

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
July 11, 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.

Members Present: Councilor Phillip Duarte, Chairman
Councilor David Pottier
Councilor John McCaul

Also Present: Ian Fortes, City Auditor
Gill Enos, Budget Director
Patrick Dello Russo, CFO
Christine Clymens, Treasurer-Collector

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2023 JUL 18 A 11:04
TAUNTON, MA
CITY CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM.

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

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to approve the payroll warrant in the amount of \$1,431,816.60. So voted.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to approve the FY23 accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$1,869,929.20. So voted.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to approve the FY24 accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$5,735,278.50. So voted.

2. Meet with the City Auditor to discuss year-end transfers.

Mr. Fortes reviewed the list of year-end budgetary transfers to eliminate any deficits as legally obligated. Budgetary transfers totaled \$2,694,545.65.

Mr. Pottier asked about the health insurance account surplus and Mr. Enos indicated that they had budgeted for the worst case scenario. Mr. Pottier also asked for clarification on the transfer to trust which Mr. Enos stated would be included in the next category of fund transfers.

Mr. Fortes explained the requested fund transfers which totaled \$1,863,769.30. Several of the requests were discussed. One of the requests was for a transfer due to a surplus in parking that would go back to the Parking Commission in the amount of \$82,022.37. The Title 5 program and the HR Worker's Comp fund were in deficit so a transfer from the

general fund was requested. Additionally, \$500,000 was requested to fund the worker's comp fund which would be rolled over into FY24. \$824,131 was requested from the General Fund to the DIF fund. \$250,000 was requested from the General Fund to establish the Septic Loan Revolving account. \$12,298.40 was requested to be transferred from the Public Safety Stabilization Fund to the Capital Project Fund.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to approve both the budgetary and fund transfers as presented. So voted.

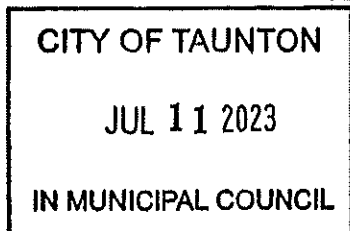
3. Meet with the Finance Department for a quarterly investment and collection update.

Ms. Clymens gave a presentation on FY23 revenue and collections. The real estate tax was at 98% collected. Motor vehicle excise tax collection was at over 100% since it includes payments for some FY22 bills as well. There were 236 parcels in tax title at the end of FY23. Police details saw an 86% collection rate in FY23 and towing fees an 88% collection rate. There was a \$6 Million surplus over estimated revenue. Ms. Clymens updated the Council on payment platforms being rolled out and indicated that Taunton is the first city in MA to have contactless card payments and digital wallet. Police detail payments and parking tickets payments can now be made online. She stated that there has been a dramatic increase in the income from interest and she stated that funds are kept in 10 banks with an average yield of 4.35%. Ms. Clymens touched on market conditions and indicated that this was a volatile first half.

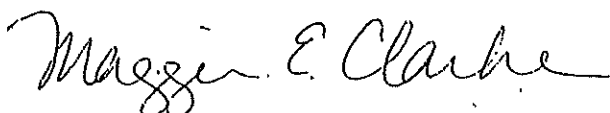
Mr. Pottier asked if there was data available on what was billed in FY23 that was uncollected. Ms. Clymens will follow up. He asked about the guidelines for placing properties in tax title and Ms. Clymens explained that there need to be no payments for at least a year. Properties are prioritized based on value. Mr. Pottier requested a report on who is outstanding for details as well as a report on details of the miscellaneous revenue category. Mr. Dello Russo stated that miscellaneous revenue includes HCA payments, payment from the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, and monies from the opioid settlement. Mr. Pottier asked if credit card fees are passed along and Ms. Clymens confirmed.

Councilor Quintal asked that burial permits and death certificates be considered for online payments and Ms. Clymens stated that they are starting with the Treasurer-Collector's Office then going to the Clerk so will be adding functions.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to adjourn and excuse the parties with the Council's thanks at 5:58 PM. So voted.



Respectfully submitted,



Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.



JENNIFER K. LEGA
CITY CLERK

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
July 11, 2023

The Committee on Solid Waste

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

Members Present: Councilor Estele Borges, Chairman
Councilor David Pottier
Councilor Kelly Dooner
Councilor Christopher Coute

Members Absent: Councilor Jeffrey Postell

Also Present: Patrick Dello Russo, CFO
Fred Cornaglia, DPW Commissioner
Katherine Nunes, Director of Capital Projects

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2023 JUL 17 P 1:05
TAUNTON, MA
CITY CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM.

