City of Taunton
Municipal Council Meeting Minutes
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Temporary City Hall, 141 Oak Street, Taunton, MA
Minutes, August 25, 2015 at 7:00 O'clock P.M.

Regular Meeting
Mayor Thomas C. Hoye, Jr. presiding
Prayer was offered by the Mayor
Present at roll call were: ***Councilors Cleary, Croteau, Pottier, McCaul, Quinn, and Carr***
Councilors Marshall, Costa Hanlon and Borges are absent.

Record of preceding meeting was read by Title and Approved. So Voted.

Communications from the Mayor:
Mayor Hoye reminded everyone that Sarah Borges will be live in concert on the Taunton Green, this Saturday, August 29, 2015 from 5pm-7pm. It is a free concert sponsored by the Mayor's Worthy Cause. He stated that they are very happy to provide this opportunity to showcase Taunton's award winning artist. He stated that it is great to have Sarah back in her hometown and hopes everyone can attend as it should be a great event.

Mayor Hoye appointed the COTMA Grievance Committee which is made up of Councilor David Pottier, Councilor Donald Cleary and Council President Estele Borges.

Communications from City Officers:
Com. from Treasurer/Collector submitting several documents which detail the City's outstanding debt as of June 30, 2015. 1. Aggregate Debt Outstanding and Amount Due by Fiscal Year; 2. Aggregate Debt Inside and Outside of the Debt Limit by Fiscal Year; 3. Detail of Principal Outstanding by Project by Category; 4. Detail of Interest Outstanding by Project by Category. **Councilor Cleary motioned to refer this and the spreadsheet on the Statement of Indebtedness to the Committee on Finance and Salaries to set up a meeting with the Treasurer to discuss. So Voted.**

Mayor Hoye stated that he had placed a communication from the Board of Directors of the Taunton Nursing Home on the Councilor's desks to review. **Councilor Pottier made a motion to refer to the Committee of the Whole. So Voted.**

Communications from Citizens:
Com. from Katie Matteson, Pediatric Health and Safety Manager, Triumph, Inc. 100 Hon. Gordon M. Owen Riverway, Taunton notifying of Health Resource Fair for expectant women and children ages 0-3 which will take place on October 9, 2015 from 10:00 – 12:00 at their center on the grounds of Taunton High School. They are

requesting that a Police Officer to join them and offer car seat safety information and guidance to the families in attendance. **Councilor Carr motioned to refer to the Police Chief. So Voted.**

Com. from Acting Regional Director of the United States Department of the Interior. The letter is providing a 30-day notification of a proposed action by the Secretary of the Interior to proclaim lands held in trust by the United States of America as a reservation for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. The Tribe has filed a request with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to proclaim approximately 321 acres in Barnstable and Bristol Counties, Massachusetts, as the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Reservation. Councilor Cleary stated that this is one of the only letters that we receive directly from the Department of the Interior so at least it is on the agenda and they are working on it. He stated that we may get a resolution to this decision in the near future one way or another which is encouraging. Councilor Pottier stated that the City does have a nice space on the website which has all the casino related information on it. Mayor Hoye stated that all this letter is really saying is that the Tribe has applied through Indian Affairs to have this land designated as a reservation in both Barnstable and Bristol Counties but to do so it has to be taken into trust. **Councilor Carr made a motion to receive and place on file. So Voted. Councilor Pottier motioned to include this letter on the website so the public can view it as well. So Voted.**

Petitions:

Petition submitted by Joseph Rose, 377 Tremont St., Taunton requesting an Earth Removal Permit to remove buried Municipal Trash and Rubbish on Lot #204 Harrington Avenue, Taunton. **Councilor Cleary motioned to refer to the City Clerk to schedule a public hearing. So Voted.**

Committee Reports:

Motion was made for Committee reports to be read by Title and Approved. So Voted. Recommendations adopted to reflect the votes as recorded in Committee Reports. So Voted.

