

**TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022**

Draft

A meeting of the Southbridge Town Council was held on Monday, June 27, in the Council Chambers. Council Chair Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:27 PM

AGENDA ITEM #1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Council Chair Daniel led the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM #2. ROLL CALL. Present: Adams, Daniel, Daou, Cotrona, Lazo, Marketti, Steeves, Ryan. Excused: Jovan (8)

AGENDA ITEM #3. CONSIDER AND ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item as amended. Amendment: 15B should state only a one-year appointment. Vote by show of hands, all in favor. By 7-0-1 the motion carries, with Cotrona abstaining.

AGENDA ITEM #4. CONSIDER AND ACCEPT THE EMERGENCY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands, all in favor. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #5. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS (relevant minutes to be read at each agenda item).

a. GENERAL GOVERNMENT. Subcommittee Chair Ryan summarized a meeting that resulted in several items on tonight's agenda.

b. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS. Subcommittee Chair Marketti summarized a recent meeting and the discussions that were had regarding the main street construction. This meeting resulted in several items on tonight's agenda.

c. EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES. Subcommittee Chair Jovan was not in attendance tonight.

d. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. Subcommittee Chair Adams summarized a meeting that resulted in several items on tonight's agenda.

e. PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY. Subcommittee Chair Lazo summarized a meeting that resulted in several transfer items on tonight's agenda.

AGENDA ITEM #6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- Council Chair Daniel and Vice-Chair Adams presented Mary Darling with a gift and thanked her for her service to the town on her last night as the town recording clerk.

AGENDA ITEM #7. TOWN MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- He provided an update on the church property and said they will intervene as needed but they are working with the current owner
- There will be a water & sewer rate hearing Wednesday at 6:00 PM

AGENDA ITEM #8. PRESENTATIONS

AGENDA ITEM #9. CITIZENS FORUM.

Donald Solinsky of Henry Street isn't sure who's up for re-election but he hopes everyone other than Councilor Ryan and Councilor Marketti gets voted out because they are the only members who have shown him respect. He noted that he was approached by members of the community who were appalled that a Councilor called Mr. Solinsky a psycho and that the Council continues to deny things they have on tape. This couple won't speak out on this matter because they have two dogs of their own and are worried that they will be next based on the Town's actions against Mr. Solinsky's dog Vegas. Mr. Solinsky recounted the events that transpired again and believes there was extreme wrongdoing on the Town's behalf

Denise Clemence 128 Country Club Place attended tonight's meeting because she was told last Thursday that Town Manager McCall was a finalist for a job in another community. Ms. Clemence discussed the contract negotiations and the extension of the council that resulted in an \$11,000 raise after negotiating in good faith with the current Town Manager. She expressed concern with the terms of his contract, the use of tax dollars on this position, and the fact that making it to the final round of these interviews means he has sunk a lot of time into the hiring process elsewhere. Ms. Clemence commented on a violation of the Open Meeting Law when they voted on the contract publicly and didn't disclose all information to the public. Ms. Clemence said the Town Manager applied for the job on April 4, 2022, less than one month after the new agreement, which she believes is unsavory, and since he didn't get the job they are now stuck with a man who doesn't want to be here. She asked the Town Manager if he has applied for any other jobs before or after April 4, 2022. Town Manager McCall said there are situations where people put their family needs before all else, therefore he explored an opportunity close to his home.

Motion to extend the speakers time was made by Lazo, seconded by Cotrona all in favor. He put his name in here because it was near his home town but it has not impacted his work here, he's done an excellent job and has worked hard to put Southbridge first. He has no other applications out there, this was an isolated instance and he will continue to do what's best for himself and the family. Ms. Clemence said she and others are disheartened and concerned with this news and she finds his job search to be in bad faith.

John Palowski of Old Woodstock Road said this is the only Town Manager he hasn't heard any bad remarks about. He loves this town, but he doesn't always "like" it because it can have a factory mentality that isn't always productive. He respects that this man works hard for this town and puts his family above all else. He noted that doesn't mean he isn't loyal to our town and its needs and that doesn't mean he doesn't like working here. He urged people to cut the town manager some slack, to treat him respectfully, and not run him out of town.

