

CHARLES RYAN
President

LELAND DINGEE
At Large

SEAN POWERS
At Large

JOHN MULLANEY
District 2

THOMAS BOWES
District 3



CHARLES KOKOROS
Vice President
District 1

HENRY JOYCE
District 4

RONALD DENAPOLI
District 5

PAUL "DAN" CLIFFORD
District 6

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

February 8, 2011

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Horace T. Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 beginning at 7:30p.m.

Council President Ryan was in the chair.

Clerk of the Council, James Casey, conducted the roll call.

Present: Charles B. Ryan, President
Charles Kokoros, Vice President
Leland Dingee
Sean Powers
John C. Mullaney
Thomas Bowes
Henry N. Joyce
Paul Dan Clifford

Not Present: Ronald DeNapoli

Others: Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor
Peter Morin, Chief of Staff
Edward Spellman, Finance Director
Karen Shanley, Director of Human Resources
Christine Stickney, Director of Planning and Community Development
Peter Kurzberg, Superintendent of Schools
Paul Frazier, Chief of Police
Kevin Murphy, Fire Chief
Paul McSoley, Finance Coordinator Police Department
Betsy Wolfe, Director of Thayer Library
Joseph Powers, Town Clerk
Erick Kinsherf, Town Auditor
Senator John Keenan
Representative Mark Cusack

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance and there was a moment of silence for all those serving in our armed services, past and present.

Motion by Councilor Kokoros to take item 004 11 – Mayor: State of the Town Address out of order.

- Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros
- Second:** by Councilor Bowes
- Vote:** For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-DeNapoli)

Mayor Sullivan commented that the financial position of the Town was better than most communities however, he cautioned, serious challenges lay ahead. Braintree was fortunate not to have closed any fire stations or layoff any police officers or teachers as many other communities were forced to do. Local aid for Braintree was reduced by \$2.3 million since 2009 and Quinn Bill funding ended. The Town needs to continue to look at ways to reduce costs and improve efficiencies.

Councilor Joyce asked the Mayor the status of the Snow and Ice Budget. Mayor Sullivan responded, although he did not have the most updated number, the \$500,000 budgeted has been spent. He would provide an update on the budget item later in the week.

Councilor Clifford commented on the difficulties the Town faced in finding reductions in a \$100 million budget versus the State's \$30 Billion budget. He asked the local legislators to work towards completely funding local aid funding.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **064 10 Council President:** Sustainable Braintree – 3rd Annual Green Gala
- **003 11 Council President:** Run for Charlotte
- **Councilor Kokoros:** PIP Fundraiser
- **Councilor Dingee:** Thayer Public Library Upcoming Events
- **Councilor Bowes:** Bra/Wey Landing PWED Update

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 18, 2011

- Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to Approve
- Second:** by Councilor Bowes
- Vote:** For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-DeNapoli)

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COUNCIL RESPONSE

None

OLD BUSINESS

- **10 078 Councilor Mullaney:** New Hire Documentation Policy

Councilor Dingee, Chairman of the Committee on Ordinance and Rules, reported that the committee did not believe there was a problem with the hiring process in Town but, because of the problems within the Probation Department, the issue of transparency with the hiring process in government was in question. The policy proposed by Councilor Mullaney provides information to Council Members on who has been hired; not getting involved with the hiring process.

Councilor Mullaney explained in the original proposal required resumes of new employees be read at the Council meeting and the new employee provide information on all political contributions they may have made to local officials. After review of the proposed ordinance the Committee determined that political contribution information is a public document and can be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office as well as resumes being available in the Human Resources Department. With the information available at Town Hall proposed ordinance was amended to only require resumes be made available to Council Members within 30-days of appointment.

On a roll-call vote to adopt the proposed New Hire Documentation Policy:

Motion: by Councilor Dingee to approve

Second: by Councilor Joyce

Vote: For (3-Dingee, Joyce, Mullaney), Against (5), Absent (1-DeNapoli)

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND TOWN BOARDS

- **007 11 Councilor Bowes:** Fore River Bridge - Discussion

Motion: by Councilor Bowes to reschedule until February 15, 2011

Second: by Councilor Kokoros

Vote: For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-DeNapoli)

NEW BUSINESS

- **11 001 COUNCILOR MULLANEY:** Proposed Increase in Meals Excise Tax

Motion: by Councilor Kokoros to refer to Committee

Second: by Councilor Joyce

Vote: For (3-Dingee, Joyce, Mullaney), Against (5), Absent (1-DeNapoli)

- **11 002 Mayor:** FY2010 Unpaid Bill – Cell Phone
 - Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to refer to Committee
 - Second:** by Councilor Bowes
 - Vote:** For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-DeNapoli)

- **11 003 Mayor:** Request for Funds – Water & Sewer Administration Funds
 - Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to refer to Committee
 - Second:** by Councilor Bowes
 - Vote:** For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-DeNapoli)

- **11 004 Mayor:** FY2011 Line Item Transfers for Various Departments
 - Motion:** by Councilor Kokoros to refer to Committee
 - Second:** by Councilor Bowes
 - Vote:** For (8), Against (0), Absent (1-DeNapoli)

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:42p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 James M. Casey
 Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- **064 10 Council President:** Sustainable Braintree – 3rd Annual Green Gala
- **003 11 Council President:** Run for Charlotte
- **January 18, 2011 Minutes**
- **10 078 Councilor Mullaney:** New Hire Documentation Policy
- **007 11 Councilor Bowes:** Fore River Bridge - Discussion
- **11 001 COUNCILOR MULLANEY:** Proposed Increase in Meals Excise Tax
- **11 002 Mayor:** FY2010 Unpaid Bill – Cell Phone
- **11 003 Mayor:** Request for Funds – Water & Sewer Administration Funds
- **11 004 Mayor:** FY2011 Line Item Transfers for Various Departments