Orders, Ordinances, and Resolutions

Com. from City Treasurer submitting a loan order authorizing the City to request approval from the Municipal Finance Oversight Board (MFOB) comprised of officials of the Commonwealth to allow the City to issue bonds under the State Qualified Bond Act (SQBA).

Order to be ordained on a roll call vote

Ordered That,

The Treasurer/Collector is authorized to file an application with the Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any or all of the bonds of the City that are currently authorized and unissued to provide such information and execute such documents as the Municipal Finance Oversight Board may require for these purposes. **Councilor Cleary made a motion to approve. On a roll call vote six (6) Councilors present, six (6) Councilors voting in favor. Councilors Marshall, Costa Hanlon and Borges are absent. Councilor Pottier motioned for a thank you letter to be sent to the Treasurer from the Council for**

looking into this program. He stated that it is always a good thing when someone thinks out of the box to save the City money. So Voted. Councilor Pottier asked if the Mayor and Budget Director were in favor of this. Mayor Hoye confirmed. Councilor Cleary stated that it is encouraging that the City Treasurer looks into ways to save the City money. He stated that just by doing this it could save hundreds of thousands of dollars. He stated that it makes a lot of sense and he appreciates the efforts of the Treasurer. Councilor Pottier discussed the way the budget usually works and how it will be going forward.

New Business:

Councilor Carr motioned for an update on the Charter Committee recommendations from the City Solicitor within four weeks. So Voted. She stated that she understands that the meetings have been done for a while. She knows that the City Solicitor has been very busy with many different things.

Councilor Pottier stated that the Church in the Park event at Memorial Park went great over the weekend. He stated that because of the geese and the ducks, the pond is disgusting and so was the area where you walk from your car to the site because there are geese droppings everywhere. **Motion was made to refer to the Parks, Cemeteries and Public Grounds Department to see if there is anything that can be done to mitigate that problem. So Voted.** Mayor Hoye stated that it was really bad and it is also bad near Friedman and the softball fields. **Councilor Quinn motioned to refer to the Parks, Cemeteries and Public Grounds department the general condition of the pond itself because she has gotten a lot of complaints of stuff being dumped into it. So Voted.** She stated that she knows that Marilyn has a lot on her plate and has done a beautiful job with the City. Councilor Croteau stated that a friend of his was having a problem with the High School facilities so he leased a dog. He stated that there is a service available where a dog can be leased to try to get rid of Canadian geese especially.

Councilor Cleary motioned to refer to the Safety Officer to consider installing a "No Left Turn" sign at the lights at County Street/Rte.140 and Gordon Owen Parkway. So Voted. He stated that what happens is that people don't want to go down Williams Street and cross the intersection at Gordon Owen Parkway so they go beyond Williams Street and take a left. There is no left hand turn lane and he has seen the traffic back up to the City because people are waiting to get across. He knows that the problem will probably be solved when the lights are put in at Gordon Owen Parkway and Williams Street but once the school year starts the traffic will be backed up. Councilor Quinn stated that she believes that there was previously a "No Left Turn" sign there so it may just be a matter of replacing it. Councilor Cleary stated that the sign for the High School is at Williams Street but people ignore that because of the dangerous intersection. He stated that they may have to look into a police officer being there at certain times.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

A true copy:

Attest: RM Blackwell

City Clerk

RMB/SJS
(NO TAPE)

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
AUGUST 25, 2015

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND SALARIES

PRESENT WERE: COUNCILOR GERALD CROTEAU, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILORS CARR AND POTTIER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:48 P.M.

1. **MEET TO REVIEW THE WEEKLY VOUCHERS & PAYROLLS FOR CITY DEPARTMENTS**
   Motion: **Move approval of the vouchers and payrolls for the week. So Voted.**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:49 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Colleen Ellis

COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

CITY OF TAUNTON
AUG 25 2015
IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

Rm Blackwell

CITY CLERK