1. Meet to discuss recycling at condominiums.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Ms. Dooner to invite in the CFO and other interested parties. So voted.

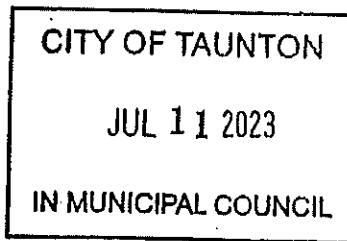
Commissioner Cornaglia showed a plan for Land's End Condominiums from 1985 when it was first built. He indicated that in 2017 when the agreement was reached with Allied Waste and they rolled out carts and automatic recycling the City opted to maintain the current policy which provides curbside trash and recycling pickup for single family through 4 family units. Each condo unit is treated as a single unit within the City's regulations and the intention was to continue to provide this service to the complex. However, the complex did not want the 96 gallon carts so opted out of the program in October of 2017. Mr. Cornaglia explained that the complex does not provide an adequate outlet for the automated pickup. There is residential parking in front of each unit so drivers would need to walk between and around the vehicles. Curbside recycling would not be easily accommodated at this location. Mr. Cornaglia stated that they are proposing to offer a drop off option for recycling which will be during the convenience center hours: Wednesday and Friday, 7am-1pm and Saturday 8am-3pm.

Mr. Pottier stated that not only does he live there, he is on the board at Land's End and they have moved the trash to common areas. He asked if other complexes receive curbside recycling services and Mr. Cornaglia confirmed. Mr. Cornaglia stated that trucks have difficulty

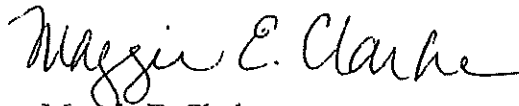
navigating this site. Mr. Pottier asked for more information on the proposed drop off option. Ms. Nunes stated that things are ready to go. They will be checking IDs and making sure there aren't issues with contamination. Mr. Pottier asked when the flyer is coming out and Ms. Nunes stated that she expects it in the next week.

Details were summarized. The convenience center is located at 340 East Britannia Street and hours are Wednesday and Friday, 7-1 and Saturday, 8-3. Plastics, paper, metals, glass can be brought there. Cardboard can also be brought there but will need to be separated. Mr. Pottier suggested a separate bin for nickel cans with proceeds to a charity.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded Ms. Dooner to excuse the parties with thanks and adjourn the meeting at 6:18 PM. So voted.

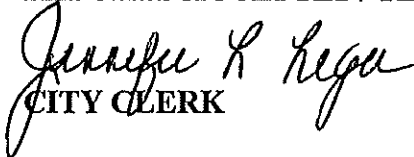


Respectfully submitted,



Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.



CITY CLERK

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
July 11, 2023

The Committee on the 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.

Members Present: Councilor Barry Sanders, Chairman
 Councilor Kelly Dooner
 Councilor John McCaul

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2023 JUL 17 P 1:05
TAUNTON, MA
CITY CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 6:22 PM.

1. Meet for further discussion on a proposed ordinance to reduce use of single use plastic bags.

Councilor Sanders explained that this was on the agenda two weeks ago but was postponed due to the lengthy meeting that evening. His intern, Mark Doherty, had done a research project on the topic and had intended to present at that meeting but was unavailable this evening. Mr. Sanders showed a narrated power point presentation by Mr. Doherty. This highlighted the environmental impacts of plastic bags, impact of plastic bag reductions on local economics, cost and effectiveness of plastic bag ordinances, and touched on unintended consequences.

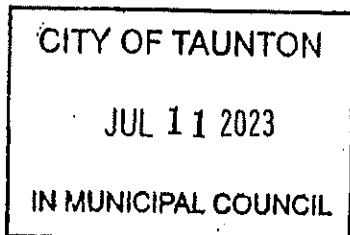
Councilor Dooner gave her thanks to Mr. Doherty for his presentation but stated that her opinion remains the same and she does not wish to put another restriction on businesses.

Councilor McCaul read a statement outlining some research on the topic. He indicated that paper bags generate 4 times the carbon emissions of plastic bags. Cotton totes are equivalent to 327 plastic bags. When California banned plastic bags, there was a 0.4% reduction in waste so there was virtually no impact. He suggested that cities should redirect their efforts to addressing massive municipal waste issues. Mr. McCaul spoke about contamination in reusable bags with bacteria such as coliform or E.coli. He stated that 97% of reusable bag users never wash their bags allowing diseases to spread. He spoke of the difficulty in recycling reusable bags and surmised that plastic bags are a better choice. He indicated that this information came from Brian Chen a Consumer Tech reporter for the New York Times.

