

A regular meeting of the Town Council held for the Town of Scituate on Thursday, June 12, 2008 in the Town Council Chambers, 195 Danielson Pike, N. Scituate was called to order at 7:33 PM. Council President Budway presiding.

Prior to the opening of the regular meeting, Council President Budway presented a certification of recognition to Mr. Wayne Carlow, who performed for the celebration this evening of the Rockland Oaks Housing 25th Anniversary. Council President Budway thanked Mr. Carlow for the wonderful concert that he and his band generously donated this evening. He said that by the amount of people that got up and danced to his musical selections, we know it was a good time. He also wanted to congratulate Mr. Carlow for being the recipient of the prestigious Horizon Award from the North American Country Music International for his song "I Love Old Glory". Council President Budway also wanted to inform the audience that Mr. Carlow composed a song "Down in Richmond," referring to the "lost" village of Richmond, one of the communities sacrificed for the construction of the Scituate Reservoir in 1918.

Council President Budway also wanted to recognize and thank William Mende and the members of the Board of Directors of Rockland Oaks for their dedication and hard work over the past 25 years.

After pledging allegiance to the flag of our country, Town Clerk Long called the roll. Roll call vote as follows:

Councilman Salisbury --present	Council Vice-President Farrar -- present
Councilman D'Agostino—absent	Councilman Winfield--present
Councilwoman Knowlton -- present	Councilman Collins-present
Council President Budway – present	
Council President Budway-aye	

Motion passes.

Motion made by Councilman Collins, seconded by Council Vice President Farrar and voted by consent agreement to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2008 Special Council meeting.

Motion made by Councilman Collins, seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar and voted by consent agreement to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2008 Council meeting.

Motion made by Councilman Collins, seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar and voted by consent agreement to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of May 20, 2008.

Motion made by Councilman Collins, seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar and voted by consent agreement to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2008 Closed Meeting.

Motion made by Councilman Salisbury, seconded by Councilman Collins and voted by consent agreement to place and file all departmental reports.

During audience participation, Mike Marcello, 874 Chopmist Hill Road, asked if there is a fuel adjustment clause in the Rambone contract for refuge and recycling.

Council President Budway said it did not, but there is a provision to open the contract back up for unforeseen circumstances.

Tim McCormick, Trimtown Road, asked if the enabling legislation for the school bond has been passed by the General Assembly.

Council President Budway said that it is processing, but has not been enacted yet.

Richard Finnegan, 47 Ridge Road asked if we are paying two full time salaries in the Treasurer's Office for both the Deputy and Treasurer.

Council President Budway said that Town Treasurer Przybyla is only receiving his part time pay at this time.

Richard Finnegan, 47 Ridge Road asked if Town Treasurer Przybyla is willing to pay property taxes on his car that was registered in Florida.

Town Treasurer Przybyla said that he has a summer home in Florida.

Mr. Finnegan asked if his summer residence was in Scituate.

Town Treasurer Przybyla said that his primary residence is in Rhode Island.

Mr. Finnegan asked Town Treasurer Przybyla if he had a Florida drivers' license.

Town Treasurer Przybyla said that he does.

Council President Budway said that this dialogue is conjecture, and that Mr. Finnegan is maligning Town Treasurer Przybyla's reputation, and that if he has facts that the Council should know about, he should disclose them now or take this discussion up in the appropriate forum.

Town Treasurer Przybyla said that if he has done something wrong, he will change it and rectify it. He said that he will do everything necessary to rectify this issue.

Mike Marcello, 874 Chopmist Hill Road, asked about the vote to unionize the rescue personnel and if the Town considers them Town employees.

Council President Budway said that the Town does not employ any rescue personnel.

Council President Budway said that some of the rescue workers have submitted a petition to the Labor Board to unionize. He said that the petition contains erroneous information. He said that the Town's position on this matter is that "we do not employ rescue or fire personnel", people are volunteers and work with their individual departments.

Richard Kells, Mary Hopkins Drive, said that he heard that there are employees currently out on disability at the Highway Department are still accruing and getting paid for their sick days and receiving a clothing allowance even though they are not at work.

Council President Budway said that he cannot respond to those questions because those employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement, and he will have to get back to him.

Michael Marcello, 874 Chopmist Hill Road, said that he was very disappointed at the time of the meeting concerning the school bond issue. He said that he would have been there but he had to work. He said that he is not happy with the decision of the

Council to vote on the bond issue at a Special financial Town Meeting, instead at an all day referendum or the General Election in November. He said that that type of voting is not good for the people and he thought the Council would have learned from their mistakes. He said that if the Council and School Committee want support for this bond they have to make sure that the voting procedures are fair to everyone. He said that he would like for the Council to reconsider their decision and take Councilman Winfield suggestion.

