

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of the Meeting

December 22, 2014

Chairman Marchese called the meeting to Order at 8:45 pm

1. Councillor McMenimen moved that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Clerk called the roll – all Councillors were present.
2. A motion to accept the minutes of the meeting held on December 1, 2014 was adopted on a voice vote.
3. A motion to accept the minutes of the meeting held on December 15, 2014 was adopted on a voice vote.
4. A request was received from the Mayor to re-appoint Wayne Brasco, 91 Orange Street, Waltham as the Chairman of the License Commission. Councillor Paul Brasco recused himself from discussion and action on the matter. A motion by Councillor Logan to approve the re-appointment of Mr. Wayne Brasco as the Chairman of the License Commission was adopted on a voice vote.
5. A request was received from the Mayor to re-appoint Paul L. Maillet, 160 Hardy Pond Road, Waltham as a Constable. A motion by Councillor LeBlanc to approve the re-appointment of Mr. Maillet as a Constable was adopted on a voice vote.
6. A communication was received from the Mayor concerning a request that was received from the City Solicitor to update the Committee in executive session regarding the property located at 25-27 and 29-31 Exchange Street. A motion by President Waddick to request the City Solicitor attend the next Committee of the Whole meeting, scheduled for January 20, 2015, was adopted on a voice vote. A motion by President Waddick to place the matter on the table was adopted on a voice vote.
7. A resolution was submitted by Councillor Darcy concerning the former North Branch Library (685 Lexington Street) property and the lease agreement with the Cat Connection organization. Councillor Darcy spoke in favor of the lease and distributed an order to approve the lease agreement. President Waddick stated that they had not seen the lease agreement and what are we authorizing the Mayor to sign? President Waddick stated that clarification was needed. Councillor Vizard stated that we would be approving the lease agreement, not an order. Councillor Stanley stated that he had not seen the lease agreement. Councillor Darcy stated that there needed to be a special permit. Councillor

Brasco questioned why sign a lease agreement without the special permit. Councillor Darcy moved to approve the lease agreement. On the motion, Councillor Stanley requested a brief recess. Chairman Marchese declared a brief recess. After the recess, Councillor Darcy moved to hear from an off-committee member – Purchasing Agent Joseph Pedulla. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Pedulla stated that a special permit was needed in order to accept the lease agreement. Councillor Logan stated that a response from the Law Department concerning parking had not been received. Councillor Logan questioned if a draft lease had been done. Mr. Pedulla stated it was included in the Request for Proposal (RFP) document. President Waddick asked, “What is the order that is needed. We are accepting a proposal not a lease”. Mr. Pedulla stated, “Which will create the lease”. Councillor Stanley stated that we need legal advice. Councillor Romard stated that he could not support, “what is the rush, just bring the item forward, need clarity”. Councillor Vizard stated on April 7, the Committee voted to designate the property to be used for the proposal of the Cat Connection. Councillor McMenimen raised concerns and discussion ensued over the action of the Committee at the April 7 meeting and the subsequent meeting of the City Council on April 14. A motion by Councillor Logan to table the matter was adopted on a roll call vote of 9-5, with Councillors Brasco, Fowler, Giordano, LeBlanc, Logan, O’Brien, Romard, Stanley and Waddick voting in favor and Councillors Darcy, McLaughlin, McMenimen, Rourke and Vizard voting against.

8. A motion by President Waddick to carry all tabled items on the Committee of the Whole docket forward to calendar year 2015 was adopted on a voice vote.
9. A motion by President Waddick to adjourn was adopted by a voice vote and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 9:20 pm.

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