

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICECity of Taunton
Municipal Council
October 17, 2023

2023 OCT 19 A 10: 23

TAUNTON, MA

CITY CLERK**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: Patrick Dello Russo, CFO
Christine Clymens, Treasurer/Collector
Ian Fortes, City Auditor
Katherine Nunes, Director of DPW Capital Projects

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

1. Approval of minutes from October 10, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to approve the minutes. **So voted.**

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

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. Duarte to approve the payroll warrant in the amount of \$4,361,297.64. **So voted.**

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. Duarte to approve the accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$5,389,934.07. **So voted.**

3. Meet to discuss the request to establish a new Opioid Settlement Stabilization account.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to invite in the interested parties. **So voted.**

Mr. Duarte read the letter from Patrick Dello Russo requesting this account and the suggested Order.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to make this part of the record. **So voted.**

Mr. Dello Russo stated that the State has recommended that municipalities create a stabilization account. Mayor O'Connell has created an advisory committee. A transfer out of this fund would require a 2/3 vote of the Council. There would be approximately \$600,000 allocated into the account to begin which is the amount that has been building up and the City will receive about \$162,000 a year on average for the next 17 years.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Mr. Pottier to approve. **So voted.**

4. Meet with the Finance Department for the Q1 quarterly report and for a progress report on capital items from the Capital Improvement Plan.

The team from the Finance Department gave a presentation on Quarter 1 revenue and expenses and the CIP. Ms. Clymens reported that Quarter 1 revenue is on pace with Q1 of last year but investment earnings are far above last year. Mr. Dello Russo informed the Council about the loss of hotel tax revenue due to the arrangement the Clarion has with the State. Mr. Fortes updated on General Government expense which is 19.1% expended. Mr. Dello Russo updated on Public Safety and Public Works. Public Works did not include encumbrances. Mr. Fortes gave an update on Health and Human Services and Culture and Recreation and noted that for Parks, Cemeteries, and Public Grounds, Quarter 2 is typically their biggest quarter. Ms. Clymens reported on Fixed Cost expenses which, overall, is 26% expended. Ms. Nunes gave a report on capital expenses. She noted that there are major water projects going on which were funded by ARPA. There was some money for sewer main replacement. She also highlighted some pictures of trucks and equipment that have been purchased. Mr. Dello Russo reported on fire station upgrades, the purchase of a fire truck, and a ladder truck which will hopefully be received in the next nine months. Ms. Nunes touched on projects being completed with state support including road work on Broadway and the Lake Sabbatia boat ramp. Mr. Dello Russo highlighted the work at the wastewater treatment plant. He indicated that the team is pleased with Q1 and believe that they are on track for a successful year. He noted that they hope there will be solar revenue to report next year.

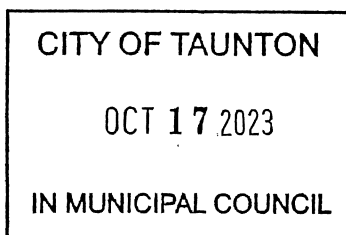
Mr. Pottier questioned the snow and ice number and Mr. Nunes indicated that she would look at that number again. Mr. Duarte questioned the trash pickup line item and Mr. Dello Russo reiterated that the DPW slide did not include encumbrances. Mr. McCaul questioned the ADA line and Mr. Dello Russo indicated that work at the Golf Course is being considered.

Mr. Pottier asked if the Mayor's office has been in communication with the Healey administration regarding the loss of hotel tax. Mr. Dello Russo stated that there have been calls and there is not a lot of clearness from the Commonwealth on this.

Motion by Mr. Pottier and seconded by Mr. McCaul to excuse the parties with thanks and adjourn at 6:02 P.M. **So voted.**

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used:

The Committee on Finance and Salaries Meeting Minutes from 10/10/23
 Payroll Warrant #61
 Bill Invoice Warrant #60
 List of items over \$100,000
 Letter from Patrick Dello Russo dated 10/4/23
 Letter from Patrick Dello Russo dated 10/5/23
 Presentation: City of Taunton Fiscal Year 2023 Quarter One Review



Respectfully submitted,

Maggie E. Clarke

Maggie E. Clarke
 Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

Jennifer R. Rego
 CITY CLERK

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
October 17, 2023

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2023 OCT 19 A 10: 23

TAUNTON, MA

The Committee on Ordinances and Enrolled Bills

CITY CLERK

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 John McCaul
 Councilor Kelly Dooner

Also Present: Arsenio Chaves, Safety Officer
 Mark Landolfi, 84 Winter Street

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM.

1. Approve minutes from October 10, 2023, 2023.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Ms. Dooner to approve. **So voted.**

2. Discuss the request for no parking on Howard Street near the TMLP building.

Mr. Sanders read the letter from Officer Chaves dated 8/26/22.