Councilor Coute stated that he believes that the video only shows one side of the argument. He does not believe that banning plastic bags would be good for the business community and he believes there is also a negative impact to the environment from reusable bags. He stated that he will not be supporting this effort.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Ms. Dooner to not approve banning plastic bags and remove from the file. Councilors McCaul and Dooner voted yes. The Chair voted no. The motion passed 2-1.

Motion by Ms. Dooner and seconded Mr. McCaul to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 PM. So voted.



Respectfully submitted,

Maggie E. Clarke

Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, FOUR (4) COUNCILORS VOTED IN FAVOR (COUNCILORS COUTE, POTTIER, MCCAUL AND DOONER). FOUR COUNCILORS VOTED IN OPPOSITION (COUNCILORS QUINTAL, SANDERS, BORGES AND DUARTE). COUNCILOR POSTELL WAS ABSENT. SO VOTED. MOTION WAS MADE FOR RECONSIDERATION NEXT WEEK. SO VOTED.

Jennifer L. Rega
CITY CLERK

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
July 11, 2023

The Committee on Public Property

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

Members Present: Councilor Christopher Coute, Chairman
Councilor John McCaul
Councilor Estele Borges
Councilor Lawrence Quintal
Councilor Kelly Dooner

Also Present: Attorney Matt Costa, City Solicitor
Michael Patneau, City Engineer
David Chaves, 186 Ashleigh Terrace

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2023 JUN 17 P 1:05
TAUNTON, MA
CITY CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM.

1. Meet to discuss the potential acquisition of two parcels on Ashleigh Terrace: Assessors' parcels 80-45 and 80-47.

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Ms. Dooner to invite in the Law Department. So voted.

Attorney Costa explained that this request is related to the hearing to accept Steve Drive, Ashleigh Terrace, Bryan Drive and Manken Road. This goes back to the 70s when this subdivision was approved. These two parcels are from the last phase in approximately 2000. Attorney Costa distributed a plan that showed the two lots in question. There is a covenant on these two lots which means that nothing can be done with them until the roads are accepted. If the City accepts the roads, these lots will be given to the City. There is significant work needed on the roads and the value of the lots will not be sufficient to complete that work. If the City accepts the roads, the lots will be released to the City so the City has the option to accept the two lots and then to sell.

Councilor Coute asked if it is possible to earmark the proceeds from the sale of the properties to the road improvements and Mr. Costa stated that he believes that the funds will go to the general fund. Mr. Coute stated that he would hate to see those lots be released and then have nothing go to those roads. Mr. Costa explained that the Planning Board had voted to access the bond funds of \$41,141 from phase 1 and \$98,845 from phase 2.

Councilor McCaul expressed his opinion that the money should be earmarked for the repair of the roads there.

Councilor Borges asked if there is a cost estimate to repair the road and Attorney Costa did not have that information but it would exceed the value of the lots.

A letter from neighbor Stacy Sousa Royer of 51 Manken Road was read. She indicated that she and the other neighbors hope that these lots would only be used for single family homes. Mr. Coute agreed that this should be restricted to single family homes and Mr. Costa stated that the Planning Board had the same intent.

Councilor Quintal stated that he would support this with the stipulation that the lots are only for single family home use.

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Ms. Dooner to invite in the City Engineer. *So voted.*

Mr. Coute asked Mr. Patneude how much it would cost to fix that road. While he didn't know the exact cost, he stated it would be substantially more than \$500,000. Mr. Coute asked him his opinion on the best use of the funds and Mr. Patneude suggested paving.

Motion by Mr. Quintal and seconded by Ms. Borges to accept parcels 80-45 and 80-47. *This motion was withdrawn.*

Motion by Ms. Dooner and seconded by Mr. Quintal to open public input. *So voted.*

David Chaves of 186 Ashleigh Terrace stated that the road needs sidewalks and this should be the priority. He also expressed his opinion that if the parcels are sold, the money should come back to the City and no one else should profit.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Ms. Dooner to close public input. *So voted.*

Mr. Costa stated that if the City sells the lots, 100% of the proceeds would come to the City.