AGENDA ITEM #10. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S APPOINTMENT OF EVAN T. GENKOS OF WOODSTOCK, CT AS PERMANENT, FULL-TIME POLICE SERGEANT FOR THE TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE EFFECTIVE 06/12/22 FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Adams to vote on this item. Chief Woodson spoke highly of this candidate and recommended them to the Council. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

Motion to move agenda item #17 up to item #11. A motion was made by Councilor Adams, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands, all in favor. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #17. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S APPOINTMENT OF PAOLA NICOLE GONZALEZ MARQUEZ AS CALL FIREFIGHTER FOR THE TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, PENDING A CORI CHECK, AND MEDICAL PHYSICAL. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Chief Normandin spoke highly of Ms. Gonzalez Marquez and recommended her highly to the Council. Several Councilors supported this appointment and are happy to move this appointment forward. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #11. VOTE TO RATIFY THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE AND KAREN HARNOIS AS FINANCE DIRECTOR, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Councilor Lazo and Councilor Marketti commended the work Ms. Harnois has done for this town, but Councilor Marketti is concerned with the rise and the impact on the tax dollars. Councilor Ryan noted that Ms. Harnois is an extremely important part of the fabric of this town, therefore she supports securing her employment for another 5 years. Town Manager McCall noted that they need to amend the end date to August 24, 2027, to keep it consistent. Councilor Lazo accepted the friendly amendment. Vote by show of roll call. Councilors in favor: Adams, Cotrona, Daniel, Daou, Lazo, Ryan, Steeves. By 7-1, the motion carries with Councilor Marketti opposing.

AGENDA ITEM #12. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION TO REAPPOINT ANDREW PELLETIER AS THE DIRECTOR OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Councilor Lazo said the recommendation was not favorable on this and there was no further discussion, by Ms.

Clemence approached the podium to ask why there was no discussion or reasoning behind this. She believes that if something is voted on unfavorably, they shouldn't bring the appointment to the Council if it is going to go down the tubes. She noted how unsatisfied she was with the discussion surrounding a volunteer reappointment recently since that one was voted negatively as well and shouldn't have been sent up to the Council. Ms. Duffy approached the podium to support Mr. Pelletier and said he is very informative and he's very loyal to this town.

Town Manager McCall said his appointment is based on the work he's seen throughout their time working together and he's received a lot of positive support on that as well. He was not made aware of any concerns or negative comments on Mr. Pelletier until more recently. Vote by roll call. No: Adams, Cotrona, Daou, Lazo, Marketti. Yes: Daniel, Ryan, Steeves

Vote by show of hands. the motion fails by 3-5

AGENDA ITEM #13. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S REAPPOINTMENT OF KATELYN SPENCER AS ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item.

Amendment: **VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S REAPPOINTMENT OF KATELYN SPENCER AS ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING.** A motion was made by Councilor Adams, seconded by Councilor Lazo. Chief Woodson highly recommended a three-year term on subcommittee. There was discussion on why they do this particular one this way. Vote by show of hands, by 7-1 the motion carries, with Ryan opposing.

Vote by show of hands on the amended item, by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #14. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S REAPPOINTMENT OF THOMAS KOUMANELIS AS AN AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICER FOR THE TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Daou to vote on this item. Chief Woodson recommended Officer Koumanelis highly and commented on his experience and qualifications. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #15. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE REAPPOINTMENT OF PAUL SOOJIAN AS AN AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICER FOR THE TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Chief Woodson noted that Mr. Soojan has all relevant

