

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Minutes of the Meeting
February 17, 2015

Vice President LeBlanc called the meeting to Order at 8:00 pm

1. Vice President LeBlanc requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – all Councillors except Councillor Romard were present.
2. A motion by President Marchese to accept the minutes of the meeting held on January 20, 2015 was adopted on a voice vote.
3. Councillor Waddick moved to take the matter of the gift of land from the DeVincent Family (12/22/2014) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Darcy moved to hear from an off-committee member – Assistant City Solicitor Frank Craig. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Attorney Craig answered questions about the parcel, including its frontage and that it was two lots. President Marchese inquired about the need for a second original order, since each would need to be attached to the documents for the filing with the Registry of Deeds. Attorney Craig confirmed the statement of President Marchese. On a unanimous roll call vote of 14-0, with Councillor Romard absent, the gift was accepted with a thank you note to be given to the donor.
4. A request was received from the Mayor to appoint Clarence Richardson, 45 Bright Street, Waltham as a member of the Historical Commission. A motion to hear from an off-committee member – Clarence Richardson was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Richardson answered questions from President Marchese, Councillors McMenimen, Rourke, O'Brien and Darcy about his background, experience and what ideas he hoped to bring to the Historical Commission. President Marchese moved to approve the appointment of Mr. Richardson. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
5. A request was received from the Mayor to appoint Philip Moser, 6 Hillcrest Street, Waltham as a member of the Conservation Commission. A motion to hear from an off-committee member – Philip Moser was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Moser answered questions from President Marchese, Councillors Fowler, Darcy, McMenimen, Rourke and Waddick about his background, experience and his position on open space and how would he help to preserve/restore it. Councillor Fowler suggested Mr. Moser avail himself of the certification course for ConCom members. Councillor Fowler moved to approve the appointment of Mr. Moser. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

6. A request was received from the Mayor to appoint Tali Gill-Austern, 157 Riverview Avenue, Waltham as a member of the Conservation Commission. A motion to hear from an off-committee member – Tali Gill-Austern was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Gill-Austern answered questions from Councillors Rourke, Darcy, McMenimen, Fowler and Stanley about his background, experience and knowledge of the wetlands, particularly the portion of the Charles River in the Riverview area of the City where he resides. Councillor Fowler suggested Mr. Gill-Austern avail himself of the certification course for ConCom members. Councillor Rourke moved to approve the appointment of Mr. Gill-Austern. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
7. A request was received from the Mayor to appoint Bradley J. Baker, 97 Hamilton Road, Waltham as a member of the Conservation Commission. A motion to hear from an off-committee member – Bradley Baker was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Baker answered questions from Councillors Giordano, Fowler, Darcy, McMenimen, Rourke and Stanley about his background and experience, particularly in the horticultural field and how this knowledge would benefit both the ConCom and the City. Councillor Fowler suggested Mr. Bradley avail himself of the certification course for ConCom members. Councillor Giordano moved to approve the appointment of Mr. Bradley. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
8. A resolution was submitted by Councillor Logan concerning the clearing of snow from the Riverwalk that runs through Waltham. Councillor Stanley explained to the Committee that the Riverwalk is classified as a trail and the classification would need to be changed to a commuter walkway to address the need expressed in Councillor Logan's resolution. Councillor Stanley stated he would advocate for the change through the State. At the request of Councillor Logan for co-signers, all other Councillors in attendance indicated they would sign the resolution. A motion by Councillor Logan to approve the resolution was adopted on a voice vote.
9. A request was received from the petitioner concerning the abandonment of an easement at 10-52 Second Avenue. President Marchese explained the memo received from the Law Department indicated that the City never accepted the easement and therefore it could not be abandoned. President Marchese moved to file the matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
10. Councillor Waddick moved to take the matter of the RFP for 14 Church Street (10/14/2014) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Waddick explained his reasons for delaying a decision on the property had been addressed, since the City was not considering it as a potential location for the police station while the headquarters was being renovated. Councillor Stanley expressed concern about the lack of written communication from the Mayor and that verbal responses are not the way to conduct business. Councillor Waddick stated that the Council had previously voted to approve the

RFP for 14 Church Street and it was only through his raising of a concern about the future use of the property that it was tabled in Committee. Councillor Waddick re-iterated his position, read his draft order and moved to approve the draft order. On the motion, Councillor Logan also stated his reasons for not considering 14 Church Street as a temporary police station. The motion of Councillor Waddick to approve the draft order was adopted on a voice vote.

11. Councillor Fowler moved to take the matter of the Superintendent of Buildings (10/27/2014) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. As a new Superintendent of Buildings was recently appointed, Councillor Fowler moved to file the matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
12. A motion by Councillor Logan to adjourn was adopted by a voice vote and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 9:55 pm.

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