

Amesbury Municipal Council Minutes

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

7:00PM Town Hall Auditorium

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor McClure

Roll Call: Mario Pinierio, Michelle Thone, Roger Benson, Thomas Iacobucci, Ann Connolly King, Robert Lavoie, Alison Lindstrom, Donna McClure

Christopher Lawrence absent

Councilor Thone chairs the meeting

Public Comment

Michael Greaney, 50 Orchard Street – Mr. Greaney states the tax rate has gone down but the amount people are paying in taxes has increased. Mr. Greaney would like to have copies of the CIP available to Amesbury residents in the town hall lobby. He would like to see the Mayor negotiate a better contract with the unions.

Public Hearings

Licenses and Permits

2007-096 Common Victualler – Ale House, 37 Friend Street

Bonni Kitchin states it is just a name change from Tanya's Pizza to Ale House.

Councilor Benson moves for approval of 2007-096 as submitted – Voted – Unanimous

2007-102 Auto Class II – Carzamerica, 207 Elm Street

Councilor Benson abstains from 2007-102

Councilor Thone reads 2007-102 into the record

Benjamin Russell, 188 Storey Ave, Newburyport, MA – Mr. Russell states he plans to operate a Class II used car dealer license at 207 Elm Street.

Councilor Iacobucci asks Mr. Russell about his experience. Mr. Russell states he has been in the car business for about 15 years, primarily out of Natick Mass.

Councilor Iacobucci moved for approval subject to all the necessary permits and approval of the other town boards. – Voted 7 Yes, 1 abstain (Benson)

Mayoral Appointments

2007-103 Paul C. Rogers, Jr. member Council on Aging term to expire 6/30/10

Councilor Thone read 2007-103 into the record.

Paul C. Rogers, 2 Hillside Ave. – Mr. Rogers has been a licensed funeral director in Amesbury since 1975.

Councilor Pinierio thanked Mr. Rogers for coming forward to be on the Council on Aging.

Councilor Iacobucci asks Mr. Rogers what being a burial agent entails. He states it is for when a funeral director comes from out of town and the town offices are closed he is able to issue burial permits.

Councilor Lavoie moves for approval of 2007-103 as submitted by the Mayor – Voted Unanimous

Reports by Officials, Boards and Commissions/Special presentations

Councilor Lindstrom asks for a final report from the ad-hoc committee on Bailey Pond.

Councilor Thone asks Bonnijo Kitchin to ask the Chairman Allen Neale to schedule a meeting of the ad-hoc committee for the purposes of submitting a final report

Measures

2007-080 Request the Municipal Council vote to accept an \$8,000.00 donation from the American Academy of Dermatology – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont.

Councilor Thone reads 2007-080 into the record, opens the public hearing and closes it.

2007-082 An Order to vote to appropriate \$390,264.00 for FY08 Whittier Regional Vocational budget – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont.

Councilor Thone reads 2007-082 into the record and opens the public hearing.

Councilor Pinierio asks if \$390,264 is the balance due. Councilor Thone believes it is.

Councilor Thone closes the public hearing.

2007-084 An Order to accept \$49,875.00 Community Policing Grant – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont.

Councilor Thone reads 2007-084 into the record and opens the public hearing.

Councilor Pinierio states there are no supporting documents and it does not state how the police intend to use it.

Councilor McClure states the finance committee looked at the dollars associated with the grant not the programs.

Councilor Thone closes the public hearing on 2007-084.

2007-085 An Order to approve payment of a prior fiscal year invoice from current fiscal year appropriations – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont. (still in committee)

Councilor Thone states 2007-085 is still in committee and the Finance Committee is still waiting for information, it is continued until the next council meeting.

2007-088 An Order to appropriate \$1,000,000.00 for Capital Expenditures – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont. (still in committee)

Councilor Thone states 2007-088 is still in committee and the Finance Committee is still waiting for information, it is continued until the next council meeting.

Second Readings

2007-080 Request the Municipal Council vote to accept an \$8,000 donation from the American Academy of Dermatology – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont.

Councilor Thone read 2007-080 into the record.

Councilor McClure states the Finance Committee voted unanimously to accept as submitted.

