

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of the Meeting

March 4, 2019

1. Vice-President Logan called the meeting to Order at 8:00pm.
2. Vice-President Logan requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – Councillors Darcy, Fowler, Harris, LaCava, R. LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, Nabulime, Stanley, Vidal and Vice-President Logan were present. President Brasco, Councillor R. LeBlanc and Councillor Romard were absent.
3. Councillor McLaughlin moved to approve the minutes of the COW meeting held on February 19, 2019. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes of February 19, 2019 were approved.
4. Councillor Fowler moved to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of the COW held on February 19, 2019. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of the COW on February 19, 2019 were approved. Councillor Fowler moved to request the Law Department review the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of the COW held on February 19, 2019 prior to a vote to release the minutes. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the request to have the Law Department review the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of the COW on February 19, 2019 was approved. Councillor Fowler moved to place the minutes on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.
5. A resolution was submitted by Councillors Fowler, D. LeBlanc, Romard, Vidal, Stanley and Vice-President Logan concerning the notification to abutters within 500 feet of the property located at 554 Lexington Street. Councillor Fowler explained the purpose of the resolution and moved to request the Mayor provide written notice to everyone that lives within 500 feet of the property at 554 Lexington Street whenever there is a scheduled public meeting regarding this property. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Fowler moved to place the matter of the resolution on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter of the resolution was tabled.
6. Councillor Harris move to take the matter of the Energy Aggregation Program (2/11/2019) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Harris moved to hear from the Purchasing Agent, Joe Pedulla and the representative from Good Energy, Stepheno Covetto. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Pedulla explained that he was attending to answer and update the COW on the questions/concerns that were raised at the COW meeting of February 19. Mr. Covetto

distributed a handout to the COW and explained each of the exhibits in the package. Mr. Covetto explained the renewable energy options available to the City's residents and the ability for residents to purchase renewable energy above the required 14%. Mr. Covetto explained one could purchase the required 14%, or 5% above the required or 100% above the required. Mr. Covetto highlighted and explained the other exhibits in the handout. Councillor Mackin asked questions about the renewable percentages, if the timeline is too aggressive and if so, could final adoption be postponed. Councillor Harris asked several questions concerning the bill that residents will receive, the decisions that the community needs to make, clarification on the renewable percentage options and the ability for residents to opt in or out. Councillor Fowler asked questions about the ability to have information on the website. Councillor R. LeBlanc asked questions about the renewable plan and the options for residents. Councillor McLaughlin asked questions about a possible review period and spoke about the legislation proposed at the State level. Vice-President Logan requested that a citizen input hearing be scheduled for April 1, 2019. The request was approved on a voice vote. Councillor Nabulime asked questions about the types of renewable energy being provided. Councillor McLaughlin asked questions about the ability to change the proposal and the timeframe. Vice-President Logan asked questions about default vs basic. Councillor McMenimen asked questions about aggregation rates and how long is the rate in effect. Councillor McMenimen requested that a chart for all communities be provided. The request was approved on a voice vote. Councillor Nabulime asked if the City will be buying its energy through this program. Mr. Pedulla stated the City has an existing separate contract. Councillor Vidal moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

7. Councillor Mackin moved to take the matter of the Police Station Site Selection Committee (12/26/2018) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen rose and recused herself from the discussion on the Fernald property to avoid any appearance of impropriety. Councillor Mackin moved to request the Law Department draft an appropriate zoning to allow the Police Station to be sited on the lower portion of the Fernald property. On the motion Councillor Stanley stated his opposition to the motion, citing the lack of an environmental study of the site and to engage a consultant similar to what happened in Medfield. Councillor LaCava stated his opposition to moving the Police Station and it should be sited on the current location. Councillor Nabulime stated a feasibility study and an environmental study need to be performed. Councillor Fowler cited a lack of planning but was in favor of the motion to get the process moving forward. The motion of Councillor Mackin did not pass on a roll call vote of 7 in favor (Darcy, Fowler, Harris, R. LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin and Nabulime), 4 opposed (LaCava, Stanley, Vidal and Logan), 1 recused (McMenimen) and 3 absent (Brasco, D. LeBlanc and Romard). Councillor Vidal moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

8. A motion by Councillor Vidal to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote, and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 9:35pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Committee of the Whole