certifications, therefore this is at no cost to the Town. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #16. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S APPOINTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AS SPECIAL TRAFFIC CONSTABLE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING; AARON BERRY OF SOUTHBRIDGE, MA, MADISON O. DAY OF SOUTHBRIDGE, MA, WAYNE BOITEAU OF SOUTHBRIDGE, MA, DUANE LEDOUX OF STURBRIDGE, MA, JESUS ROSA OF SOUTHBRIDGE, MA, MICHAEL SULLIVAN OF HOLLAND, MA. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #18. VOTE TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF A NEW SHED TO THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE WEST STREET SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD, PURSUANT TO MGL CH.44, §53A. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. The Council is grateful for this and the following donation. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #19. VOTE TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF A NEW BASKETBALL RIM TO THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE MORRIS STREET COURT, PURSUANT TO MGL CH.44, §53A. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #20. VOTE TO APPROVE ENTERING INTO THE AGREEMENT WITH THE US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA) TO DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT THE QUINEBAUG VALLEY RAIL TRAIL PROJECT FOR A TOTAL PROJECT ESTIMATED TO BE \$4,123,625.00 IS FUNDED UNDER EDA'S FY 2021 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT TRAVEL, TOURISM, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO) AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item.

Amendment: VOTE TO APPROVE ENTERING INTO THE AGREEMENT WITH THE US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA) TO DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT THE QUINEBAUG VALLEY RAIL TRAIL PROJECT FOR A TOTAL PROJECT ESTIMATED TO BE \$4,123,625.00 OF WHICH \$2,623,625.00 IS FUNDED UNDER EDA'S FY 2021 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT TRAVEL, TOURISM, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO) AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Adams, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this amendment. Several Councilors

supported this item and commented on the process it's been to finally get the Rail Trail to this point. Vote by show of hands, by 8-0 the motion carries.

Vote by roll call: Adams, Daniel, Daou, Cotrona, Lazo, Marketti, Ryan, Steeves. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #21. VOTE TO APPROVE APPLYING FOR THE PARKLAND ACQUISITIONS AND RENOVATIONS FOR COMMUNITIES (PARC) GRANT PROGRAM TO ACQUIRE 76 CENTRAL STREET AND CONSTRUCT A POCKET PARK TO BE REIMBURSED UP TO \$175,000.00 OR 70%, CONSISTENT WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Ms. Dean elaborated on the construction plan and said they have 34 months to complete the progress from start to finish and need to begin the project within 16 months. Vote by show of hands. By 6-2, the motion carries with Cotrona and Marketti opposing.

Ms. Clemence isn't familiar with 76 Central Street and asked for more public clarification on that, Councilor Steeves provided more details on that. She wishes they would have reconsidered their vote concerning the Director of Inspectional Services appointment, however, the Council deemed that comment was out of order as this item did not pertain to that.

AGENDA ITEM #22. VOTE TO ACCEPT THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S GRANT AWARD TO FUND \$86,600.00, OR 35% OF A 2023 FORD E450 AMBULANCE PURSUANT TO MGL CH.44, §53A, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Daou to vote on this item. Councilor Marketti asked how many ambulances they have, Chief Normandin said they have three, and this one would replace a 2010 ambulance with over 100,000 miles on it. Councilor Marketti asked if 2010 was a backup ambulance, Chief Normandin confirmed that it was, but stated they need a consistent flow of 3 ambulances at all times. He noted that it has several hundred thousand engine hours, due to the volume of work they do and it has seen 12 full years with the department, therefore it should likely be out of service for several reasons. Councilor Marketti opposed this in the past, but he would support it if they were using ARPA funds for this rather than Stabilization funds. Councilor Ryan said it's in the public safety's best interest to have the most up-to-date emergency vehicles in service and to ensure they can safely meet the emergency needs of the Town. There were a lot of opinions, but as Councilor Lazo noted, they had already beat this topic to death back in October, therefore he encouraged them to vote.

Vote by show of hands. By 7-1, the motion carries with Marketti opposing.

