

State of Rhode Island

County of Washington

In Hopkinton on the eighteenth day of March 2019 A.D. the said meeting was called to order by Town Council President Frank Landolfi at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833.

PRESENT: Frank Landolfi, Scott Bill Hirst, Barbara Capalbo, Sylvia Thompson, Sharon Davis; Town Solicitor Kevin McAllister; Town Manager William McGarry; Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HIRST TO CONVENE OPEN SESSION AND ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER R.I.G.L. 2-46-5(A) (1) BOARD-COMMISSION INTERVIEWS - WILD & SCENIC RIVERS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL.

POLL VOTE:

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Hirst, Capalbo, Thompson, Davis

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

Council President Landolfi reported that the persons being discussed have been notified in advance in writing and have been advised that they have the right to have the discussion held in open session.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND SEAL THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Hirst, Capalbo, Thompson, Davis

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

No votes were taken in Executive Session.

At 6:50 P.M., the Town Council conducted an interview for Board-Commission for the Planning Board in open session as requested by applicant Carolyn Light. Carolyn Light was present. It was noted that the Council does not make an appointment the same evening as the interview. Councilor Hirst indicated he was happy she came forward to serve the Town; he was just beginning to get to know her and felt she would be a credit to the Town. Mrs. Light was asked to elaborate on her views and how they would apply to the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Mrs. Light indicated she was in the process of further equating herself with the Comprehensive Plan and had been attending meetings in order to acquire knowledge and be more active in the development of our community. She felt it was time for her to pay better attention and felt she had fiduciary responsibilities. She did say that she wished a developer would come and present something that would complement the Town. She felt the Town Council worked very hard, referring to all the budget meetings they held as well as their attendance at school committee meetings. She wanted to be more involved and contribute in a positive way. Councilor Thompson asked about the Planning Board Alternate position and the alternates' involvement in the decision making of the board. Solicitor McAllister indicated the alternate would be a full voting member whenever there was a vacancy at a meeting. Councilor Hirst asked if there was still a first alternate and second alternate. Solicitor McAllister indicated it was not in the charter but the voting by alternate members was something that could be handled by the Planning Board; there is some flexibility. If someone is absent, the alternate can sit and participate fully. As far as elevating an alternate to a full term member, that still requires the Town Council to vote and approve that. Councilor Capalbo asked Mrs. Light if she had some background information she could share. Mrs. Light indicated she did not have direct planning experience but had been involved in several real estate property transactions; had worked at Ingersol-Rand, a heating contractor; she could read blueprints so she knew her way around the footprint of buildings; she also had experience with a community organization in Providence, a Federal Program. Councilor Capalbo noted there would be a learning process and that URI offers classes that she could avail herself of. Mrs. Light felt she can be open minded and would be able to make an

informed decision. Councilor Davis recommends Mrs. Light for the position. Council President Landolfi asked about her main motivation for getting involved with the Planning Board. Mrs. Light referred to her granddaughter's presentation to the Council some months back and that her granddaughter's interest had sparked her own interest. She stated she wanted to contribute, as the Town Council does; to support the effort of the Town's planning board and she feels she can be open minded; it would be her way of giving back. Council President Landolfi commented that solar has been some of the most polarizing of issues and that Mrs. Light had had some involvement in the opposition effort. If Mrs. Light should be appointed, he recommended that an opinion be requested from the RI Ethics Commission as it pertains to her voting on solar related applications, as she may have to recuse herself, step down and remove herself from the room. He noted that individuals serving on the Towns boards and commissions must be objective; to review every application on its merits and to be your own person; something of utmost importance on polarizing issues. Mrs. Light agreed the right thing to do isn't always the easiest. Councilor Hirst also supports the idea of an advisory opinion from the ethic commission as well.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with a moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

Town Manager William McGarry introduced new Part Time ACO Chelsi Spakowski. He indicated that Ms. Spakowski was a Town resident and graduate of Chariho High School, who has an extensive background in animal control on a volunteer basis. Councilor Capalbo indicated that in the past, Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool held an annual pet food drive to benefit the Hopkinton Animal Control; however, was unable to do that the prior year due to the animal shelter being closed. She asked Ms. Spakowski if the Preschool would be able to hold this drive again. Ms. Spakowski indicated that she and Animal Control Officer Bowen were starting to put together a list of various places where they can ask for donations.

CONSENT AGENDA

The March 4, 2019 Town Council Meeting Minutes and March 7, 2019 Budget Workshop Notes were removed from the Consent Agenda.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HIRST TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: Approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 4, 2019; Accept the following monthly financial/activity report: Town Clerk.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Hirst, Capalbo, Thompson, Davis

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

Solicitor McAllister wished to amend the Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2019, on page 5, third paragraph, second sentence, to read: "...voted two times to amend the comprehensive plan's future land use map."

