

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

AUGUST 15, 2017

MINUTES

The meeting of the Town Council, was held in the Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 beginning at 7:33p.m.

Council President Powers was in the chair.

Present: Sean Powers, President
Charles Ryan, Vice President
Thomas Bowes
Paul Dan Clifford (remote participation until 9:01pm)
Shannon Hume
Charles Kokoros
John Mullaney
Stephen C. O'Brien
Michael Owens

Also Present: Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor
Joe Reynolds, Chief of Staff
Paul Shastany, Police Chief
James O'Brien, Fire Chief
Mark Cusack, State Representative
John F. Keenan, Senator
Walter Timility, Senator
Alejandro Alves, Chief of Staff, Office of State Senator John F. Keenan
Officer William Cushing, Braintree Police Officer
Officer Donald Delaney, Braintree Police Officer
Officer Paul Hamilton, Braintree Police Officer
Officer John Hurley, Braintree Police Officer
Officer Ryan McHugh, Braintree Police Officer
Brian Cohoon, President of the Braintree Officers Association
Braintree Police Officers
Braintree Fire Fighters
Family members
Residents

Also Present: Mike Lang, East Braintree Civic Association
Curtis L Nordgaard, MD MSc, Pediatrician, Dorchester, MA
Alice Arena, Lead Coordinator, Fore River residents against the Compressor Station
Liz Page, resident
Linda Kopkind, resident

Mayor Sullivan has approved Remote Participation for Councilor Clifford for this Town Council meeting of Tuesday, August 15, 2017 (one night only).

A reminder that **ALL VOTES** will need to be taken by **ROLL CALL** during Councilor Clifford's participation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• 050 17 Council President: Recognition – Braintree Police Officers – Motel 6 Incident

Officer William Cushing
Officer Donald Delaney
Officer Paul Hamilton
Officer John Hurley
Officer Ryan McHugh

Council President Powers stated at Motel 6 on the evening of May 5, 2017, a very serious incident which involved 5 of our police officers. The events that took place after that was a tremendous show of community pride and spirit. We have all rallied to support our police officers as they keep us safe every day and as these police officers and their families recover from this incident.

Brian Cohoon, President of the Braintree Officers Association, came to the podium and thanked the Town Council and the community as a whole for the overwhelming support the police have received since the night of May 5th. He stated we as police officers need to be prepared for anything at any time now more so than ever. Mr. Cohoon played some of the radio transmissions from that night.

Mayor Joseph Sullivan stated we are all here tonight to recognize the professionalism, the courage, bravery and the duty to serve and protect. We should have the opportunity to thank our police officers each and every day. Our community is an embracing one that cares about the work that you do.

Paul Shastany, Braintree Police Chief stated this is the most challenging, rewarding and damming profession you can hold. We work against the sea of negativity, second guessing and a system which prevails many times against us and corrodes confidence in our abilities with self-doubt. Policing a free society is a balancing act. It takes a toll on you because of the risk it entails.

Representative Mark Cusack, Senator John Keenan and Senator Walter Timilty presented citations to the 5 officers. Representative Cusack stated he is privileged to be here to honor these 5 fine officers.

Councilors made comments and presented citations to the 5 officers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- None

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COUNCIL RESPONSE

- 048 17 Council President: Mike Lang – Update on Proposed Spectra Gas Pipeline and Compressor
Mike Lang and Curtis L Nordgaard, MD MSc, Pediatrician, Dorchester, MA came before the Town Council with a presentation on the proposed Spectra Gas Pipeline and Compressor. They are against the building of this pipeline in our community. Curtis L. Nordgaard, MD MSc, Pediatrician, gave a PowerPoint presentation. Dr. Nordgaard presented his findings on hazardous air pollutants including benzene levels. Alice Arena, Lead Coordinator, Fore River residents against the Compressor Station also spoke.

Councilor Dan Clifford signed off from remote participation at 9:01p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND TOWN BOARDS

- 047 17 Town Clerk: Travel Policy Town Clerks Conference, September 2017 or take up any action relative thereto
MOTION read by Councilor Ryan:
To Approve Travel to the Town Clerks Conference for James M. Casey, Town Clerk.
Motion: by Councilor Ryan
Second: by Councilor Bowes
Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-Clifford)

OLD BUSINESS

- 17 036 Council President: Outside Auditor Contract or take up any action relative thereto
Councilor Powers referred to Ways & Means Chairman Councilor O'Brien. The Committee met and we were presented with an offer for our current external auditor to continue for 3 years. We had them provide a formal proposal that I was very impressed with. We are very happy with our external auditor so we unanimously voted (with one absent) to recommended favorable action to the full Council to retain Powers & Sullivan to perform independent financial audit services to the Town of Braintree for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018 through 2020.
Motion read by Councilor Ryan:
MOTION: Pursuant to Section 6-11 of the Town Charter, through the Braintree Town Council approve a new three year contract for FY 2018, FY2019 and FY 2020 for Powers and Sullivan CPA as Independent Certified Public Accountants
Motion: by Councilor Ryan
Second: by Councilor Bowes
Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-Clifford)
- 17 039 National Grid Petition: Commercial Street/Bower Road/John Paul Cir or take up any action relative thereto (TABLED at July 11 meeting)
Councilor Ryan made a Motion to take from the Table Order 17 039.
Motion: by Councilor Ryan
Second: by Councilor Bowes
Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-Clifford)

Chairman Mullaney stated National Grid came back with information and accepted all conditions. The Committee members unanimously voted in favor of recommendation to the full Council.

