



**CALL TO ORDER:**

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Matthew Rushton called the meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council to order at 7:00pm, on May 25, 2021, via Zoom©.

**PRESENT:**

Council members present via Zoom© were, Kevin Perry, Peter Colombotos, Francis Sousa, Matthew Rushton, Shawn George, William Wood, Fred Chase, Erik Moore, and Dennis Gallagher. Town Manager Michael Dutton and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins were also present.

**ABSENT:** No Councilors were absent

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

A moment of silence was held for all veterans who have passed.

President Rushton announced: Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020, Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020, Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Bridgewater Town Council will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. There will be no in person attendance permitted. Citizens who wish to tune in to the meeting may do so via Facebook Live.

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

• **May 11, 2021**

*Councilor George made a motion to approve the Town Council meeting minutes from May 11, 2021, which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 8-0.

**B. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

No announcements were given.

**C. PROCLAMATIONS**

**D. CITIZENS OPEN FORUM**

- **Pat Neary – Lakeside Drive:** shared remarks on Resolution R-FY21-009: Future retail Sale of Marijuana Guidelines Resolution.
- **Ed Ivaldi – Boxford Lane:** shared remarks on Resolution R-FY21-009: Future retail Sale of Marijuana Guidelines Resolution.
- **Taylor Sullivan – Norwood Park:** shared remarks on Resolution R-FY21-009: Future retail Sale of Marijuana Guidelines Resolution.



Town of Bridgewater  
Town Council Meeting – Virtual Via Zoom©  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 25, 2021

- **Jennifer Smith:** shared remarks on Resolution R-FY21-009: Future retail Sale of Marijuana Guidelines Resolution.
- **Janet Hanson – Pleasant St:** shared remarks on Resolution R-FY21-009: Future retail Sale of Marijuana Guidelines Resolution.

#### E. APPOINTMENTS

- Charter Review Committee - *30 Day Extension of Term Appointment*
  - Edward Ivaldi
  - Darren Boston
  - Thomas Golden
  - Janet Hanson
  - Cleonie Mainvielle
  - Steven Persell
  - Scott Pitta

*Councilor George made a motion to approve the Charter Review Committee – 30 Day Extension of Term Appointment which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

#### F. HEARINGS

- **7:05 p.m.** Petition P-2021-011: Cumberland Farms of Massachusetts, Inc. dba Cumberland Farms for a Change of Beneficial Interest and Change of Officer

*Councilor Chase made a motion to continue the hearing on 6/8/2021 at 7:10 p.m. which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** Mr. Dutton requested the hearing be continued to 6/8 at 7:10 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

#### G. LICENSE TRANSACTIONS

- Petition P-2021-012 – One Day Entertainment – First Annual Juneteenth Celebration, BCCR & First Parish UU Church, Stanley Iron Works Parkland, 6/19 (Rain Date 6/20) 3:00 – 6:00 PM

*Councilor Chase made a motion to approve Petition P-2021-012 which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.



## H. PRESENTATIONS

### • **Memorial Building – Tappe Architects**

Cesar Dedios, principal at Tappe Architects, shared with the committee, a presentation on the project scope for the restoration and additions to the Memorial Building. The building will allow universal access by making changes to the parking space & path to main entrance, increased accessibility from the sidewalk, an ADA compliant main entrance, accessibility to the lower floor and ADA compliant lavatories. The major alterations have been reviewed and approved by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Changes to the interior include creating a floor opening and installing a wheelchair lift and removal and replacement of the stair to the lower floor with a code compliant stair in a new configuration. Minor changes include paving, striping and signage associated with making an ADA compliant parking space, remove existing wooden deck and lift, addition of removable entry grille in the exterior entry, repainting of previously painted interior surfaces, repairs and improvements to the electrical power distribution system, and repairs to the lighting system.

### • **Fire Station/Headquarters Update - Jacunski Humes Architects, LLC**

Brian Humes with Jacunski Humes Architects, LLC shared with the committee, a presentation on the 4-phase study for the Fire Station/Headquarters. Phase 1 was the space needs assessment that concluded in September 2020. After additional consideration, the committee found that a third station would be needed to better serve the western part of Bridgewater. Phase 2 was the site evaluation and was completed after a thorough review of possible sites within the town. The Building Committee provided recommended Headquarters sites that included 106 Hale St, Crescent Street (softball fields,) 1185 Pleasant St. 1185 Pleasant St scored the highest with a score of 96/100 and the Building Committee approved the committee to advance with the site. Phase 3 will follow and is for the schematic design of the Fire Station/Headquarters. Sites for substation 2 were shown with the benefits of each presented. Once Phase 3 is completed, Phase 4 will begin and is the cost assessment for the project.

## I. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Dutton reported on information about various activities happening around town and highlighted meetings and events. Items of note included:

### • **Mitchell School Update (Standing Item)**

Work continues and the project is currently on time and on budget. The architect rejected some of the selected brick after a mock-up was presented due to an incorrect color, but this did not cause a delay. No new neighbor reports or site issues. The next meeting is scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

### • **COVID-19 Update**

There is only one active case of Covid-19 in the Town of Bridgewater currently. A total of 43% of Bridgewater residents are fully vaccinated and 10% are partially vaccinated. Some of the emergency measures that are due to expire in June have been requested to be extended by the State Governor and include open meeting laws and outside dining. A hybrid meeting set-up is expected for future council and committee meetings.

### • **Items for Next Meeting:**

**Council Sousa** – Councilor Sousa has requested an update from the individual the Town of Bridgewater hired for the maintenance of the building.