AGENDA ITEM #23. VOTE TO APPROVE THE INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO PURSUE THE RECYCLING DIVIDENDS PROGRAM (RDP) GRANT FOR FY23, AND TO DESIGNATE THE TOWN MANAGER SIGNATORY OF THE

BDP GRANT AGREEMENT. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Mr. Pelletier noted that the Town applies for and receives this grant just about every year. Councilor Steeves asked if there would be more residential education on recycling to ensure that the public knows the best practices. Mr. Pelletier was hesitant to provide further details since he will no longer be involved with this, but he noted there would likely be more education due to the upcoming changes in the curbside collection. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #24. VOTE TO APPROVE GLOBAL DATA SYSTEMS (GDS) QUOTE OF \$1,650.00 FOR ONBOARDING SERVICES AND \$281.88 MONTHLY SERVICE FEE FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,931.88 FOR FIRST PAYMENT TO PROVIDE IT SERVICES TO THE CABLE DEPARTMENT, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #25. VOTE TO RATIFY THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PUBLIC SAFETY CONSULTANTS LLC AND TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,850.00 TO CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT CENTER TO FILL THE RANK OF FIRE LIEUTENANT, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Councilor Marketti vocalized that he thought this work could be done in-house, but the general sentiment was that this should have been discussed before they entertained this process. Vote by show of hands. By 7-1, the motion carries with Marketti opposing.

AGENDA ITEM #26. VOTE TO RATIFY CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH TIGHE & BOND TO ADD FULL-TIME CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION SERVICES TO THE WEST STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FOR AN ADDITIONAL FEE NOT-TO-EXCEED \$103,000.00, TO BE FUNDED FROM CHAPTER 90, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Steeves, seconded by Councilor Adams to vote on this item. The subcommittee felt that this may not be needed since they are in the process of hiring an assistant engineer. Interim DPW Director Matthew Desjarden said they are interviewing for that position this week, however, they aren't sure what the knowledge base and skill set will be, he will provide the orientation they need to succeed in this position, therefore it will be difficult to throw that person or himself directly into this position. He recommended that the Council approve this amendment to ensure a positive onboarding experience and a manageable workflow in their department. Councilor Steeves supports this for now, but in the long run, he'd like to see more of this work kept in-house when they can. He also noted that this is such a critical project they will want to make sure it has the proper oversight and is done correctly. Several Councilors were apprehensive about supporting this item, but understand that it might be the best move at this point, whereas others can't see hiring one person at this cost for one project. Ms. Dean encouraged the Council to support this since this is a very important project that they can't afford

to have a lack of oversight on. Councilor Lazo was very confused over many of the points and noted that they have had so many projects go wrong and they need to ask a clerk of the works to oversee the various projects. Mr. Desjarden understands that the dollar amount is steep, but it's only 3% of the project cost, and it can save them in the long run. He also clarified that they do engineers in house, but they don't do large-scale ones like this because they can't sustain that with the other responsibilities they have.

Motion to move the question: A motion was made by Councilor Adams, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 6-2, the motion carries with Ryan and Steeves opposing.

Vote by roll call. Yes: Adams Daniel, Ryan, Steeves No: Cotrona, Daou, Lazo, Marketti. The motion fails due to a tie vote.

AGENDA ITEM #27. VOTE TO AWARD THE REPLACEMENT OF PRIMARY CLARIFIER DRIVE #2 CONTRACT, INCLUDING ALTERNATES 1, 2, AND 3, TO SCHERBON CONSOLIDATED INC. FOR A TOTAL OF \$297,548.00, TO BE FUNDED FROM A DEDICATED PROJECT ACCOUNT FOR "WWTP PRIMARY CLARIFIERS", AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Mr. Desjarden engineered this project himself and noted that it was a follow-up to a project he worked on in 2017. Councilor Marketti understands the need for this and will support it, but would have preferred they use ARPA funds. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #28. VOTE TO RATIFY THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS, AFL-CIO LOCAL 2194, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Town Manager McCall has been working on all four collective bargaining agreements and is happy to report the Town and the AFL-CIO Local 2194 have reached an agreement. Some of the terms include updated language, inflation adjustments to some uniform allowances, stipend adjustments, and a 2% COLA increase year over year. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #29. VOTE TO RATIFY THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE AND SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, LOCAL 888, CTW-CLC (DPW UNIT) EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Town Manager McCall said they've been working on this agreement for about a year, so this one will be in effect from 2021- 2024. Some of the terms include the 2% COLA increase, inflation adjustments for stipends, and some

