

Waltham City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of
March 25, 2024

President McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Bradley-MacArthur, Brasco, Dunn, Durkee, Hanley, Harris, Katz, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Logan, McMenimen, Stanley, Vidal and President McLaughlin.

Absent: None.

Board of Survey & Planning

Present: Kathleen Callahan, Wayne Keefner, S. Anthony DeVito, Brian Moroney, Mila Taranto.

Absent: M. Justin Barrett and William Creonte.

City Clerk Vizard recited the Council Prayer followed by President McLaughlin leading all present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Councillor Durkee asked for a moment of silence for the Gold Star Families as well as all military that have served past and present.

Councillor LaCava moved approval of the regular meeting minutes of 3/11/2024. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.

Clerk Vizard read Rule 86.

First Public Hearing: Zone Change for Arx Urban at 85-89 & 93 Central Street

Attorney Michael Connors, Connor & Connors, LLP 689 Main Street, representing the petitioner, spoke on the matter. Sami Baghdady 14 Loring Street Belmont, MA spoke in opposition of the matter. With no one else in support, no one else in opposition and no one in a neutral position of the petition President McLaughlin closed that part of the public hearing and opened up the hearing to questions from Councillors. Councillors LaCava, LeBlanc, Logan, McMenimen and Bradley-MacArthur spoke on the matter with Attorney Connors and Benjie Moll, 266 Highland Ave Newton, MA, the petitioner, providing answers. The Board of Survey and Planning members: Maroney and Keefer and DeVito asked questions with Attorney Connors responding. Councillor Harris spoke on matter and asked to have information discussed sent in advance of next committee meeting and Board of Survey and Planning meeting. Attorney Connors agreed to have information prepared and sent. With no further questions President McLaughlin closed the public hearing and referred the matter to the Ordinances and Rules Committee. The Board of Survey and Planning will meet on April 3, 2024 to deliberate on the matter.

Second Public Hearing: Zone Change at 154 Calvary St for 154 Calvary St Property llc

Brian Iammartino, 100 Lafayette Street, West Roxbury, representing the petitioner, spoke in favor of the matter. Mr. Iammartino introduced his team. Clerk Vizard read for the record 3 letters in opposition of the petition. With no one else in support, no one else in opposition and no one in a neutral position of the petition President McLaughlin closed that part of the public hearing and opened up the hearing to questions from Councillors. Councillors Logan and LaFauci asked questions. Mr. Iammartino provided answers. With no further questions President McLaughlin closed the public hearing and referred the matter to the Licenses and Franchises Committee.

Third Public Hearing: Special Permit - ALP PHOP Manager llc at 460 Totton Pond Rd
Councillor Harris rose and explained that the petitioner was unable to attend the Public Hearing tonight and it will be recessed until April 8, 2024.

Communications from the Mayor

1. The Mayor respectfully requested a transfer in the amount of \$90,000 from the Library State Aid Special Revenue Account to the Library – Educational Supplies account. Referred to the Finance Committee.
2. The Mayor respectfully requested a transfer in the amount of \$150,000 from the Library – State Aid Account to the Library – Planning and Design Account for a Library Renovation Project. Referred to the Finance Committee.
3. The Mayor respectfully requested the acceptance of a grant from the Massachusetts SHRAB Veteran’s Heritage Grant in the amount of \$6,275 for the Library Account through the efforts of our Archivist Dana Hamlin. Referred to the Finance Committee.
4. The Mayor respectfully requested an appropriation totaling \$52,046 for temporary air conditioning at the Waltham Public Library. Referred to the Finance Committee.
5. The Mayor respectfully requested an appropriation for the City Clerk – General Expenses Account for \$19,000, and \$35,000 for the Voter Registration & Election Expenses Account. Councillor LaFauci moved to suspend Rule 39 to act on the matter without committee reference. The motion was approved by a voice vote. In accordance with Rule 37 Councillor LaFauci moved to divide the question. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Councillor LaFauci moved approval of the appropriation of \$35,000 for the Voter Registration & Election Expenses Account. The motion was approved by a voice vote. President McLaughlin referred the appropriation for the City Clerk – General Expenses Account for \$19,000 to the Finance Committee.
6. The Mayor respectfully requested acceptance of a State grant in the amount of \$182,084 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to be used by the Council on Aging. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Applications and Licenses

All Applications and Licenses referred to the Licenses and Franchises Committee.

- Lodging House Renewal – 240 Crescent Street – Torrington Three LLC
- Second Hand Dealers Renewal – 108C River Street – Mint Condition Sports LLC

Resolutions, Orders and Ordinances

- Salute to Servicemen Resolution

The Clerk read the Resolution. Councillor Durkee spoke on the Resolution. The matter was referred to the Veterans Services Committee.

