

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

### Minutes of the Meeting

March 20, 2017

1. Vice-President Logan called the meeting to Order at 8:00 pm.
2. Vice-President Logan requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – Councillors Brasco, Darcy, Fowler, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, R. LeBlanc, Marchese, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Romard, Rourke, Vidal, Waddick and Logan were present.
3. A motion by President LeBlanc to approve the minutes of the COW meeting held on March 6, 2017 was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were approved.
4. President LeBlanc addressed the Committee about the docket item of the approval and release of several executive session minutes for the Committee of the Whole. President LeBlanc explained that only those Councillors present at the specific executive session could vote on the approval and release. When the voting commenced, the Clerk read only the names of those Councillors who were present at the specific executive session.
5. President LeBlanc moved to send the minutes of the COW executive session of 12/7/2015 (land acquisition 380 Lexington Street) to the Law Department to opine on their release. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the request was approved. President LeBlanc moved to table the minutes of the COW executive session of 12/7/2015. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.
6. President LeBlanc moved to send the minutes of the COW executive session of 4/19/2016 (land acquisition 380 Lexington Street) to the Law Department to opine on their release. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the request was approved. President LeBlanc moved to table the minutes of the COW executive session of 4/19/2016. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.
7. President LeBlanc moved to table the minutes of the COW executive session of 2/21/2012 (COA parking). The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.
8. President LeBlanc moved to approve the minutes of the COW executive session of 5/7/2012 (COA parking). The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 10-0 (Brasco, Darcy, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke, Waddick & Logan). President LeBlanc moved to release the minutes of the COW executive session of

5/7/2012. The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 10-0 (Brasco, Darcy, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke, Waddick & Logan).

9. President LeBlanc moved to table the minutes of the COW executive session of 8/6/2012 (COA parking). The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.
10. President LeBlanc moved to approve the minutes of the COW executive session of 9/17/2012 (COA parking). The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 9-0 (Darcy, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke, Waddick & Logan). President LeBlanc moved to release the minutes of the COW executive session of 9/17/2012. The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 9-0 (Darcy, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke, Waddick & Logan).
11. President LeBlanc moved to approve the minutes of the COW executive session of 12/17/2012 (COA parking). The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 9-0 (Darcy, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke, Waddick & Logan). President LeBlanc moved to release the minutes of the COW executive session of 12/17/2012. The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 9-0 (Darcy, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke, Waddick & Logan).
12. President LeBlanc moved to approve the minutes of the COW executive session of 6/17/2013 (COA parking). The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 9-0 (Darcy, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke, Waddick & Logan). President LeBlanc moved to release the minutes of the COW executive session of 6/17/2013. The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 9-0 (Darcy, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke, Waddick & Logan).
13. President LeBlanc moved to approve the minutes of the COW executive session of 2/3/2014 (COA parking). The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 12-0 (Brasco, Darcy, Fowler, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Romard, Rourke & Waddick). President LeBlanc moved to release the minutes of the COW executive session of 2/13/2014. The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 12-0 (Brasco, Darcy, Fowler, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Romard, Rourke & Waddick).
14. President LeBlanc moved to send the minutes of the COW executive session of 8/3/2015 (COA parking) to the Law Department to opine on their release. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the request was approved. President LeBlanc moved to table the minutes of the COW executive session of 8/3/2015. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.