language updates to provisions. Vote by roll call. Councilors in favor: Adams, Cotrona, Daniel, Daou, Lazo, Marketi, Ryan, Steeves. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #30. VOTE TO RESCIND PARKING PERMIT P-00025 TO BE REPLACED WITH PARKING PERMIT P-00025A, AND THAT THIS PERMIT BE ISSUED FOR A "NO PARKING" ZONE ON THE EAST SIDE OF WORCESTER STREET FROM A POINT OPPOSITE LAUREL STREET, SOUTHERLY FOR A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 950 FEET, TO A POINT 30 FEET SOUTH OF THE SOUTHERLY ENTRANCE TO SOUTHBRIDGE GAS (176 WORCESTER ST). THIS HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED BY TRAFFIC COMMISSION. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Chief Woodson said this item would remedy a site line issue. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #31. VOTE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TRANSFER REQUESTS AS LISTED IN THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS; OR ACT IN RELATION THERETO. A motion was made by Councilor Steeves, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Council Chair Daniel went through the document line by line under the impression that Councilors could hold items for discussion. There was discussion on the process for approving these transfers as a cluster, but the Council will look into this process further in the upcoming year. The document used is a public record and can be found on the town website. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #32. VOTE TO APPROVE THE LIBRARY TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$3,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT #001610-521100 NATURAL GAS, \$1,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT #001610-545000 JANITORIAL, \$1,700.00 FROM ACCOUNT #001610-524300 REPAIR & MAINT. BUILDING GROUNDS, \$490.00 FROM ACCOUNT #001610-558000 MISC. MATERIALS FOR A TOTAL OF \$6,190.00 TO ACCOUNT #001610-530200 DATA PROCESSING TO COVER COMPUTER UPGRADES, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #33. VOTE TO APPROVE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$8,000 FROM ACCOUNT #001210-511000 SALARY TO ACCOUNT #001210-521000 ELECTRICITY TO COVER THE COST OF ELECTRICITY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Cotrona, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #34. VOTE TO APPROVE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$10,000 FROM ACCOUNT #001210-511700 PART-TIME SALARY TO ACCOUNT #001210-524300 REPAIR & MAINTENANCE OF BUILDING & GROUNDS

TO COVER THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REPAIRS OF THE ELEVATOR IN ORDER TO PASS MANDATED STATE INSPECTION, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Chief Woodson said this is an annual issue because the state continues to change the code for elevators, therefore the town has to continue to update its elevators to meet the ever-changing standards. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #35. VOTE TO APPROVE THE TOWN MANAGER TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$13,442.00 FROM ACCOUNT #001945-565000 OTHER ASSESSMENTS-BAY PATH TO ACCOUNT #001910-534600 RECRUITMENT & PROCESSING TO COVER RECRUITMENT COSTS ESTIMATED THROUGH 6/30/2022 DUE TO HIGH VOLUME OF EMPLOYEE TURNOVER AND NEW POSITIONS, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Cotrona, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Town Manager McCall said this amount encompasses their recruitment efforts for filling various positions this past year. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #36. VOTE TO APPROVE SEWER TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$297,548.00 FROM ACCOUNT #600440-583000-22582 SEWER-PLANT CAPITAL TO A NEW PROJECT ACCOUNT NUMBER FOR “WWTP PRIMARY CLARIFIERS” TO BE ASSIGNED BY ACCOUNTING, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Steeves to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #37. VOTE TO APPROVE SEWER TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$26,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT #600440-520100 SEWER-MAINTENANCE & OPERATING TO ACCOUNT #600440-521000 SEWER-ELECTRICITY TO COVER THE COST OF ACTUAL AND PROJECTED ELECTRICITY BILLS FROM NATIONAL GRID AND LAND OF THE SKY FOR THE REMAINDER OF FY22, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Cotrona, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. Mr. Desjarden said they haven't received the bill for Land of Sky yet, which is why they need to transfer money for some remaining FY22 bills. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #38. VOTE TO APPROVE DPW TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$16,000.00 FROM ACCOUNT #001499-530000 SPECIALIZED SERVICES TO ACCOUNT #001297-521000 STREETLIGHTS-ELECTRICITY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000.00 AND ACCOUNT #001499- 521000-0001 DPW-VARIOUS LOCATIONS-ELECTRICITY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000.00 TO COVER THE COST OF ACTUAL AND PROJECTED ELECTRICITY BILLS FOR STREETLIGHTS AND VARIOUS TOWN-OWNED SITES FROM NATIONAL GRID AND LAND OF THE SKY FOR THE REMAINDER OF FY22, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL

RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Councilor Marketti hopes they plan better for electrical bills in the future. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #39. VOTE TO AMEND AGENDA ITEM #24, 5/9/2022 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING FOR THE CHARLTON IMA PAYMENT FROM \$123,208.34 TO \$157,112.26. A motion was made by Councilor Steeves, seconded by Councilor Daou to vote on this item. Mr. Desjarden said there were complications with the revenue reconciling due to the use of two systems, therefore this amendment would reflect the correct amount. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #40. VOTE TO APPROVE WATER TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$33,903.92 FROM FUND #0610 WATER RETAINED EARNINGS TO ACCOUNT #610450-569300 TOWN OF CHARLTON IMA PAYMENT TO SUPPLEMENT THE TRANSFER REQUEST FOR \$123,208.34, APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON 5/9/2022 (AGENDA ITEM #25), FOR A TOTAL TRANSFER OF \$157,112.26, WHICH IS THE REVISED AMOUNT OF THE CHARLTON IMA PAYMENT, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #41. VOTE TO APPROPRIATE \$388,980.74 FROM WATER RETAINED EARNINGS TO THE WATER STABILIZATION FUND #0845. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #42. VOTE TO APPROVE WATER TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$25,000.00 FROM THREE ACCOUNTS; ACCOUNT #610450-576100 WATER-OTHER-LEGAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,500.00, ACCOUNT #610450-533100 WATER-MAINTENANCE ON TREES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,000.00, ACCOUNT #610450-530000 WATER-SPECIALIZED SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,500.00 TO ACCOUNT #610450-521000 WATER ELECTRICITY TO COVER THE COST OF ACTUAL AND PROJECTED ELECTRICITY BILLS FROM NATIONAL GRID AND LAND OF THE SKY FOR THE REMAINDER OF FY22, AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #43. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF 10 SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS'S IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00 AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN'S ARPA

ADMINISTRATOR. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #44. REQUEST APPROVAL TO PROVIDE TWO BASE RADIO SYSTEMS TO BE PLACED IN THE MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL TO INCREASE AND STABILIZE RADIO COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE SCHOOL, FIRE, AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000.00, AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN'S ARPA ADMINISTRATOR.

A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. There was discussion on the importance of these measures and the need to have that open line of communication. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #45. REQUEST APPROVAL TO UPGRADE THE TOWN'S COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE OF ALL PHONE LINES TO FIBER OPTIC LINES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00 AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN'S ARPA ADMINISTRATOR. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #46. REQUEST APPROVAL TO PROVIDE \$250,000.00 IN TOWN LOANS/GRANTS TO SMALL BUSINESSES WITHIN OUR TOWN'S CENTRAL CORE AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN'S ARPA ADMINISTRATOR. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Daou to vote on this item. Councilor Lazo noted that many towns have committed to helping small businesses and they'd like to be able to provide opportunities to make buildings more business-friendly. Several Councilors support this.

Councilor Lazo has an issue with the term "Central Core" so he made a motion to amend the item to delete the term "Central Core" from this to allow for all businesses in the area. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Daou to vote on this item. Ms. Dean said they can update that language if they'd like because the ARPA funds don't need to specifically impact a certain area of Town. Councilor Steeves asked if they should include new businesses in this initiative as well, Councilor Adams said he'd be fine with removing "small" from the wording because this initiative will have oversight and they will be able to track that the work is being done. Ms. Dean suggests they emphasize bringing businesses up to code because that will help them bring businesses in. Jasmin Rivas suggested they consider operating more on a grant basis since businesses are struggling during the pandemic and paying off a loan can be challenging. Vote by show of hands on the amendment. By 8-0 the motion carries.