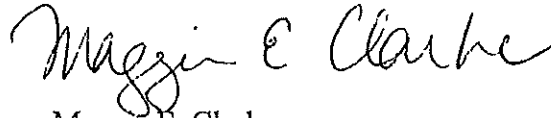
Motion by Mr. Quintal and seconded by Ms. Borges to move forward with acquiring parcels 80-45 and 80-47 with the stipulation that these lots should only be used for single family homes and the money from the sale should come directly to the City and no one else. Those funds should be used in that development with a priority on the sidewalks. *So voted.*

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Mr. McCaul that the City Engineer provide a cost estimate assessment analysis of that development with a budget of approximately \$500,000 and also provide a list of needs for those roads. *So voted.*

Motion by Mr. Quintal and seconded by Ms. Borges to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM. *So voted.*

CITY OF TAUNTON
JUL 11 2023
IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Respectfully submitted,



Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

**REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED. COUNCILOR SANDERS
RECUSED HIMSELF FROM THE VOTE.**



CITY CLERK

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
July 11, 2023

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.

Councilors Present: Council President Kelly Dooner
Councilor Phillip Duarte
Councilor Estele Borges
Councilor John McCaul
Councilor David Pottier
Councilor Christopher Coute
Councilor Barry Sanders
Councilor Lawrence Quintal

Councilors Absent: Councilor Jeffrey Postell

Also Present: Michael Kinahan, Tower Three
Anthony Kinahan, Tower Three
Isaias Correa, Tower Three
Mike Botelho, Tower Three
Attorney Brianna Correira

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2023 JUL 17 P 1:05
TAUNTON, MA
CITY CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 PM.

1. Meet for a pre-review upon the petition of Anthony James Kinahan, Tower Three, LLC, 30 Sherwood Drive, Taunton to allow a Special Permit for the use of the 32,512 sq. ft. facility for 22,046 sq. ft. of marijuana cultivation, 7,550 sq. ft. of marijuana manufacturing and 2,916 sq. ft. of marijuana delivery at 30 Sherwood Drive, located in the Industrial District.

Motion by Mr. Coute and seconded by Ms. Borges to invite in the interested parties. *So voted.*

Councilor Duarte recused himself from this matter.

Anthony Kinahan gave a presentation outlining the proposed business. He explained that this is an amendment to an existing special permit. They began operating in February of 2022. They have received a provisional license for cannabis manufacturing. He reviewed the parties who are involved in the different areas of the business. Traffic impacts will likely see 5 inbound deliveries weekly and 25 outbound shipments. The footprint of the building stays

the same. Mr. Kinahan stated that they have had great success with odor mitigation and use a three phase odor reduction system. He reviewed their security plan and stated that the Taunton Police Department can have access to their cameras if they choose. He touched on their commitment to the City of Taunton including economic impacts and continued support of local businesses.

Councilor Borges stated that she would like to see their business plan.

Councilor Sanders would like information on how this impacts their status with the CCC and if there will be any additional approvals required.

Councilor Coute was interested in how this works with different parties involved since they are the ones who advertised for the special permit. He would also like additional information on the status of fees.

Councilor Quintal would like detailed information on odor control.

Councilor Dooner stated that the CFO needs their full financial report.

Councilor Coute stated that the Council should consider making their odor control requirements standard.

Motion by Mr. Coute and seconded by Ms. Borges to close the pre-review and excuse the parties. So voted.

2. Meet for a pre-review upon the petition of Brianna Correia, Esq., Correia Law Office, PLLC., 123 Broadway, Taunton, on behalf of her client Boston Capital Development Partners, LLC, 11 Beacon Street, Suite 325, Boston to allow a Special Permit for a 30 unit multi-family residential use at 68 Church Green, located in the Urban Residential District.

Motion by Mr. Quintal and seconded by Ms. Borges to invite in the parties. So voted.

Councilor Pottier requested to see schematics, parking plan, security plans, density, and affordable vs. not affordable information.

Councilor McCaul asked if there had been any neighborhood outreach meeting and if there was any feedback. He is also interested in information on the applicant's experience with similar projects and the availability of utilities.

Councilor Duarte asked about access for the property and if that issue has been resolved.

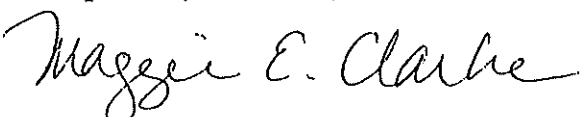
Councilor Sanders expressed interest in learning more about efforts to improve efficiency, environmental impact, and sustainability.

Motion by Mr. Duarte and seconded by Mr. Pottier to excuse the parties. So voted.

Motion by Mr. Duarte and seconded Mr. Sanders to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM. So voted.

CITY OF TAUNTON
JUL 18 2023
IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Respectfully submitted,



Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.



CITY CLERK