15. President LeBlanc moved to approve the minutes of the COW executive session of 2/18/2014 (land acquisition Exchange Street). The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 11-0 (Darcy, Fowler, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Romard, Rourke & Waddick). President LeBlanc moved to release the minutes of the COW executive session of 2/18/2014. The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 11-0 (Darcy, Fowler, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O'Brien, Romard, Rourke & Waddick).
16. President LeBlanc moved to approve the minutes of the COW executive session of 1/20/2015 (land acquisition Exchange Street). The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 10-0 (Darcy, Fowler, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McLaughlin, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke & Waddick). President LeBlanc moved to release the minutes of the COW executive session of 1/20/2015. The motion was adopted on a roll vote of 10-0 (Darcy, Fowler, Giordano, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, McLaughlin, McMenimen, Romard, Rourke & Waddick).
17. President LeBlanc moved to table the minutes of the COW executive session of 3/19/2012 (Moody Street Fire Station). The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.
18. President LeBlanc moved to table the minutes of the COW executive session of 4/2/2012 (Moody Street Fire Station). The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.
19. A request was received from the Mayor to grant Charles River Canoe & Kayak a Section 10A permit to put a temporary float on the Cronin's Landing Dock. Councillor Rourke stated he was in favor but had several questions of the owner. It was determined the owner was not in attendance. Councillor Rourke moved approval of the request but wanted the following language added to the council order as a condition, "*All allowed public access to and public use of the Cronin's Landing Dock remains in force and shall not be prohibited or hindered by the licensee or the licensee's employees*". The motion, as amended, was adopted on a voice vote and the grant of the permit was approved.
20. A request was received from the Mayor to appropriate \$53,240 from Unreserved Fund Balance to account #001-245-5800-6610 Wires-Traffic Design (Lexington Street/Bacon Street/Totten Pond Road) to award the traffic design services for the intersection at Lexington Street/Bacon Street/Totten Pond Road. Councillor Romard moved to hear from the Mayor and the Wires Inspector, Tim Kelly. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Mayor explained the purpose of the funding request was to correct two safety issues and to place the signals. Once the traffic signals have been placed the consultant can then do the design. Councillor Romard asked repeated questions about the scope of work to be performed. The Mayor repeated the plans developed by the Traffic

Engineer and the Master Traffic Plan consultant did not take into account the placement of the signals. In response to questions concerning keeping the 380 Lexington Street house, the Mayor stated she did not believe it to be historic, but the impact to the property under her proposal would be using a portion of the front and side yards, so as not to invoke any Conservation Commission approvals. The Mayor provided the Committee several drawings of the intersection to illustrate how to create additional space for lanes to eliminate the driving hazards. Councillor Fowler stated he and others were under the impression the house would be torn down. The Mayor stated the house could be sold or moved. The Mayor also stated the various regulatory bodies that could have oversight on the property – Historic Commission, Conservation Commission, DEP and the Army Corp of Engineers; any of which could create a delay in dealing with the house and the property. Councillor Fowler reiterated that there was only “one shot” to do the project right. Councillors Giordano and O’Brien asked several questions about the sufficiency of land and if bike lanes were being considered. President LeBlanc was concerned if the house was sold, the City would lose the opportunity to make the traffic plan better. President LeBlanc stated she would defer to the plan developed by the Traffic Engineer. The Mayor stated the plan of the Traffic Engineer is not complete and reminded the Committee it did not place the signals. Councillor McMenimen spoke about the plan, specifically the flood plain and its implications. Councillor McMenimen also spoke of the historical perspective of the property area and concluded by stating she was supporting the Mayor’s plan. Councillor Brasco asked several questions about the plan, referencing it as the “McCarthy/Kelly” plan to which the Mayor said it was the “McCarthy/Kelly common sense” plan. Councillor Brasco cited a section of the traffic master plan, including its recommendation for the Totten Pond Road intersection. Councillor Randy LeBlanc inquired about an additional lane on the right that would be dedicated to Bacon Street and the intersection should be able to accommodate additional lanes. Councillor Darcy spoke of the FEMA flood zone and the need for all kinds of approvals and it could take years. Councillor Darcy stated we have the ability to make improvements, we should not delay and the Mayor should “go forward”. Councillor Fowler moved to table the matter. The motion did not pass with 6 in favor (Fowler, D. LeBlanc, Marchese, Romard, Vidal, Waddick) and 8 opposed (Brasco, Darcy, Giordano, R. LeBlanc, McLaughlin, McMenimen, O’Brien, Rourke). Councillor O’Brien stated if you don’t move or tear down the house the intersection won’t be fixed. President LeBlanc stated this is a unique opportunity to do it right and the Traffic Engineer and the consultant will be attending the 4/3/2017 COW meeting. Councillor McLaughlin asked the Mayor several questions about the plan including the time frame in which the Mayor believed it could be accomplished. Councillor Rourke commented once the signals are placed, it will be modeled to assess its impact and inquired if a professional will conduct the measurement/evaluation. The Mayor stated the Traffic Commission should have sent its plan out to bid if it was completed. Councillor Romard was not opposed, but the Traffic Engineer and consultant should be included in the discussion. Councillor Waddick stated he agreed with Councillor Romard and

