

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
August 8, 2023

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2023 AUG 17 A 9:50

The Committee on Finance and Salaries

TAUNTON, MA

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

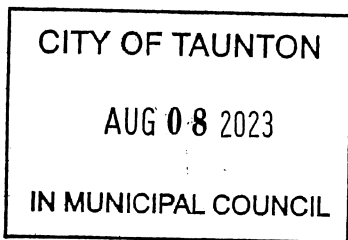
The meeting was called to order at 5:33 PM.

- 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 \$1,446,282.65. **So voted.

Motion** by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to approve the accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$3,309,874.74. **So voted.

Motion** by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to adjourn at 5:34 PM. **So voted.



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 R. Lopez".
CITY CLERK

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2023 AUG 17 A 9:50

The Committee on Police and License

TAUNTON, MA

The meeting was held at Taunton City Hall, 15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02789 in the
Chester R. Martin Municipal Council Chambers.

Members Present: Councilor Jeffrey Postell, Chairman
Councilor Estele Borges

Members Absent: Councilor Barry Sanders

Also present: Colleen Simmons, Executive Director, Downtown Taunton Foundation

The meeting was called to order at 5:39 PM.

1. Meet to discuss the request for approval from the Downtown Taunton Foundation for attendees of the 11th Annual Block Party on 9/16/23 to be able to consume alcohol on Trescott Street.

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

Councilor Postell explained that this had gone to the License Board for the alcohol permit and had subsequently been referred to this committee as the approving authority.

Colleen Simmons indicated that this is their one major fundraiser and helps to fund other free activities. She relayed that the License Commission had no issues but that the street is owned by the City. The Council was deemed the granting authority.

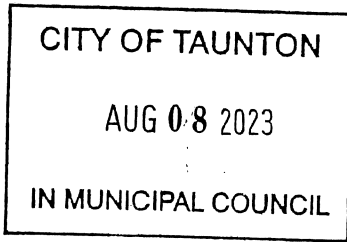
Councilor Borges asked for the time of the event and Ms. Simmons stated that it will be 6pm – 10pm.

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Mr. Postell to grant the approval to the Downtown Taunton Foundation for this event.

Councilor Pottier asked about former functions that had been held on the Green and Ms. Simmons indicated that most concerts have been shifted to the Liberty and Union Park which has a stage and is lit.

So voted.

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Mr. Postell to excuse the parties and adjourn the meeting at 5:44 PM. So voted.



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 R. Heggen".
CITY CLERK

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
August 8, 2023

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2023 AUG 17 A 9:51

TAUNTON, MA

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 Kelly Dooner
Councilor Lawrence Quintal
Councilor Estele Borges

Also Present: Jim Howland, Office of Economic and Community Development
Jay Pateakos, Executive Director, OECD
Patrick Dello Russo, CFO
Andrew Sukeforth, Director of Procurement
Jen Hoye, 169 Eldridge Street
Mark Knowlton, 17 Long Avenue
Lisa LaBelle, Assessor

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

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Ms. Borges to go out of order and discuss the Leonard School property first. **So voted.**

2. Meet to discuss declaring the land behind the Leonard School, parcel 46-212-0, as open space.

Mr. Howland explained that this is the large parcel behind the Leonard School that was specifically left out of the previous discussion when parcels 46-229 and 46-235 were declared surplus. He stated that OECD has no issue bringing this to zoning to have it declared open space. However, an easement would be needed to connect parcels 46-229 and 46-235 in order to allow usage of the parking lot.

Mr. Coute indicated that this could be accomplished by either an easement or by subdividing the parcel.

Ms. Borges asked for clarification on the easement being suggested. Mr. Howland explained that it's the piece between parcels 46-229 and 46-235. Otherwise, the access strip could be subdivided. Lots 46-229 and 46-235 will go out to RFP together.

Mr. Quintal asked for some clarification on the easement that is being proposed and it was confirmed to be the strip between parcels 46-229 and 46-235.

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

Jen Hoye, 169 Eldridge Street indicated she thought the easement makes sense as long as the rest of the property remains intact.

Mark Knowlton, 17 Long Avenue asked for the proposed usage for the piece of property being connected and Mr. Howland indicated that is not yet known. Developers will respond to the RFP.

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Mr. Quintal to close public input. **So voted.**

Mr. Quintal confirmed that if the easement is granted, the sliver of land to Eldridge Street would be open space as well.