MOTION: To install and maintain approximately 1795 feet more or less of 4 inch gas main in Commercial St., Braintree. From the Quincy Town Line to the end of main near house #675, approximately 217 feet more or less of 2 inch gas main in Bower Rd., from the new 4 inch gas main in Commercial St. to the end of main at Rogers Cir. and approximately 250 feet more or less of 2 inch gas main in John Paul Cir. from the new 4 inch gas main in Commercial St. to the end of main at house #12. All of which to replace and abandon the 3 inch gas main in Commercial St., and the 4 inch gas mains in Bower Rd. and John Paul Cir. The repairs on Bower Road will be curb to curb.

BELD: No underground electric utility conflicts or special requirements within the proposed scope of work.

DPW: Commercial Street, This section of Commercial Street is not under the moratorium. The street has not been resurfaced in several years. Commercial Street is scheduled to have a new water main installed this summer and we would recommend that the petition for this section is granted as soon as possible so that both the water main and gas main projects can be coordinated and completed in a timely manner. This section of John Paul Circle is not under the moratorium. The petitions should be granted for Commercial Street and John Paul Circle under the normal conditions, with emphasis on the requirements that the gas main is laid outside of the proposed new water main trench and that the trench pavement not be left low for any length of time. This section of Bower Road is under the new ordinance. We would recommend that the petition not be granted. However if the Council finds extenuating circumstances warranting approval, in addition to the standard conditions, that the approval be conditioned upon the petitioner, after maintaining the trenches through one full winter but within one year of the temporary trench repair, mill and overlay the full width of each street for the full length of the excavation along the road plus 25 feet on each end, replacing any pavement markings in kind, repairing or replacing curbs and sidewalk areas disturbed each to the satisfaction of the Highway Superintendent and infrared treatment of seams at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent, that the gas main be laid outside of the trench of the water and sewer mains in service and that the trench pavement not be left low for any length of time; We also recommend that the following requirement be added to the permit, if it is to be granted: Neither National Grid nor any of its contractors is authorized to close any street or to close a direction of travel to facilitate their work without authorization from the Director of the Department of Public Works or the Highway Superintendent. The Chief of Police can also authorize a closure for a police or fire emergency. Construction zone traffic safety issues are to be addressed by using appropriate traffic control signs and devices and the use of police officers for traffic control to safely guide traffic through the work zone. If a closure is authorized by the DPW, it shall not be implemented until signs and police officers (where needed) are properly in place in conformity with the written plan prepared by the contractor's engineer and approved by the DPW and Police Department.

Motion: by Councilor Ryan

Second: by Councilor Bowes

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

NEW BUSINESS

- None

Councilor Ryan read the following Motions for referrals to committee(s):

Motion: by Councilor Ryan

Second: by Councilor Bowes

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

Refer to the Committee on Ways & Means

- 17 050 Mayor: Appointment – Commission on Disabilities - Mary Russo or take up any action relative thereto
- 17 051 Blue Hills Regional Technical MSBA renovation or take up any action relative thereto

Refer to the Committee on Ways & Means (continued)

- 17 052 Mayor: To Reduce the Property Tax Deferral Interest Rate for Seniors
- 17 053 Mayor: Request for Borrowing Authorization for School Building Project
- 17 054 Mayor: Request for the Establishment of the Braintree School Building Authority (BSBA)

Refer to the Committee on Ordinance & Rules

- 17 055 Mayor: Marijuana Opt Out or take up any action relative thereto
- 17 056 Councilor O'Brien: Take up Motion for review and action. This is being offered as a direct Opt-Out. This model had been approved by other municipalities to Ban Marijuana not Medically Prescribed" (Recreational), or take up any action relative thereto
- 17 057 Mayor: Acceptance of Mass. General Laws, Chapter 90, Section 17C or take up any action relative thereto

Refer to the Committee on Traffic & Safety

- 051 17 Councilor Kokoros: Cross Walk Safety - Flashers at Crosswalk or take up any action relative thereto
- 052 17 Councilor Kokoros: Reduction of speed limit to 25 miles an hour in residential neighborhoods or take up any action relative thereto
- 053 17 Councilor Kokoros: Parking Issues in all squares or take up any action relative thereto
- 054 17 Councilor Kokoros: Traffic Calming measures/speed bumps in cut through neighborhoods or take up any action relative thereto
- 055 17 Councilor Kokoros: Granite Street Corridor Traffic or take up any action relative thereto

Refer to the Committee on Public Safety

- 056 17 Councilor Kokoros: Review of Brewster Ambulance service update on number of calls etc. Intro of new Technology and headquarters in Weymouth or take up any action relative thereto
- 057 17 Councilor Kokoros: Review options for fire dispatch or take up any action relative thereto
- 058 17 Councilor Kokoros: Update on South Shore Plaza increased security measures (police chief) or take up any action relative thereto
- 059 17 Councilor Kokoros: Update on Evidence Room and New Procedures put in place or take up any action relative thereto
- 060 17 Councilor Kokoros: Special Legislation for Police and Fire details to be exempt from retirement law or take up any action relative thereto

- 061 17 Councilor Kokoros: Hotels and Security/Safety Concerns possibility of increasing patrol in the hotel sector or take up any action relative thereto

Refer to the Special Committee on the Opioid Epidemic

- 062 17 Councilor Kokoros: Ordinance requiring pharmacies to provide Kiosk for drug take back or take up any action relative thereto
- 063 17 Councilor Kokoros: Ordinance requiring prescribers of opioids to make wellness call after three days or take up any action relative thereto
- 064 17 Councilor Kokoros: Yearly Report or take up any action relative thereto

Motion: by Councilor Ryan to refer all the above to committee(s)

Second: by Councilor Bowes

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

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cimino
Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 17 036 Council President: Outside Auditor Contract or take up any action relative thereto
- 17 039 National Grid Petition: Commercial St/Bower Rd/John Paul Cir or take up any action relative thereto