emphasized both the Traffic Engineer and the Traffic Commission are being excluded from the process. The Mayor stated the Committee can call in whomever it wants, but she not received any request from the Traffic Commission or Traffic Engineer to fund their project. The Mayor suggested the Committee table the matter and to bring in the Traffic Engineer, Traffic Commission and the consultant to let them respond to your concerns. A motion by Councillor Fowler to table the appropriation request of \$53,240 was adopted on a roll call vote of 9 in favor (Fowler, D. LeBlanc, R. LeBlanc, Marchese, O'Brien, Romard, Rourke, Vidal, Waddick) and 5 opposed (Brasco, Darcy, Giordano, McLaughlin, McMenimen) and the appropriation request was tabled.

21. President LeBlanc addressed the next docket item of the FY2018 City Council budget. Councillor Romard stated that the projector in the Council Chamber does not perform optimally and funds should be requested to fix/replace it. Councillor Romard moved to request the IT Department evaluate the projector and provide a recommendation to repair and/or replace. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc moved to request the City Clerk provide the Councillors with a copy of the most recent Capital Improvement Program (CIP) document. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc moved to request the City Clerk provide the actual FY2016 output measures by 3/30/2017 so as to be inserted in the FY2018 City Council budget request. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc moved to request that \$300 be added to the City Council FY2018 budget request for the Kevin Ritcey Award. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc moved to table the City Council budget for FY2018. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was tabled.
22. Councillor Marchese moved to take the matter of 101R Elm Street (10/24/2016) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Marchese moved to request the Mayor update the status of this item by written correspondence or in person at the next COW meeting (4/3/2017). The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Marchese moved to table the matter of 101R Elm Street. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was placed back on the table.
23. Councillor Romard moved to take the matter of the Assistant City Clerk vacancy (12/27/2016) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc updated the Committee with the interview process that included 15 candidates and occurred on the previous Saturday. President LeBlanc explained there would be a special meeting of the City Council on Monday, 3/27/2017 at 6:00 pm to nominate and elect the Assistant City Clerk. President LeBlanc read the procedure for nominating and electing a candidate and 8 votes of the City Council would be required to elect a candidate as the Assistant City Clerk. President LeBlanc moved to table the matter. The motion was adopted on a voice and the matter was placed back on the table.

24. Councillor Fowler moved to take the matter of the property located at 52R Winter Street (2/13/2017) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Fowler explained the City Engineer appeared at the last COW meeting and it was his recommendation to not acquire the property since it would not provide significant additional flood storage. Councillor Fowler moved to file the matter. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 10 in favor (Brasco, Fowler, Giordano, D. Leblanc, Marchese, McLaughlin, Romard, Rourke, Vidal, Waddick) and 4 opposed (Darcy, R. LeBlanc, McLaughlin, McMenimen) and Logan presiding.
25. Councillor Randy LeBlanc moved to take the matter of the property located at 380 Lexington Street (2/27/2017) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor R. LeBlanc suggested a site view of the property by Councillors would be beneficial. Councillor R. LeBlanc moved to request the Clerk coordinate a time on Saturday (3/25/2017) to conduct a site view. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor R. LeBlanc moved to table the matter of the property located at 380 Lexington Street. The motion was adopted on a voice and the matter was placed back on the table.
26. A motion by Councillor Giordano to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote, and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 11:02pm.

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