

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of the Meeting

June 3, 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, D. LeBlanc, R. LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, Nabulime, Stanley, Vidal and Vice-President Logan were present. President Brasco was absent.
3. Councillor D. LeBlanc moved to approve the minutes of the COW meeting held on May 20, 2019. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes of the May 20, 2019 meeting were approved.
4. A resolution was submitted by Councillor Fowler and all Councillors to commend Girl Scout Troop 66040 for their work and efforts on an environmental project concerning the elimination of Styrofoam lunch trays in the Waltham Public Schools and their collaboration with the School Food Services Director to initiate a pilot program for biodegradable lunch trays at the MacArthur School. Councillor Fowler moved to hear from the members of the Girl Scout Troop. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Fowler requested the Clerk to read the resolution. One by one, each member of the Troop read a short statement about their project to the Committee. Councillor Fowler moved to approve the resolution. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the resolution was approved.
5. A resolution was submitted by Councillors Fowler, Vidal and Vice-President Logan concerning the use of CPA funds to purchase property and which properties have deed restrictions. Councillor Fowler stated a response was received from the Law Department, which also indicated that the information may be ascertained from the CPC. Councillor Fowler moved to send the same information request to the CPC. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Fowler moved to place the matter on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was tabled.
6. Councillor Darcy moved to take the matter of the Arrigo Farm property (1/27/2014) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Darcy moved to file the matter. On the motion, Councillor D. LeBlanc stated that there was an outstanding request concerning minutes of several Executive Session meetings on the matter. Councillor Darcy withdrew his filing motion. Councillor D. LeBlanc moved to request the Clerk ensure that the minutes of the Executive Session meetings on the Arrigo Farm matter are sent to the appropriate Councillors. The motion was adopted on a voice

vote. Councillor D. LeBlanc moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

7. Councillor Darcy moved to take the matter of the Agenda Management software (3/14/2016) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Darcy moved to file the matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was filed.
8. Councillor Vidal moved to take the matter of the 102 Trimount Avenue property (4/8/2019) from the table. Councillor Vidal moved to hear from the Housing Director, Robert Waters. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Vidal asked several questions about the manner in which the property could be made affordable and the manner in which a deed restriction could be placed on the property. Mr. Waters stated the property was in poor condition and would need to be completely rehabbed to comply with DHCD regulations. Mr. Waters suggested using the same process that was applied to the Berkley Street property. Councillor McMenimen spoke of deed restrictions and their impacts on the types of property – apartments, condos or single family. Councillor R. LeBlanc asked questions about the rehab process, including who would pay. Councillor Fowler asked if the property could be managed without any City involvement. Councillor Romard suggested the property be given to WATCH or other not for profit organization. Councillor D. LeBlanc asked questions about other affordable properties the City was involved – Hardy Apartments and the Banks Condos. Councillor Nabulime spoke again of the program through the State Attorney General's Office. Councillor Nabulime moved to request the Housing Director investigate the Attorney General's Abandoned Properties Housing Initiative and report to the Committee his findings and recommendations. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen asked about the City's percentage of affordable housing. Mr. Waters stated it was currently at 7.4%. Councillor Mackin asked about DHCD and where to learn more about its function and responsibilities. Councillor Vidal stated his goal was to do it like Berkley Street and stated it as a motion. On the motion, Councillor Fowler stated he could not support and would like to see the contract on the Berkley Street property. Councillor Fowler mentioned the an outstanding information request made earlier in the evening by Councillor Nabulime. Councillor R. LeBlanc stated he would like to receive more information and explore the City's options. Councillor Vidal withdrew his motion. Councillor Vidal moved to table the matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was tabled.
9. A motion by Councillor Stanley to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote, and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 9:10pm.

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