Council President Budway said that the reason the meeting was at 2:30 PM is because that is the time the Council could meet. He said that it was important to get the enabling legislation to the General Assembly before they recessed for the year. He said that no matter what voting procedure is used it is not the best method for everyone. He said that the council is charged with responding to situations as they occur.

Michael Marcello said that for bond issue to pass they need to get the broadest voter participation as possible, he said by having a SFTM at 8 PM at night you are disenfranchising a lot of voters.

Barbara Vennerbeck, Rockland Road, said that she feels that this is the least democratic way of voting because a lot of people will not be able to attend.

Mr. McDuffie, Westcott Road, said that since this bond issue has been voted down twice, why it is being brought up again.

Council President Budway said that it needs to be done because it is effecting the accreditation of the school and it will make it difficult to get into college. He said that also the air quality needs to be addressed. He said that we are coming back with a band aid approach for a healthier environment for the kids.

He said that he would appreciate everyone's support on this bond issue. He said that they should not vote against just because they don't like the way the vote will be taken.

Motion made by Council Vice-President Farrar, seconded by Councilman Winfield and voted by consent agreement to re-appoint Patt Russo, Tax Collector for a term expiring June 2009.

Councilman Winfield wanted to congratulate Ms. Russo for the outstanding job she does.

Motion made by Councilman Winfield, seconded by Councilman Salisbury and voted by consent agreement to re-appointment Robert Nero to the Pawtuxet River Authority for a term expiring June 2011.

Motion made by Council Vice President Farrar, seconded by Councilwoman Knowlton and voted by consent agreement to re-appoint Dean Huff, Fred Faria and Michael Langlais to the Hope Village Overlay District Review Committee for a term expiring June 2010.

Motion made by Councilwoman Knowlton, seconded by Councilman Collins and voted by consent agreement to re-appoint James Seidel and Angela DiMartino to the Hope Village Review Committee, Alternate Members for a term expiring June 2009.

Motion made by Councilman Collins, seconded by Councilman Salisbury and voted by consent agreement to re-appoint Councilwoman Knowlton, Chair, and Don Campbell to the Recycling Initiatives Committee for a term expiring June 2009.

Motion made by Vice-President Farrar, seconded by Councilwoman Knowlton and voted by consent agreement to appoint Peggy Pinkey and Milt Schumacher to the Recycling Initiatives Committee for a term expiring June 2009.

Motion made by Councilman Salisbury, seconded by Councilman Winfield and voted by consent agreement to table the renewal of the Delta Dental contract until it is known if the bill about specifying a specific health care carrier is passed.

Motion made by Councilman Winfield, seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar to allow the Town to use the Valley Breeze Observer as the newspaper to advertise in and to discontinue the use of the Providence Journal. General discussion followed.

Town Clerk Long said that the Valley Breeze now satisfies the law regarding advertising in a paper of general circulation. She said that the Providence Journal is so expensive and that they hold us hostage for payment. She said last week that the Providence Journal called and refused to put an ad in for the Planning Department because we had a \$4:00 balance. She said that she had to give her personal credit card to be able to advertise.

Town Engineer Provonsil said that he agrees with Town Clerk Long and that he feels that this will be a cost saving for the Town.

Councilman Salisbury said that he doesn't agree with having one paper exclusively. He suggested that the motion be amended to allow for advertising in both newspapers depending on the ad being placed.

Deputy Town Clerk Chatfield said that if Councilmember's are worried about the ad for the last day to register to vote, that she will put signs out and voter registration boxes throughout Town. She said that she feels that the Providence Journal rates are ridiculous and a huge waste of money.

Councilman Winfield agrees that the Journals rates are excessive.

Council President Budway asked the audience how many people read the Providence Journal and how many read the Valley Breeze. Let it reflect that more people raised their hands to reading the Valley Breeze.

Mr. McDuffie, Westcott Road said that he feels that Councilman Winfield is right on the money and agrees with his suggestion regarding the Valley Breeze.

General discussion followed.

Motion called:

Motion made by Councilman Winfield, seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar and voted by consent agreement to allow the Town to use the Valley Breeze as a place to put their legal advertisements.

Council President Budway explained the process that the Council had for the replacement of the Director of Public Works. He said that a selection was never made and that we still do not have a replacement for Mr. Iverson. He said that Dale Langlais is

the current Acting Director but would like to have a discussion on the process to select a Director of Public Works.

Council Vice-President Farrar said that he feels that Dale Langlais is doing a great job but that he is not interested in doing the job long term.

Councilman Salisbury suggested advertising in the Valley Breeze for one week and contact the people that applied the first time. He said that he feels too much emphasis was put on education and being a Professional Engineer (PE).

Councilman Collins said that he feels that the Council should give the new search committee a clear direction of what they looking for. He said that he feels that it is more important to have management skills and be able to work with the unions.

Councilman Collins said that the Council has to be very specific and clear cut about what qualifications are needed.

