

MINUTES OF THE BRAINTREE TOWN COUNCIL
Council Chambers, Cahill Auditorium, Town Hall
January 3, 2008

Present: Leland A. Dingee
 Harold J. Randolph
 Charles B. Ryan
 Charles C. Kokoros
 John C. Mullaney
 Thomas M. Bowes
 Henry N. Joyce
 Ronald E. DeNapoli
 Paul Dan Clifford

Also Present: Donna Fabiano, Town Clerk
 Peter Morin, Chief of Staff

Councilor Dingee called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All Councilors who were present answered to a roll call. Councilor Randolph arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Correspondence

Blue Hills Regional Technical School. Invitation to attend presentation of the 2009 budget, Monday, January 28, 2008.

Councilor Dingee read the invitation and asked those who can attend to RSVP. It will be held on January 28, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the William T. Buckley District Board Room (Room 207A).

MMA Meeting on January 11 and 12

Councilor Dingee announced that there will be an annual MMA (Massachusetts Municipal Association) conference on January 11 and 12. One of the workshops will be about the Open Meeting Law.

Announcements

Councilor DeNapoli stated that Sprint is planning to put up four towers in the area. This will be discussed at a Zoning Board Meeting on January 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the D.P.W. Administration Building.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

Council President – Nomination & Vote

MOTION: by Councilor Ryan to open nominations for Council President

SECOND: by Councilor Joyce

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

MOTION: by Councilor Joyce to nominate Councilor Dingee as President

SECOND: by Councilor Kokoros

No other nominations

MOTION: by Councilor Joyce to close nominations for President

SECOND: by Councilor Ryan

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY VOTED ON A ROLL CALL VOTE

Council Vice President – Nomination & Vote

MOTION: by President Dingee to open nominations for Vice President

**** (my tape and long hand notes do not indicate a second or vote on this) There was a second, I believe by John Mullaney**

MOTION: by Councilor Mullaney to nominate Councilor Ryan as Vice President

SECOND: by Councilor Randolph

No other nominations

MOTION: by President Dingee to close nominations for Vice President

SECOND: by Councilor Mullaney

VOTE: 8 Yes, 1 Present (Councilor Clifford)

08 001 – Proposal to Adopt Robert’s Rules of Order

Discussion and vote.

MOTION: by Vice President Ryan to adopt Robert’s Rules of Order

SECOND: by Councilor Joyce

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

08 002 – Standing Committees

Appointments. To be presented at meeting.

President Dingee asked the Councilors’ input as to which committees they would like to serve on.

Ways and Means Committee

Chairman	Councilor Mullaney
Vice Chairman	Councilor Randolph
Member	Councilor Joyce

Ordinance and Rules

Chairman	Councilor DeNapoli
Vice Chairman	Councilor Mullaney
Member	President Dingee

Department of Public Works

Chairman	Councilor Ryan
Vice Chairman	Councilor DeNapoli
Member	Councilor Bowes

Public Safety

Chairman	Councilor Bowes
Vice Chairman	Councilor Kokoros
Member	Vice President Ryan

Parks & Recreation

Chairman Councilor Joyce
Vice Chairman Councilor Randolph
Member Councilor Bowes

Elder Affairs & Veterans' Services

Chairman Councilor Kokoros
Vice Chairman Councilor Clifford
Member Councilor Randolph

Education/Library

Chairman Councilor Clifford
Vice Chairman Vice President Ryan
Member President Dingee

President Dingee told the Councilors to let him know if they have a conflict of interest.

08 003 – Calendar for Future Meetings

Proposal by Council President to establish Council meeting dates to be the first and third Tuesday of each month commencing on January 22, 2008. Meeting start times 7:30 p.m.

President Dingee talked about the Selectmen's meetings and the problems they had with meeting on Monday nights. There were some holidays on Mondays and there were a lot of other meetings held in the town on Monday nights that the members wanted to attend.

President Dingee stated that the Braintree Forum always covered the Selectmen's meetings on Monday nights and the stories would be in the paper on Wednesdays. Because the Forum comes out on Wednesdays meetings on Tuesday nights would cause the Forum to print the meetings the following week. He is concerned about this, but wants to do what is best for the Council and for the town. He feels that having the meetings on Tuesdays nights would work out best for the town. He asked the Council to adopt the schedule of meetings for the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

MOTION: by Councilor Kokoros to adopt the Council meeting dates

of the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

SECOND: by Councilor Randolph

Discussion: Councilor Mullaney stated that it would be a disadvantage to have the Council meetings reported in the Braintree Forum eight days later. He requested a reconsideration of the vote and hold the meetings on Monday nights.

Roll Call Vote: 8-1. Councilor Mullaney opposed.

President Dingee stated that the next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 22, at 7:30 p.m.

Job Descriptions - President Dingee stated that they need to work on job descriptions for the Auditor and Council Clerk positions and he asked Vice President Ryan to talk about them.

Vice President Ryan stated that he has been collecting job descriptions for these two positions. He asked if any of the Councilors would assist him in drafting the job descriptions. Councilor Bowes and Councilor Mullaney will assist with this.

President Dingee stated that this will be a sub-committee for the purpose of writing job descriptions for the Auditor and Council Clerk positions and they will be presented to the Mayor's office.

Vice President Ryan said that he would like to talk to Town Counsel to ask questions of how to go about filling these positions. There are questions about posting jobs and union versus non-union positions. President Dingee suggested that he contact Mr. Moran, Chief of Staff.

08 004 – 08 005 Communication from Mayor's Office

Proposed Ordinances and Proposed New Positions (At Council meeting).

Mr. Moran distributed hand-outs to the Councilors regarding the Proposed Ordinances and New Positions. The positions are Chief of Staff and Operations, Town Solicitor, Assistant to the Mayor, Grant Writer and Assistant Grant Writer. Mayor Sullivan's memo of 1-3-08 to the Town Council and the Town Clerk outline these positions.

Mr. Morin told the Council that he would be willing to assist them in the creation of any jobs and will meet with the sub-committees.

MOTION: by Councilor Kokoros to remand 08 004 to the Ordinance Committee

SECOND: by Councilor Ryan

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

MOTION: by Councilor Ryan to remand 08 005 to the Ways and Means Committee

SECOND: by Councilor Kokoros

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Mr. Morin asked that the Council advertise the Ordinances that will be on the agenda for January 22.

Adjournment

MOTION: by Councilor Randolph to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

SECOND: by Councilor Ryan

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Thorpe
Recording Secretary

Approved by: _____
Leland A. Dingee, President