- Recognizing and Honoring Myriam Michel of Healthy Waltham Resolution

The Clerk read the Resolution. Councillor Bradley-MacArthur spoke on the Resolution. The matter was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Committee Reports

Economic and Community Development

1. The Economic and Community Development Committee recommended the Resolution Honoring Angelo Mosca be filed. Councillor Brasco moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was filed.
2. The Economic and Community Development Committee recommended the Resolution for Solar Compactable Trash Cans for Public Spaces/Streets be approved. Councillor Brasco moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.
3. The Economic and Community Development Committee recommended approval of the Year 50 Community Development Block Grant Program be approved. Councillor Brasco moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. Roll call required.
In favor: Bradley-MacArthur, Brasco, Dunn, Durkee, Hanley, Harris, Katz, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Logan, McMenimen, Stanley and Vidal.
Opposed: None.
Absent:, None.
Presiding: McLaughlin.
The matter was approved 14-0-0.

Finance

1. The Finance Committee recommended a transfer in the amount of \$35,000 to fund the second year (FY2024) of the three-year collective bargaining agreement between the City and the Police School Traffic Supervisors' Union for a period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 be approved. Councillor LaFauci moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.
2. The Finance Committee recommended a transfer in the amount of \$133,229 for the projected deficit in the snow overtime and snow general expenses accounts be approved. Councillor LaFauci moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.
3. The Finance Committee recommended an appropriation in the amount of \$50,000 for the Police Department medical services account be approved. Councillor LaFauci moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.
4. The Finance Committee recommended the approval of a financing plan for the sidewalk improvements project on Lexington Street be approved. Councillor LaFauci moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council for an appropriation in the amount of \$1,300,000 for the sidewalk improvements project on Lexington Street. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the appropriation was approved.
Councillor LaFauci moved to give the loan order in the amount of \$1,300,000 a first reading. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Councillor LaFauci moved to table the loan authorization in the amount of \$1,300,000. The motion was approved by a voice vote and matter was tabled.

5. The Finance Committee recommended the approval of an appropriation and transfer of funds in the amount of \$156,000 for the engineering services needed to study the phosphorous load discharged through storm water into the Stony Brook Reservoir throughout the calendar year 2024 be approved. Councillor LaFauci moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.

Licenses and Franchises

1. The Licenses and Franchises Committee recommended the Second Hand Dealers renewal for Quality Designz, LLC at 318 Moody Street be filed. Councillor Vidal moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was filed.

2. The Licenses and Franchises Committee recommended the Grant of Location for Eversource at Newton Street be approved. Councillor Vidal moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.

3. The Licenses and Franchises Committee recommended the authorization to grant Charles River Canoe & Kayak a Section 10A permit for a temporary dock on the Riverwalk next to the Cronin's Landing Dock be approved. Councillor Vidal moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.

4. The Licenses and Franchises Committee recommended the Lodging House renewal for Diane Cotton at 26 Myrtle Street be approved. Councillor Vidal moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.

5. The Licenses and Franchises Committee recommended the Lodging House renewal for AMG Beech Road LLC at 94 Adams Street be approved. Councillor Vidal moved that the action of the Committee be the action of the Council. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the matter was approved.

Unfinished Business & Other Business

- CPC Recommendation for an Allocation of CPA Funds for Window Replacements at Jonas Willis Parmenter Home, 542 Main Street. Referred to the Long Term Debt and Capital Planning Committee.

- CPC Recommendation for an Allocation of CPA Funds for Window Replacements at Jonas Willis Parmenter Home, 321 Crescent Street. Referred to the Long Term Debt and Capital Planning Committee.

- Councillor Harris made a motion to discharge the Special Permit Application for King First West Owner, LLC at 55 First Avenue, Waltham from the Ordinances and Rules Committee. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Councillor Harris made a request to invite representatives from the Law Department, the Engineering Department, the Traffic Commission and the Building Inspector to the next Committee meeting. The motion was approved by voice vote. Harris moved to refer the back matter to the Ordinances and Rules Committee. The motion was approved by voice vote and the matter was referred to the Ordinances and Rules Committee.

Councillor LaCava announced the date and time for the Citizens Input Meeting regarding 190 Trapelo Road on March 27, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the Government Center Building at 119 School Street. Clerk Vizard read the Citizens Input Meeting Notice.

Tabled Items

With no further matters Councillor LaCava moved to adjourn. The motion was approved by a voice vote. President McLaughlin declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cathy Magliarditi

Executive Assistant to the City Clerk

April 1, 2024