Councilor Steeves would like to promote small and new business growth and would like to see those thrive through this program. Councilor Adams recommended they have more discussions on the process if this is approved. Councilor Lazo asked that everyone stick to the agenda item right now and then entertain some of these ideas and protocols at a later point in time. Vote by show of hands on the amendment. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #47. PRESENTATION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL EVALUATION SUMMARY OF THE TOWN MANAGER FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 AS PREPARED BY COUNCIL CHAIR AND VOTE TO ACCEPT. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Steeves to vote on this item. Council Chair read the summary evaluation and presented the scores and comments.

- Knowledge & skill 4.38/5
- Dependability 4/38/5
- Communication 4.13/5
- Core qualities 4.00/5
- Leadership & Management 4.13/5
- Financial acumen 4.38/5
 - Overall score: 36.143/40- exceeds expectations

Town Manager McCall thanked them for their comments and looks forward to working with the next sitting Council. He wished Councilor Cotrona and Councilor Jovan well in their next endeavors. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #48. COUNCILORS FORUM

- Councilor Marketti
 - Residents have concerns with the recent water main break, many felt they weren't kept up to date/ informed early enough
 - Several residents have commented on the lack of meeting minutes for boards & committees
 - He thanked Councilor Jovan and Cotrona for their service to the community and wished them the best in their next endeavors
- Councilor Cotrona
 - Thanked fellow Councilors citizens, and wished the elected Council the best
- Councilor Steeves
 - Wished the best of luck to Councilor Cotrona and Jovan
 - He asked for an update on Main Street- Town Manager McCall said they are working with Lynch to negotiate a resolution
 - He encouraged people to attend the Sunday Concert on the Commons series
- Councilor Ryan
 - Thanked Councilor Cotrona for his service and thanked Councilor Jovan for all of the time he's given to the Council and other committees. She appreciated his how upfront he was and how he went about addressing the needs of the Town
 - She is working to have a bus stop sign moved since it is leading to confusion on where the bus stop is
- Councilor Lazo
 - He'd like to see the bus moved from in front of the library for traffic alignment
 - Thanked Councilor Cotrona and Jovan for their years of service to the town and will be saving his comments on Councilor Jovan in the future when he is available

- He congratulated all of the elected officials and welcomed Councilor Marketti back to the Council
- Councilor Lazo felt that the water main break was handled well and there was a lot of outgoing communication from varying parties.
- He believes the Town is making strides in supporting and retaining its employees and he still wants to make sure they continue to treat their employees the way they treat the public
- Councilor Daou
 - Thanked Councilor Cotrona and Daou for their service to the Town and welcomed the newly elected officials
 - He said they're all human, they make mistakes and they shouldn't hold anything against Town Manager McCall for attempting to do what's best for his family. He knows the Town Manager has inherited so many issues and he has worked tirelessly to put the Town first and he doesn't want to attack him for his choices
 - Town Manager McCall thanked him for his kind words and his jokes and commented on a few items
- Councilor Adams
 - He wished Councilor Cotrona and Jovan the best and congratulated the new and returning Councilor elects
 - He met with members of the Wells Apartments and learned a lot about their processes
 - ARPA- They're continuing to find uses for these funds and to work with departments to meet their needs thanked all those involved
- Councilor Daniel thanked all those involved with mitigating the water main break and dispersing information to residents

AGENDA ITEM #49. DISCUSSION OF NEXT MEETING DATE – MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022 - 7:00 PM.

AGENDA ITEM #50. ADJOURN. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands. By 8-0 the motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Darling
Recording Clerk

Documents used:

- Draft of Town Council Meeting Minutes, dated 6/5/22
- Draft of Town Council Meeting Minutes, dated 6/13/22
- Appointment documentation for items #10,16,17
- West St. shed donation memo, item #18
- Morris St. basketball rim donation, item #19

- Award letter, item #20
- USDA Emergency rural healthcare grant, item #22
- RDP grant memo, item #23
- GDS IT service quote cable dept, item #24
- Assessment center documentation, item #25
- West St. amendment 3, item #26
- Proposed parking permit documentation, item #30
- Transfer request documentation for items #31-42