

Sean E. Powers  
President  
At Large

Shannon L. Hume  
At Large

CHARLES C. Kokoros  
District 1

John C. Mullaney  
District 2

Thomas M. Bowes  
District 3



Charles B. Ryan  
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

### January 19, 2016

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 beginning at 7:30p.m.

Council President Powers was in the chair.

The Clerk of the Council conducted the roll call.

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

Also Present: Michael Wilcox, former Chairman - Chamber of Commerce  
John Hafferty, Chairman - Chamber of Commerce  
Troop 138 St. Claire's Parish

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### • January 4, 2016

**Motion:** by Councilor Ryan to Approve Minutes of January 4, 2016

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

**Vote:** For (9), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

#### • January 5, 2016

**Motion:** by Councilor Ryan to Approve Minutes of January 5, 2016

**Second:** by Councilor Bowes

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

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 003 16 Council President: Clerk of the Council – Annual Evaluation due next Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>
- 010 16 Council President: MMA Annual Meeting Workshop Sessions  
Council President Powers stated the Town will get insurance credits if you sign up for certain workshop sessions at the MMA meeting.

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND TOWN BOARDS**

- 16 005 Councilor Clifford: Update on Potter II Progress or take up any action relative thereto  
Councilor Clifford stated he TABLE this item and defers any comments at this time, awaiting new information.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- 033 15 Town Auditor Job Posting or take up any action relative thereto

Chairman O'Brien of the Ways & Means Committee stated we are meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 in Executive Session to interview a couple candidates and we will be able to give you a better update after that meeting.

Councilor Kokoros asked if further discussion has taken place about this position being a Consulting position.

Chairman O'Brien stated we have decided to go contractor only. The applicants have received information stating it is contractor only. Some of them have decided to pursue other opportunities elsewhere.

Councilor Kokoros asked did we vote on this being contractor only? Chairman O'Brien stated the previous Ways & Means committee did bring that forward to the Council.

Councilor Kokoros asked did we actually take a vote on this. I would like a copy of the minutes.

Councilor Ryan asked if the job posting is closed. Chairman O'Brien stated yes but we might require another posting but at this time it is closed.

Councilor Clifford asked how many people applied. Chairman O'Brien said approximately 8.

Councilor Kokoros asked when we first took the vote, a consultant position worked well and he guaranteed to work up to \$74,000 and continue to work even if he went over that. I strongly believe we should have a person in that position for all we need. No one will be coming into this position with the institutional knowledge that the previous person had. He was our first Finance Director. I would like to move forward with discussion on someone being hired to represent us on a full-time basis. It would help us make decisions without worrying about spending money. Hopefully we can discuss this at another meeting and talk about a full-time auditor.

Councilor Mullaney stated he is a strong believer in the sub-committee so they can make decisions. If the sub-committee picks 3 people and you feel they will not do a job adequately you can choose to vote

it down. The previous auditor went into various departments including BELD and he found not a single problem. Their job is to create integrity within the system.

Chairman O'Brien stated we did have this discussion between consultant and full-time. If we end up without someone we like we move on and repost. A good Auditor will catch up and learn to give us the information we want. The sum of money was sufficient throughout the years. If we require more money we can reconsider at that time. I struggled full-time vs. contractor.

Councilor Kokoros stated if we want something done there will be a cost associated with a consultant. If we had a full-time auditor they are constantly reviewing this stuff. They are in this meeting and able to give us updates anytime and make more informed decisions. I will respect the comments of the previous speaker.

Councilor Owens asked if we have information on the things we requested to Eric. Would the work fulfill a 40 hour position? They are the financial investigator.

Council President Powers stated at this point the Committee on Ways & Means will report back to us on the interviews they have scheduled for tomorrow night.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **Refer to Committee on Ways & Means**

- 16 006 Councilor Clifford: Request for Transfer of Funds to hire consultant to conduct a Comprehensive Analysis on Potter II or take up any action relative thereto  
Councilor Clifford stated he TABLE this item and defers any comments at this time, awaiting new information.

**Motion:** by Councilor Clifford to TABLE

**Second:** by Councilor Ryan

**Vote:** For (9), Against (0), Absent (0), Abstain (0)

### **Topics the Chair does not reasonably anticipate will be discussed**

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Next Council Meeting - **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016@ 7:30pm**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cimino

Clerk of the Council

## **Documents provided for Meeting**

- January 4, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes
- January 5, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes
- 033 15 Council President: Town Auditor Job Posting