Mr. McCaul asked about the strip of land leading to 46-212 and Mr. Howland stated that it will remain as part of 46-212 and be open space if that is the decision.

Ms. Borges asked what type of development might go into lots 46-235 and 46-229. Mr. Howland indicated that the RFP is looking for options. Mr. Coute noted that the parcels are zoned urban residential so would allow for a 1, 2, or 3 family and anything else would require a special permit.

Mr. Quintal stated that he believes the residents will be happy with 46-212 being declared as open space. He doesn't see any issue with granting that easement.

Motion by Ms. Dooner and seconded by Mr. Quintal to task the OECD with moving forward with declaring the parcel 46-212 as open space subject to a right of way between 46-229 and 46-235.

Mr. Duarte clarified that at the last meeting, it was voted to approve the concept of 46-235 and 46-229 being developed. They are asking for the easement in order to realize the intent of that vote.

Ms. Borges noted that she is looking to protect the neighborhood and believes this has been a healthy discussion.

Mr. Coute emphasized that the school needs to be dealt with and that the only thing that can go there without a special permit is a 1, 2, or 3 family.

Ms. Borges requested that the motion be divided into two.

Ms. Dooner withdrew her motion and Mr. Quintal withdrew his second.

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Ms. Dooner to deem 46-212 as open space. **So voted.**

Motion by Ms. Dooner and seconded by Mr. Quintal to grant the right of way between 46-229 and 46-235. **So voted.** Ms. Borges voted no.

1. Meet to discuss the following "Marketable Property Program" properties, and consider authorizing the sale of the same by the City:
 - a. Open Space on Scaddings Street, Parcel 20-23

It was noted that this topic was approved previously but was being discussed again this evening due to a technicality that evening.

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

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

Motion by Ms. Dooner and seconded by Mr. Quintal to deem the Scadding Street parcel as presented open space. **So voted.**

- b. 30 Winthrop Lane, Parcel 88-79

Mr. Dello Russo stated that the Mayor is going to be recommending funding to take down the water tower that is on this property and they would like this to go for an RFP.

Ms. Borges asked if there is a cost estimate to remove the water tower and Mr. Coute stated that he had spoken with the DPW and they believe it to be in the \$100,000 range. Ms. Borges asked what the property is worth. Mr. Howland indicated that, combined with the Range Ave. property it is \$1.2 Million.

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

Ms. LaBelle stated that for the small piece with the water tower the land is valued at \$126,000.

Ms. Borges stated that this parcel had been discussed as potentially part of the abutters program and Mr. Howland indicated that it doesn't qualify since it was not taken through tax title.

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

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Mr. Quintal to close public input. **So voted.**

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Ms. Dooner to allow the OECD to move forward with an RFP for the parcel as presented. **So voted.**

- c. John Hancock Road Parcel

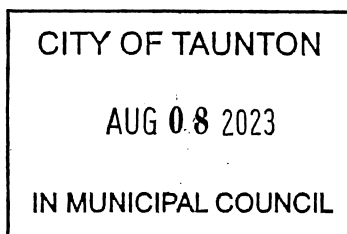
Mr. Pateakos explained that this is 36 acres that is zoned industrial.

Mr. Dello Russo indicated that the original intent was for a solid waste station to go here. The City will need to pay back the note that remains on this should it sell. There is approximately \$1.1 Million remaining.

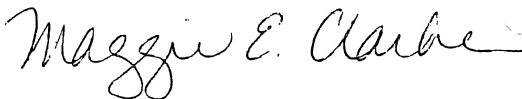
Mr. Coute confirmed that a variance will be required. Mr. Dello Russo stated that a footage easement from TMLP will also be required.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Ms. Borges to authorize the OECD office to move forward on an RFP and complete any necessary steps related to the sale of 745 John Hancock Road. So voted.

Motion by Ms. Borges and seconded by Ms. Dooner to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 PM. So voted.



Respectfully submitted,



Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED FOR ITEMS #1 AND #2. THERE WAS ALSO A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE RIGHT OF WAY TO CONNECT THE LEONARD SCHOOL PROPERTY WITH THE PARKING LOT. ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, EIGHT (8) COUNCILORS WERE PRESENT, SIX (6) COUNCILORS VOTED IN FAVOR. COUNCILORS BORGES AND MCCAUL VOTED IN OPPOSITION. COUNCILOR SANDERS WAS ABSENT.

Jessie R. Rega
CITY CLERK