

Waltham City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole
August 3, 2020

Vice President McMenimen called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m.

Call of the Roll

Present: Councillors Brasco, Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and McMenimen

Absent: None.

Councillor Stanley moved to table the minutes of the 6/22/2020 Committee meeting. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were approved.

First agenda item: Appointment of the City Engineer – Robert S. Winn PE

Councillor Durkee moved to suspend the rules to hear from off committee members. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was approved.

Mr. Robert S. Winn, PE introduced himself. Councillor McLaughlin asked questions to Mr. Winn and moved approval of his appointment. On the motion Councillors LaCava, LeBlanc, Darcy, O'Brien, McMenimen asked questions to the candidate. Vice President McMenimen asked Mr. Winn questions about his thirty years working in the private sector and what his expectations are for working for our municipality. Mr. Winn is looking forward to problem solving. Councillor Darcy asked what the actual term of his appointment would be. The clerk Pro Tem will check on the three-year term date and get back to the Committee. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was approved. Councillor McMenimen introduced Mr. Winn to all of the Councillors.

Second agenda item: Healthy Waltham Location:

Councillor Darcy rose to state he is a Board Member of Healthy Waltham. Myriam Michel, Executive Director of Healthy Waltham spoke on behalf of Healthy Waltham and explained the need for a more permanent location at this time. Since COVID 19 began the amount of families Healthy Waltham has been supporting on a weekly basis has gone from 250-300 to 600-700 families. The organization worked out of McDevitt Middle School but is not able to continue to do so because of the coronavirus. They have been working out of the St. Mary's basement and parking lot but are in the process of being considered to be under the Greater Boston Food Bank umbrella and need certain logistics in place in order for this consideration.

The Mayor spoke and stated she had three locations she has considered letting them use within the City; The Fernald, The Fitch Building and 92 Felton St. The only places she can offer now is the Fitch School gym. The School Committee has given Healthy Waltham temporary use to use the Fitch Gym thru October of this year. Councillor Harris made a motion to authorize the Mayor and Ms. Michel to assist with accommodating the logistics' to be able to run their food bank out of the Fitch School gym. On the motion Councillors Vidal and LeBlanc asked questions to the Mayor and Ms. Michel. In order for Healthy Waltham to be considered for a grant they need all these requirements to be answered or completed by September 15, 2020. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was approved.

Third agenda item: Warrant for 2020 Primary on September 1, 2020

Councillor McLaughlin moved approval of the warrant. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was approved.

Fourth agenda item: CPC Reappointments

Councillor LeBlanc made a motion to approve the following people to the CPC through June 30, 2021: Loretta McClary, Daniel Melnechuk, Erika Oliver Jerram, Amanda Thibodeau. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was approved.

Fifth agenda item: Route 117 Bridge Project

Councillor Durkee rose and made a motion to go in to executive session with the Mayor, Solicitor Cervone and Kara Wilson as the Clerk. Roll call required.

In favor: Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, and Brasco

Opposed: Vidal

Matter was approved 14-1.

Councillor McMenimen asked the room be cleared and close the doors to head into executive session. The Council came back to open session and President Brasco moved to table the Rte. 147 Bridge Project. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was approved.

Sixth agenda item: 89 Maple Street

President Brasco rose and made a motion to go in to executive session with the Mayor, Solicitor Cervone and Kara Wilson as the Clerk. Roll call required.

In favor: Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, and Brasco

Opposed: Vidal

Matter was approved 14-1.

Councillor McMenimen asked the room be cleared once again and close the doors to head into executive session.

The Council came back to open session and President Brasco moved to table the 89 Maple Street matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was approved.

At 11:53 p.m. President Brasco moved to suspend the rules to go past midnight. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was approved. With no further matters President Brasco moved to adjourn. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen declared the meeting adjourned at 11:54 p.m. on August 3, 2020.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kara Wilson

Executive Assistant to the City Clerk

August 6, 2020