**Councilor George** – Councilor George has requested an update on the potential usage of the Town Hall.

**Councilor Gallagher** – Councilor Gallagher has requested an update on the status of the Broad Street Development.



**J. DISCUSSIONS**

No discussions were held.

**K. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **Council Clerk Selection Ad Hoc Committee**

The first meeting for the Council Clerk Selection was held on 5/24/2021 and focused on the qualifications, job description, approval process, vetting process, etc. The conclusion was to begin work on the job description and utilize resources within the town to assist in finding candidates. The next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2021.

**L. LEGISLATION FOR ACTION**

- **Order O-FY21-042: Rescind Elm Street Roadway Project Loan Authorization**

*Councilor George made a motion to approve Order O-FY21-042 which was duly seconded.*

***Discussion:*** None.

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

- **Order O-FY21-043: Transfer Order - First Street Roadway Betterment**

*Councilor George made a motion to approve Order O-FY21-043 which was duly seconded.*

***Discussion:*** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

- **Order O-FY21-044: Acceptance of a Grant - Complete Streets Tier 3 Construction Grant**

*Councilor George motioned to approve Order O-FY21-044 which was duly seconded.*

***Discussion:*** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

- **Order O-FY21-046: Capital Transfer Order - Water Fund**

*Councilor George motioned to approve Order O-FY21-046 which was duly seconded.*

***Discussion:*** None



A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

- **Order O-FY21-047: Capital Transfer Order - Sewer Fund**

*Councilor George motioned to approve Order O-FY21-047 which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

- **Resolution R-FY21-007: A Resolution in Recognition of Gay Pride Month**

*Councilor George motioned to approve Resolution R-FY21-007 which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** Councilor Chase expressed his appreciation of the support for the resolution.

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

- **Resolution R-FY21-008: A Resolution Relative to Diversity and Respect**

*Councilor George motioned to approve Resolution R-FY21-008 which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** Councilor Chase expressed his appreciation of the efforts to put this forward. Councilor Colombotos also expressed his appreciation of the resolution and efforts put forth.

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

**M. OLD BUSINESS - None**

**N. NEW BUSINESS**

- **Order O-FY21-048: Acceptance of a Gift - Bridgewater Police Association**

*Councilor George motioned to refer Order O-FY21-048 to the Budget & Finance and Finance Committees which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None



A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 8-0.

- **Order O-FY21-049: Acceptance of a Grant - Home Depot Foundation**

*Councilor George motioned to refer Order O-FY21-049 to the Budget & Finance and Finance Committees which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

- **Order O-FY21-051: Laying Out and Acceptance of Private Way(s) - Upland Drive and Strathmore Road**

*Councilor George motioned to declare intent to lay out the way which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

*Councilor Wood motioned to refer Order O-FY21-051 to the Planning Board which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

- **Resolution R-FY21-009: Future Retail Sale of Marijuana Guidelines Resolution**

An amendment to the resolution was proposed by Councilor George to strike “Any zoning changes enacted by the Town Council shall identify the number of shops permitted, the Zone(s) where the shops are permitted, and the security regulations the shops must adhere to.”

*Councilor George motioned to amend Resolution R-FY21-009 which was duly seconded.*

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Nay; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 8-1.



*Councilor Wood motioned to keep discussion of Resolution R-FY21-009 at the Town Council level which was duly seconded.*

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Nay; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 8-1.

**Discussion:**

Councilor Wood and Councilor Chase submitted the resolution to the Town Council given the results of the most recent ballot question. Councilor Gallagher recommended that the resolution be dropped and that a discussion item be included on a future Town Council agenda. After much debate, Councilor George offered an amendment to the resolution.

*Councilor George motioned to take discussion passed 10 p.m. which was duly seconded.*

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Nay; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 8-1.

• **Resolution R-FY21-010: A Resolution Designating June 19th as a Town Holiday**

*Councilor George motioned to discuss Resolution R-FY21-010 after 10 p.m. which was duly seconded.*

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

*Councilor Gallagher motioned to approve Resolution R-FY21-010 which was duly seconded.*

**Discussion:** None

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

**O. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

*Councilor George made a motion to discuss items O, P, Q, and R past 10:30 p.m. the motion was duly seconded.*

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

George – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; Perry – Yea; Chase – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Moore – Yea; Wood – Yea; Colombotos – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.



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- **Samuel Baumgarten – 60 Short St:** shared remarks on resolutions Resolution R-FY21-007: A Resolution in Recognition of Gay Pride Month and Resolution R-FY21-008: A Resolution Relative to Diversity and Respect
- **Vernon Domingo – 36 Saddle Drive:** shared remarks on Resolution R-FY21-007 and R-FY21-008.
- **Tim Fitzgibbons – South Drive:** shared remarks regarding the Memorial building.
- **Carlton Hunt:** shared remarks on the Memorial building and Fire Station project.

**P. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Each Councilor was given an opportunity to speak with the majority sharing comments on the items discussed and voted on at tonight's meeting and thanking the resigning Town Clerk, Ann Holmberg, for her years of service.

**Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – *No Executive Session was held.*

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

*Councilor George motioned to adjourn the Town Council meeting at 10:47 p.m. which was duly seconded.*

A roll call vote was taken with results recorded as follows:

Colombotos – Yea; Wood – Yea; Moore – Yea; Sousa – Yea; Rushton – Yea; Chase – Yea; Chase – Yea; Perry – Yea; Gallagher – Yea; George – Yea. The motion passed 9-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

Minutes submitted in draft form by: Joshua McGraw