

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
January 24, 2023

The Committee on Finance and Salaries

The meeting was held at Taunton City Hall, 15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780 in the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers.

Present were Councilor Phillip Duarte, Chairman and Councilors Pottier and McCaul.

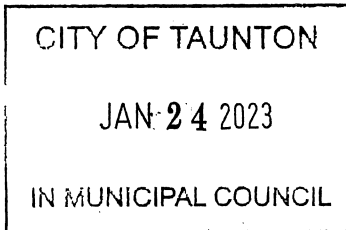
The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM.

1. Meet to review the weekly vouchers and payrolls for City departments.

MOTION: *Approve the payroll warrant in the amount of \$3,954,385.01. So voted.*

MOTION: *Approve the accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$2,723,510.68. So voted.*

The meeting adjourned at 5:36 PM.



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maggie E. Clarke".

Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Regan".
CITY CLERK

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City of Taunton
Municipal Council
January 24, 2023

The Committee on Ordinances and Enrolled Bills

The meeting was held at Taunton City Hall, 15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780 in the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers.

Present were Councilor Barry Sanders, Chairman, and Councilors Dooner and McCaul. Police Chief Edward Walsh was also present.

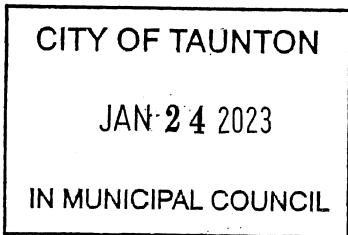
The meeting was called to order at 5:38 PM.

1. **Meet with the Police Chief to discuss request to remove parking meters on Governor Street.**

Chief Walsh explained that Governor Street had been changed to a one-way street and recommended eliminating parking on the south side with a proposed ordinance.

MOTION: Refer to the Law Department to prepare and post the proposed ordinance. ***So voted.***

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.



Respectfully submitted,

Maggie E. Clarke

Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

Jennifer Regan
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The Committee on the Fire Department

The meeting was held at Taunton City Hall, 15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780 in the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers.

Present were Councilor David Pottier, Chairman, and Councilors Postell and Couté. Fire Chief Timothy Bradshaw, City Solicitor Matthew Costa, and Deputy Chief Jason Boiros, and Lieutenant Tim O'Leary of the Fire Department were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:49 PM.

1. Meet with Chief Bradshaw to discuss how applicants for a position are ranked when Civil Service indicates that there is a tie.

Councilor Pottier read a letter from Jeff McCue of H.R.D. into the minutes.

MOTION: *Make the letter part of the record. So voted.*

Chief Bradshaw reported that the next exam is scheduled for March 25.

Councilor Pottier indicated that they had called for a Lieutenant list and that the current list is in effect until March 1.

Councilor Couté asked if the Chief feels that the need to extend the list and the Chief said that he does need feel the need and he believes that if the list were to be extended it would be for one year.

Councilor Borges stated that she doesn't think it makes sense to go 5 weeks without a list and can see no reason not to extend the list. Further, there is currently no vacancy for a lieutenant so doesn't know why we are calling for a list. She believes the list should be extended until the new exam scores come out. She expressed her concern that the McCue letter had not been previously read fully. Chief Bradshaw pointed out that there have been other times without a list.

Councilor Pottier asked if the Chief and the Union were comfortable with how things are proceeding and Chief Bradshaw and Lieutenant O'Leary both indicated that they are. Chief Bradshaw pointed out that tests have always been valid for 2 years.

Councilor Duarte pointed out that the letter was included on the full Council agenda.

Councilor McCaul asked who had retired to create this opening and the Chief and Deputy Chief Boiros and Lieutenant O'Leary explained that there was a Memorandum of Understanding

whereby someone was moved to a different position and the Chief was under the impression that he would retire by April 1 so there is an anticipated vacancy in April. The Union believes that because of this MOA that there is an open lieutenant position. Lieutenant O'Leary explained that he is acting as an assistant to the mechanic. Chief Bradshaw agreed that there is a vacancy in the ranks. Attorney Costa cautioned the Council to avoid discussions on particular persons.

Chief Bradshaw explained the formula that has been used for years and years when there is a tie. He indicated that he did not create this formula. Civil Service now groups people together and scores are rounded and people are banded.

Councilor Couté questioned if the education experience score comes from the Civil Service and Chief Bradshaw said that it does and explained the process including that documentation must be provided. He confirmed that both the written score and the experience score come from Civil Service.

Councilor McCaul again asked if there is a vacancy and Chief Bradshaw said that this would be discussed in executive session. Attorney Costa reminded the Council of the agenda.

Councilor Borges requested that the Council find out if the list can be extended for a couple months or if it needs to be for a year.

Councilor Couté suggested they hold off on any votes.

MOTION: Open public input. **So voted.**

Firefighter Nicholas Faria handed out a statement issued 12/19/22 by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He referenced the personnel administration rules for promoting and hiring and indicated that the formula being used by Chief Bradshaw is not recommended by the Civil Service. He stated that in the case of a tie, the Chief can make a recommendation but that ultimately it is up to the hiring authority.