Council President Budway said that he feels that the job description was quite general, and if we are going to go through the process again, he suggests that the Council look over the applications and interview and make the decision.

Rudy Bettez, Hope Furnace Road, asked why it was in the job description that you had to be a PE.

Council President Budway told him that being a PE was not in the job description and, he said that he would be happy to have Town Clerk Long provide him with a copy.

Town Treasurer Przybyla said that he reviewed the Rambone contract and feels that it is a reasonable price adjustment. He said that they are asking for a 15% increase for the remainder of the contract. He said that equates to approximately \$121,655.00. He said that they said this is necessary because of the huge increase in fuel prices. He said that he tried to extrapolate the increase and he got a figure of \$127,000. He said that Rambone was the lowest bidder bY a substantial amount.

Councilman Salisbury said that he supports the 15 % increase for remainder of the first year and the second year of the contract. He said that in the third year we can see what the fluctuations are and determine the price.

Council Vice-President Farrar said that John Rambone is a good man, and it is a good company that takes pride in their work. He said that if fuel and other prices go down, we can ask for a reduction.

Councilman Salisbury said that Foster already approve the increase a few months ago. He feels the increase is justified, and even with the increase Rambone's price, it is still a lot lower than the nearest bidder.

Councilwoman Knowlton said that she is always getting complaints that there is no where to drop off your recycling if you miss the pickup day. She suggested that we ask Rambone if they could put three large recycle containers at the Highway garage, one for can and bottles, one for cardboard and one for white goods.

Councilman Salisbury said that he is sure that Rambone will do that for the Town not matter if we agree to the increase or not. He said that Rambone has always done whatever the Town has asked of them.

Tim McCormick, Trimtown Road said that maybe the Town should look into using the Department of Energy diesel fuel adjuster.

Councilman Salisbury suggested using that indicator in the third year of the contract.

Councilwoman Knowlton said that she recently met with Sarah Kite and reviewed various recycling programs. She said that she has a lot of good ideas to encourage people to recycle.

Motion made by Councilman Salisbury, seconded by councilman Collins and voted consent agreement to increase their contract price by 15% for the next 14 months, and then after that, use the Department of Energy statistics to protect both parties.

David Provonsil explained the next item. He said that DEM approved our waste water plan. He said that since they approved it, now our residents can now apply for very low interest loans to repair their septic systems. He said that now the Town is in partnership with DEM, but the Town will have to back up the loans. He said that one half of the communities in State participate in this program. He said that Jay Manning from DEM is here to speak to the Council and answer any questions.

Jay Manning explained that the loans are at 2% interest and that there is a 10 year pay back. He said that the process is very simple and it is done through RIMFAC. He said if a homeowner defaulted on a loan, the Town would only be responsible for the unpaid principal and not the interest. He said that at that point, the Town could lien the property for amount owed. He said that this program is very straight forward and simple.

Councilman Winfield said that he would like to have the Town Solicitor review this agreement.

General discussion followed.

No further action was taken on this agenda item.

Town Clerk Long said that she has come up with some ideas concerning the placement of the agendas in other buildings other than Town Hall, to try to maximize the exposure.

Motion made by Councilman Winfield, seconded by Councilman Collins and voted by consent agreement to pay early expenses of \$155,328.79, regular Council expenses of \$19,025.15 and supplemental Council expenses of \$55,117.63 for a total of \$229,471.57

Council President Budway said that a closed session will not be needed this evening.

During Council remarks, Councilman Salisbury wanted to congratulate the Scituate Spartans Girl's Lacrosse team for the winning the State Championship and the Scituate Spartans Girl's softball team for placing 2nd in the State finials.

Councilman Budway wanted to thank everyone for coming this evening and especially Wayne Carlow and his band for the great performance.

Council President Budway said that he would like to read a statement into the official record that was given to him. "before we continue with the program, I have the distinct pleasure of presenting the Northeast States Emergency Consortium's 2008 Rhode

Island Emergency Management Director of the Year Award. This year's recipient has worked tirelessly both on the local and state levels to increase our preparedness. Leading the charge, this individual worked with his surrounding communities to create a regional sheltering initiative that worked to leverage the strengths of each community into a cohesive organization. Additionally, this individual can be seen on the roads helping to meet the needs of his community during any disaster. Please join me in congratulating Rich Tucker, Director of Scituate Emergency Management of Rhode Island's 2008 Emergency Management Director of the Year."

Council President congratulated Mr. Richard Tucker on the award. He said that he heard that when he won this award he said that it really isn't a big deal he said they pay me to do this job.

Motion made by Councilman Collins, seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar and voted by consent agreement to adjourn at 9:45 PM and to keep the minutes of the meeting previously closed to the public; closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 and allow the Town Clerk 14 days to prepare the minutes of the meeting. For complete discussion, refer to audio tape.

Attest:

Margaret M. Long, Town Clerk