Councilor Capalbo questioned the Town Council Budget Workshop Notes of March 7, 2019, page two, under Police Department CIP, where it states that two police vehicles were leased. She believed they were purchased and not leased. Council President Landolfi stated that these vehicles were in fact leased to own and Councilor Capalbo wished for it to state that in that sentence.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR DAVIS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO APPROVE THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2019 AS AMENDED AND BUDGET WORKSHOP NOTES OF MARCH 7, 2019 AS AMENDED.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Hirst, Capalbo, Davis

OPPOSED: None

ABSTAIN: Thompson

SO VOTED

Councilor Thompson abstained as she had not been present on March 7, 2019.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during the first public forum.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT

Council President Landolfi reported that on March 12, 2019 Senator Elaine Morgan had invited him to attend a Senate Commendation bestowed upon Ashaway resident Kyle Driscoll for his heroic actions in rescuing an occupant of a vehicle that fell into the Pawcatuck River this past January. He also reported he had marched in the Newport St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 16, 2019.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Manager William McGarry reported on March 4, 2019 he convened a meeting with Eric LaFramboise and Jimmy Majewski of Laframboise Water Company, the town's water consultants. Also present for this meeting were Solicitor Kevin McAllister and Finance Director Brian Rosso. There was extensive discussion regarding the town's compliance with RIDOH's numerous and extensive regulations, regarding the Town's public water system. Mr. McGarry also reported on March 7, 2019 he met with RIDOH Senior Engineer Anthony Silvia and Jimmy Majewski, the Town's water consultant, at Town Hall to discuss the Town's application to become a licensed public water system. They were given our application and accompanying fee. In addition, they travelled to the Hope Valley School, which is a water test site and the water pit located at the Richmond/Hopkinton town line. RIDOH conducted conformance inspections of both sites which is required prior to obtaining a State license. Mr. McGarry advised that the Town had received a letter today from the RIDOH, who had preliminarily approved their application to be a licensed consecutive community public water system. Councilor Capalbo asked if this was just for Hope Valley or the whole system and Mr. McGarry indicated that it was just for the Hope Valley system. The other two water systems run the Town Hall well and the Crandall House well and both have previously been approved and are renewed on an annual basis by the RIDOH.

NEW BUSINESS

IBPO LOCAL #498 & HOPKINTON MOA/ASSIGNMENT OF POLICE OFFICER TO FEDERAL TASK FORCE

This matter was scheduled to discuss, consider and vote whether to authorize the Town Manager to execute a Memorandum of Agreement between the IBPO Local #498 and the Town of Hopkinton to assign a police officer to a federal task force to participate in criminal investigations.

Councilor Thompson stated that this position will be filling a current vacancy and will not add anything to the budget and she felt this was a good opportunity for the Town.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO FOR THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE IBPO LOCAL #498 AND THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON TO ASSIGN A POLICE OFFICER TO A FEDERAL TASK FORCE TO PARTICIPATE IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Hirst, Capalbo, Thompson, Davis

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

Zoning Board of Review Resignation

This matter was scheduled to discuss, consider and vote to accept the resignation of Philip Scalise from the Zoning Board of Review.

Councilor Thompson read a letter that Mr. Scalise had addressed to the Town Clerk: “Lisa: It is with mixed emotions that I submit this letter of resignation. My time on the zoning board was exciting, and almost always a learning opportunity with regards to the town, town history, or in human interaction. I do miss, and will miss it, but as Laura and I speed into retirement planning mode, there is much to do, and less time to do it in- hence this difficult decision. We have been truly blessed with the complexion of the board over the last 20 years that I have recollection of. It’s amazing how lucky we’ve been to have such open minded, resident conscious members who do the hard work to generate equitable decisions for all. None of it was or is easy. My experience on the board has truly been one of the high points in my life, and for that I thank the Town, and all my co-members on the board for the incredible opportunity. With that please accept this letter effective immediately, so that you can move on to an alternate who may serve and experience the town and serve as I have had the honor of. Very respectfully, Phil Scalise.”

Councilor Hirst stated that Mr. Scalise was one of his dearest and closest friends. He was a former Councilman who had graduated from Chariho and was a constant in the Town. His services should be applauded.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF PHILIP SCALISE AS ALTERNATE FROM THE ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW WITH REGRET.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Hirst, Capalbo, Thompson, Davis

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

PUBLIC FORUM

Joseph Moreau of Old Depot Road stated that Carol Derosier had sent him information concerning Bill #5789 which was before the House Committee on March 14, 2019, which had a lot of interesting points. Mr. Moreau indicated that both Representative Kennedy and Chris Hearn spoke regarding Hopkinton and learned that if this bill passes there will be incentives to towns to turn brown fields over. He believed that if the Town did something with the Stubtown Road dump there would be a possibility that there may be incentives from the State to utilize this brown field.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON TO ADJOURN IN HONOR OF THOSE OF IRISH AND ITALIAN EXTRACTION FOR CONTRIBUTING TO AMERICAN LIFE.

SO VOTED

Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin

Town Clerk

Marita D. Breault

Deputy Town Clerk