Firefighter Douglas Gaudette stated that he does not believe there is a vacancy since nobody has been demoted from lieutenant to mechanic and nothing says that the Lieutenant is not a lieutenant any more. Mr. Gaudette believes he has been reassigned but not demoted.

Firefighter Mike Rodriguez indicated that if someone is reassigned because they can no longer perform their duties then there is no going back to that position. In this situation, the person can no longer perform his original duties.

MOTION: Close public input. **So voted.**

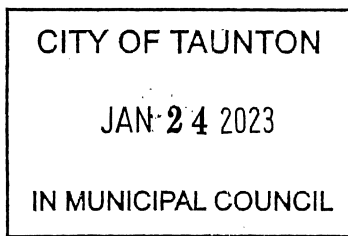
2. Meet in executive session with Chief Bradshaw to discuss strategy regarding collective bargaining.

MOTION: Enter into executive session. On a roll call, Councilors Pottier, Couste, and Postell voted yes. **So voted.**

MOTION: Return from executive session. On a roll call, Councilors Pottier, Couste and Postell voted yes. **So voted.**

It was reported two votes were taken in total in executive session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maggie E. Clarke".

Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

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CITY CLERK

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TAUNTON, MA

2023 JAN 26 P 9:25

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The Committee of the Council as a Whole

The meeting was held at Taunton City Hall, 15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780 in the Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers.

Present were Council President Kelly Dooner and Councilors Duarte, Borges, McCaul, Pottier, Coute, Sanders, Quintal, and Postell. Attorney Blake Mensing and Haskell Kennedy of Medicine Man Solutions, and John DeSousa of Northcounty Group.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM.

MOTION: Recess. So voted.

The meeting resumed at 8:27 PM.

1. Meet to discuss the request for renewal of a Host Community Agreement for Medicine Man Solutions, LLC located at 144 West Britannia Street.

Councilor Duarte reported that he would be recusing himself from this matter and item number 3 on the agenda.

Councilor Dooner read a letter dated 1/17/23 from Attorney Mensing requesting that this HCA be extended for one year.

MOTION: Make this part of the record. So voted.

Attorney Mensing and Haskell Kennedy gave an update on the progress of this business.

Councilor Borges asked if they thought 6 months was enough time and they indicated that while they believe 6 months is enough time, 1 year would certainly be enough time.

MOTION: Grant the petitioner a one year extension. So voted.

2. Meet for a pre-review on the issuance of a Special Permit upon the petition of Robert Asack, 96 Sachem Rock Ave., East Bridgewater, MA to allow a 10 unit group home with a parking waiver at 74 Weir Street located in the Central Business District.

John DeSousa, on behalf of his client, indicated that the plan calls for 10 residential units to be in a refurbished building.

Councilor Dooner stated that she will be interested in hearing the square footage of each unit, the criteria for moving in, if there will be an upstairs, details on management, and details on parking.

Councilor McCaul clarified that while this says group home, these will be high end studio apartments and Mr. DeSousa confirmed. Mr. McCaul expressed his interest in hearing about the sprinkler system – if it will be overhead or tanks in the basement in addition to hearing about how long the project will take.

Councilor Borges requested to hear about the market rate, the number of units, the size of the units, more on parking, if there will be a management company, if there has been community outreach, and how long for the buildout.

Councilor Postell requested that they discuss any structural issues.

Councilor Couté is interested in hearing about neighborhood outreach and if there will be commercial space on the first floor.

Councilor Sanders is curious why they used the term group home and wants to know exactly what is going in there. He's also interested in any environmental issues, water impacts, and efforts toward energy conservation.

3. Meet in executive session with the City's legal representation to discuss the pending litigation of Greater Goods, LLC vs. City of Taunton Municipal Council

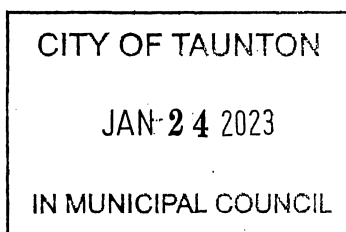
MOTION: Enter into executive session. On a roll call, Councilors Borges, McCaul, Pottier, Couté, Sanders, Quintal, Postell, and Dooner voted yes. Councilor Duarte was recused. **So voted.**

MOTION: Come out of executive session. On a roll call, Councilors Borges, McCaul, Pottier, Couté, Sanders, Quintal, Postell, and Dooner voted yes. Councilor Duarte was recused. **So voted.**

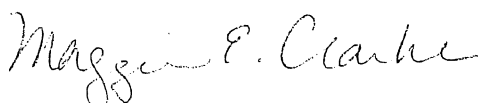
Council President Dooner reported that one vote was taken in executive session in addition to the vote to come out of executive session. That vote was reaffirmed:

MOTION: Approve the settlement. On a roll call, Councilors Postell, Quintal, Sanders, Couté, Pottier, and Dooner voted yes. Councilors McCaul and Borges voted no. Councilor Duarte was recused. **The motion carries 6-2-1.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM.

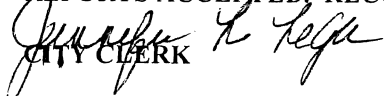


Respectfully submitted,



Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.



JENNIFER L. LOPEZ
CITY CLERK