Officer Chaves stated that it is tight when cars are parked on both sides.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Ms. Dooner to approve and refer to the Law Department to create the required Ordinance. **So voted.**

3. Discuss the draft ordinance for a yield sign on Highland Street.

Mr. Sanders read the letter from the Law Department and the draft Ordinance. Officer Chaves gave his support.

Motion by Ms. Dooner and seconded by Mr. McCaul to refer the draft Ordinance for a first reading. **So voted.**

4. Discuss the request for an ordinance for "blind driveway" sign on Highland Street.

Mr. Sanders referred to the last paragraph from the letter from the Law Department which suggested instructing the DPW to work with the Safety Officer to install.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Ms. Dooner to approve and instruct the DPW to work with Officer Chaves to install the sign. **So voted.**

5. Discuss a possible traffic signal at School St. and Winter Street.

Mr. Sanders referenced the letter that is on tonight's agenda and suggested tabling this matter.

Motion by Ms. Dooner to table. **There was no second.**

Mr. McCaul stated that there have been over 20 accidents at this location since September 30, 2022. In September alone there were 5 accidents. He asked Officer Chaves how long it would take to get a traffic light in place. Officer Chaves suggested that the City Engineer might know better but that it is a process. Mr. McCaul suggested it could be more than a year.

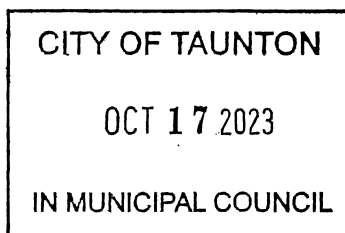
Mark Landolfi was invited to speak and he noted most accidents occur between 7 and 9 am and 2 and 5 pm. The blinking light is not working and he believes that the only solution is a traffic light. He expressed concern with children going onto the bus and how now parents are driving the kids to and from school. He also suggested that lines and crosswalks be painted.

Ms. Dooner stated that she knows that the Mayor is working vigilantly with all the parties involved to address this issue.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded Ms. Dooner to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 PM. **So voted.**

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used:

Committee on Ordinances and Enrolled Bills Meeting Minutes of 10/10/23
Letter from Arsenio Chaves dated 8/26/22
Letter and draft Ordinance from Thomas P. Gay, Jr. dated 8/12/22
Letter from Arsenio Chaves dated 6/29/22



Respectfully submitted,

Maggie E. Clarke

Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

**REPORTS ACCEPTED.
RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.**

Jessica R. Rega
CITY CLERK

City of Taunton
Municipal Council
October 17, 2023

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TAUNTON, MA

CITY CLERK

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
Councilor Jeffrey Postell

Also Present: Attorney Blake Mensing, Medicine Man Solutions
Haskell Kennedy, Medicine Man Solutions

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM.

1. Approve minutes from October 3, 2023.

Motion by Mr. McCaul and seconded by Mr. Sanders to approve. **So voted.**

2. Meet to discuss the request to extend and amend the Host Community Agreement with Medicine Man Solutions, LLC, a marijuana retailer, which was to be located at 597 Winthrop Street to now be located at 446 Winthrop Street.

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

Mr. Mensing explained that they wished to move the address down a few doors. They held a community outreach meeting and the main concern was that the facility complies with the Wetlands Protection Act rules.

Mr. Duarte asked when the original HCA expires. Mr. Kennedy stated it expires in November.

Mr. Sanders asked how the public meeting was advertised and Mr. Mensing stated that there was a notice in the Taunton Gazette and 300-foot abutters received a mailed notice.

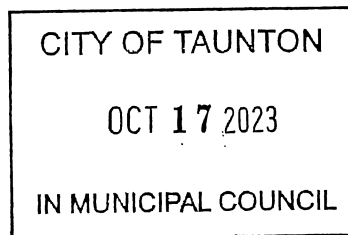
Mr. Coute asked about the timeline and Mr. Kennedy indicated that they have the interior plans for the buildout. They have filed an application for a building permit and, once received, that building permit would be submitted to the Cannabis Control Commission. Simultaneously he will be working towards a special permit and applying for his provisional license. He hopes to have full licensing by summer of 2024. Mr. Coute asked if he would be leasing or owning and Mr. Kennedy stated he would own this location.

Motion by Mr. Coute and seconded by Ms. Borges to approve a one year extension from the date on the original agreement and approve the address change and refer to the Law Department to execute. **So voted.**

Motion by Mr. Coute and seconded Mr. Postell to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 PM. **So voted.**

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used:

Meeting Minutes from the Committee of the Council as a Whole 10/3/23
Letter from Blake Mensing dated 10/4/23



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maggie E. Clarke".

Maggie E. Clarke
Clerk of Council Committees

REPORTS ACCEPTED. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

 A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer R. Leger".

CITY CLERK