

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of the Meeting

September 19, 2016

1. Vice-President LeBlanc called the meeting to Order at 8:07 pm.
2. Vice-President LeBlanc requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – all Councillors were present.
3. Councillor Logan moved to approve the minutes of the COW meeting held on August 1, 2016. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were approved.
4. Councillor Darcy moved to take the request to appoint Joseph Flynn, 30 Hardy Pond Road, Waltham as a member of the Board of Assessors (part time) (8/1/2016) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Darcy moved to hear from an off-committee individual – Joseph Flynn. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Flynn answered questions concerning his background and experience in the assessing field. Councillor McMenimen moved to hear from an off-committee individual – Assessor Joseph Goode. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Goode answered questions about the City's revaluation cycle and property tax growth. Councillor Darcy moved to appoint Mr. Flynn as an Assessor (PT) for the unexpired remainder of a three year term ending on February 6, 2017. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and Mr. Flynn was appointed as an Assessor (PT).
5. President Marchese moved to take the item of the WHS building project (5/23/2016) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President Marchese moved to hear from off-committee individuals – Superintendent of Schools Drew Echelson and WHS Principal Greg Demeo. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Dr. Echelson gave a brief overview of the WHS building project explaining the pros and cons of the two sites under consideration (1) current WHS site and (2) Fernald property and the three building options under consideration (1) renovated WHS at the WHS site, (2) new WHS at the WHS site and (3) new WHS at the Fernald site. Dr. Echelson explained the timeline with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) and the tasks that need to be completed for the feasibility study phase in order to submit a preferred option to MSBA. Dr. Echelson reported the input that was received from the three public meetings with citizens from community. Councillors Romard, McMenimen, Waddick, Darcy, LeBlanc, Logan and Brasco asked questions concerning the environmental impacts, traffic impacts, financial impacts, design impacts, historical impacts and CPA land use at each of the two sites. Dr. Echelson explained these impacts are being addressed during the feasibility study phase and an update would be provided to the City Council in a timely

manner. President Marchese moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was tabled.

6. Councillor Fowler moved to take the resolution of the homeless shelter (1/11/2016) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. It was learned that the Mayor provided a written update on the status of the shelter, indicating that an RFP has gone out. Councillor Fowler moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was tabled.
7. Councillor McMenimen moved to take the resolution concerning a personnel matter (4/11/2016) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen expressed concern on the access to information and status of the resolution. Councillor McMenimen moved to request the President of the City Council provide to all Councillors copies of all documentation, including POs, contracts, invoices and any correspondence related to this matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was tabled.
8. A motion by Councillor Waddick to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote, and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 9:21 pm.

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