Councilor Benson moved the recommendation of the Finance Committee to accept as submitted.

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous

2007-082 An Order to vote to appropriate \$390,264.00 for FY08 Whittier Regional Vocational budget – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont.

Councilor Thone read 2007-082 into the record.

Councilor McClure read the recommendation of the Finance Committee to accept, voted unanimously.

Councilor Lavoie asks if all the other communities voted the appropriation, Councilor McClure states Newburyport has not.

*Councilor Benson moved the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve 2007-082.
Roll Call Voted – 7 Yes, 1 No (Pinierio)*

2007-084 An Order to accept \$49,875.00 Community Policing Grant – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont.
Councilor Thone read 2007-084 into the record.

Councilor McClure read the recommendation of the Finance Committee to accept, voted unanimously.

Councilor Lindstrom moved to table 2007-084 until a representative from the Police Department comes to the meeting to explain the programs.

Kendra Amaral explains that the Community Policing grant is received annually from the state and it supports the community policing programs including the citizen academy, car seats, neighborhood crime watch, special training for the police to do neighborhood crime prevention activities and equipment. Officer Hanshaw goes over to the Senior Center on a regular basis and meets with the seniors about safety.

Councilor Pinierio asks if the car seat program is still going on, Kendra Amaral informs him it is.

Councilor Lindstrom asks if the police are creating programs specifically for the grant, Kendra Amaral replies absolutely not.

Councilor Lindstrom withdraws her motion without prejudice.

*Councilor Benson moved for approval of 2007-084 as submitted.
Roll Call Vote – Unanimous*

2007-085 An Order to approve payment of a prior fiscal year invoice from current fiscal year appropriations – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont. (still in committee)
Councilor Thone states it is still in committee and it will be continued.

2007-088 An Order to appropriate \$1,000,000.00 for Capital Expenditures – Mayor Kezer sponsor cont (still in committee)
Councilor Thone states this is still in committee and will be continued.

First Readings

2007-097 A Request to petition the General Court for Common Victualler All Alcohol Licenses under MGL, Ch. 138, Sec. 12 – Mayor Kezer sponsor
Councilor Thone read 2007-097 into the record.
Councilor Benson moves to refer 2007-097 to the Ordinance Committee. Voted – Unanimous

2007-098 An Order to transfer \$20,200.00 from Ambulance Receipts to purchase Ambulance Billing and Data Collection Program – Mayor Kezer sponsor
Councilor Thone read 2007-098 into the record.
Councilor Lavoie motioned to refer 2007-098 to the Finance Committee and schedule a Public Hearing at the November 13, 2007 Council meeting. Voted – Unanimous

2007-099 An Order to accept a \$4,000.00 donation from Amesbury Healthcare Charitable Trust – Mayor Kezer sponsor
Councilor Thone read 2007-099 into the recorded.

Councilor Benson motioned to refer 2007-099 to the Finance Committee – Voted Unanimous

2007-100 An Order to accept \$207,176.00 Federal Fire Act Grant – Mayor Kezer sponsor
Councilor Thone read 2007-100 into the record.

Councilor McClure motioned to refer 2007-100 to the Finance Committee. Voted – Unanimous

2007-104 An Order to surplus Municipal Vehicles – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Councilor Thone read 2007-104 into the record.

Councilor Benson motioned to refer 2007-104 to the Finance Committee – Voted Unanimous

Late File

Councilor Thone asked for a motion to accept late files.

Councilor Benson motioned to accept late files – Voted Unanimous

2007-105 Amesbury Resolution – Councilor Iacobucci sponsor

Councilor Thone read 2007-105 into the record.

Councilor Iacobucci motioned for the Council to approve 2007-105. Voted – Unanimous

2007-092 **Correspondence:** Re: Amesbury House of Pizza

Councilor Thone read 2007-092 into the record.

Councilor Lavoie motioned that the council vote to withdraw and rescind the conditional approval represented by 2007-092. Voted – Unanimous

Correspondence

Communication from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions

2007-101 November 6, 2007 Election Warrant

Councilor Benson motioned for approval of 2007-101 as submitted – Voted Unanimous

Councilor Benson motioned to adjourn – Voted Unanimous