached the podium to ask if overtime calls can be made automated to help with Budget plans.

Mike Coughlin stated the Deputy calls in staff on a rotating basis.

Motion by Councilor Powers to close public hearing.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to close public hearing

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

Councilor Powers read all twelve (12) motions. Votes taken after each:

1. Fire Department

MOTION: That the sum of \$40,000 be transferred from the Town Council Department/ Program 04- Reserve Fund / reserve fund account and \$5,380 be transferred from the Finance department/ program 01 administration / 9C reserve account for a total of \$ 45,380 to the fire Department / program 04 fire suppression / other fire personnel salary account.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

2. Human Resources

MOTION: That the sum of \$14,027 be transferred from the police department/ program 02 building maintenance/ equipment maintenance account to the Human Resources Department/ Program 04 Employee Benefits / Group Life and Medical Line account.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

3. Police Department

MOTION: That the sum of \$489,000 be transferred from the Town's Stabilization fund to the Police Department / Program 04 Patrol / Overtime account, and further, that the Director of Municipal Finance be authorized to allocate said sums to and among the various line items affected thereby.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

4. Fire Department

MOTION: That the sum of \$480,000 be transferred from the Town's Stabilization fund to the Fire Department/ Program 04- Fire Suppression / Overtime account, and further, that the Director of Municipal Finance be authorized to allocate said sums to and among the various line items affected thereby.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

5. Department of Public Works - Snow and Ice

MOTION: That the sum of \$189,969 be transferred from the Town's Stabilization fund, the sum of \$89,268 be transferred from the police department/ program 02 building maintenance/ equipment maintenance account and the sum of \$470,763 be transferred from the Fiscal Year 2014 certified Free Cash for a total of \$ 750,000 to Department of Public Works / Program 11 – Snow and Ice, and further, that the Director of Municipal Finance be authorized to allocate said sums to and among the various line items affected thereby. The amount authorized to be transferred pursuant to this Order shall be reduced to the extent of any grant funds received by or committed to the Town from FEMA to pay costs of reimbursing the town for snow removal costs described above.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

6. Department of Public Works

MOTION: That the sum of \$14,475 be transferred from the Finance department/ program 01 administration / 9C reserve account and \$525 be transferred from the Police department/ program 02 building maintenance/ equipment maintenance account for a total of \$15,000 to the Department of Public Works / Program 09 – Street Lights/ Street lighting account.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

7. School Department

MOTION: That the sum of \$456,251 be transferred from the Town's Stabilization fund to the School Department / Program 420 Special Education account.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

8. Fire Department

MOTION: That the sum of \$7,500 be transferred from the Police department/ program 02 building maintenance/ equipment maintenance account to the Fire department/ program 05 Fire Alarm Repair/ Fire alarm repair account.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

9. Fire Department

MOTION: That the sum of \$39,780 be from the Town's Stabilization fund, to the Fire Department / capital / vehicle replacement account.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

10. Town Solicitor

MOTION: That the sum of \$25,000 be transferred from the Town's Stabilization fund to the Law Department / Program 01 – Administration / Legal Services line.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

11. Town Clerk

MOTION: That the sum of \$9,325 be transferred from the Town Clerks Department /program 04 Elections/ part time employee account to the following accounts the Town Clerk / Program 01 Administration/ department head Account \$2,391, Town Clerk Department/ Registration Program/ Asst. Department Heads Account \$324 and Town Clerk Department/ Registration Program/ Census Account \$ 6,610.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

12. Town Clerk

MOTION: That the sum of \$6,523 be transferred from the Town Clerks Department /special revenue elections account to Town Clerk / Program 04 Elections / equipment maintenance account \$1,453 and to Town Clerk / Program 04 Elections / election expense account \$5,070.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

NEW BUSINESS

- **15 011 Mayor: Liberty School Renovations / Authorization to submit Statement of Interest to Massachusetts School Building Authority or take up any action relative thereto "SAME NIGHT ACTION"**

Council President Bowes stated if there are no objections we will take up Order 15 011. No members objected.

Councilor O'Brien asked why are we receiving this so late. Mike Coughlin stated to meet the MSBA deadline by April 10, 2015 this required a lot of prep work.

Councilor Hume stated Braintree is asking MSBA for an opportunity for partnership that is only allowed one application per year if not approved we would lose an opportunity this year.

Councilor Powers read the Motion:

Resolved:

Having convened in an open meeting on 4/7/2015, prior to the closing date, the Town Council of Braintree, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated 4/10/2015 for the Liberty Elementary School located at 49 Proctor Rd. which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future.

- Elimination of existing severe overcrowding.
- Prevention of severe overcrowding expected to result from increased enrollment.
- Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility.

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town of Braintree to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Motion: by Councilor Powers to approve Order 15 011

Second: by Councilor Ryan

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

Council President Bowes is changing the next meetings to Wednesday, April 29, 2015 instead of what was listed of Tuesday, April 28, 2015.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Committee on Ordinance & Rules - **TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015@ 6:30pm (change 4/29/15)**

COUNCIL - **TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015@ 7:30pm (change 4/29/15)**

COUNCIL – **FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2015@ 7:30pm**

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Casey/smc
Town Clerk

Documents provided for Meeting

- March 17, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes
- Powers & Sullivan - 3 reports on Year Ended June 30, 2014
- 15 010 Mayor: FY15 Supplemental Appropriations or take up any action relative thereto (PUBLIC HEARING)
- 5 documents from Eric Kinsherf explaining costs/appropriations for 15 010
- 15 011 Mayor: Liberty School Renovations / Authorization to submit Statement of Interest to Massachusetts School Building Authority or take up any action relative thereto "SAME NIGHT ACTION"