

Peter Morin
President
District 6

David M. Ringius, J
At Large

Julia C. Flaherty
At Large

Ryan Sterling
At Large



Elizabeth Maglio
Vice President
District 3

James Daiute
District 1

Joseph Reynolds
District 2

Annmary Quilty
District 4

Meredith Boericke
District 5

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Council was held in the Cahill Auditorium, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 beginning at 7:30p.m.

Council President Morin was in the chair.

Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Peter Morin, President
Elizabeth Maglio, Vice President
David M. Ringius, Jr.
Julia Flaherty
Ryan Sterling
James Daiute
Ann Quilty
Meredith Boericke

Not Present: Joseph Reynolds

Also Present: Michael Esmond, Finance Director
Kristina O'Connell, Treasurer/Collector
Peter Matchak, Director Planning & Community Development

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- December 16, 2025

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Minutes of December 16, 2025

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

- January 2, 2026

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Minutes of January 2, 2026

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

- January 6, 2026

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Minutes of January 6, 2026

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Braintree's 4th Annual Lunar New Year event hosted by CAAB (Chinese American Association of Braintree) Sunday, February 15, 2026 12pm-4pm at Braintree High School, 128 Town Street (Free Admission)

Martin Luther King Day morning of service

Councilor Boericke stated I just wanted to say thank you to all of our incredible community volunteers who braved the snow yesterday and Sunday afternoon to assist with our Martin Luther King Day morning of service. We were able to make 250 bag lunches for folks at Father Bill's. Special thanks to Councilors Morin and Flaherty, our facilities team who set up the entire room. Our Rotary Club, Troop 138, and volunteers from Sheriff McDermott's office, as well as all of our community volunteers. Father Bills provides tons of services for those who need it most, especially those struggling with homelessness.

Skyline Community Meeting for residents of Skyline via Zoom on Thursday, January 29th. You can reach out to Councilor Maglio. All residents are welcome.

OLD BUSINESS

- **25 065** Mayor: Request for Appropriation - Braintree Cannon Wheel Replacement – CPA Application or take up any action relative thereto (**Public Hearing**)

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Order 25 065

Motion by Councilor Maglio to Open Public Hearing for Order 25 065

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Open the Public Hearing for Order 25 065

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means met and voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 25 065.

Council President Morin asked if anyone from the mayor's staff would like to speak on this.

Peter Matchak, Director of Planning & Community Development stated I'm here representing the Mayor's Office. I'm here to answer any questions. I am with Derek Manning, President of the Historical Society.

Chairwoman Boericke stated just to provide some additional background information on this. So the committee actually met twice on this issue. It is not a large sum of money. It's under \$5,000. It's \$4,875. But we wanted to make sure that there would be a plan in place for the Historical Society, who is the applicant for this funding, to have a maintenance plan. So we did have two meetings on this, and we were very impressed and satisfied, I think I can speak on behalf of the committee, that Derek Manning, who is the current president of the Historical Society, who is of wealth of knowledge, especially with historic preservation, assured us they have an annual maintenance plan to make sure that the funds that are voting on this evening are well spent.

It's also important just to remind anyone watching at home. Community Preservation Act funds are not coming out of our general operating budget. They are set aside one percent of our tax property taxes go to this fund that they can only be used for recreation improvement space, affordable housing and historic preservation and this squarely calls in a historic preservation and obviously is an important monument for our community.

Council President Morin asked if anyone from the general public would like to speak on Order 25 065. Seeing none.

Council President Morin asked for a Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 25 065

Motion by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 25 065

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to CLOSE the Public Hearing for Order 25 065

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

Council President Morin asked for the Motion for Order 25 065:

Councilor Maglio read the following Motion:

MOTION: In accordance with the provisions of MGL c.44B, and with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, the amount of \$4,875.00 to be expended from the Historic Resources Fund for the Braintree Cannon Wheel Replacement; said funding to be supervised and expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee / Director of Planning and Community Development.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 25 065

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

- **25 069** Mayor: Authorization for Tax Payment Agreements pursuant to MGL Part I, Title IX, Chapter 60, Section 62A or take up any action relative thereto

Council President Morin asked for a recommendation from Councilor Boericke, Chairwoman of the Committee of Ways & Means.

Chairwoman Boericke stated the Committee of Ways & Means met and voted for a unanimous favorable recommendation to the full Council on Order 25 069.

Council President Morin asked if anyone from the mayor's staff would like to speak on this.

Kristina O'Connell, Treasurer/Collector explained so, residents are all well aware that tax, real estate taxes are due in the town for a quarter, and people either pay quarterly or semi-annually. But what we've got here is when individuals or residents, whether they be, whether they're commercial or residential, when they find themselves unable to pay their real estate taxes, they will fall into delinquency for these taxes. Normally, what happens is we just start to go through our demand, we'll call it a demand process. We're going to send you another one. You haven't paid your bills in demand notice, and then after such time, the town has the ability to put you into what's called tax title, which effectively putting a lien on your property and making encumbrance such that you can't sell it, or you will have difficulty refinancing it if the refinance is for purposes of a resale. So when you find yourself in a tax title position again, which is simply having a tax lien on your property, you find yourself in an interesting predicament because the interest that accrues on these balances, it actually goes down. So once you find yourself in tax title, your interest will start to recruit a 14% rate. That's really high, but when you are in pre-collection, if you have a tax debt and you haven't paid yet, you're gonna have to pay 14% on the amount that's due. Once you go into this, that is a lot of tax interest to be paying. What we want to do is give people the opportunity to waive that, to come into the office, to enter into an agreement with us, and we would say, hey, you've got a tax debt at the time of our entry. We have a lien on your property. Let's try to work something out so that I can take away some of that interest that you owe in exchange for you paying on some of this.

It's a situation that tries to find a balance between what the resident can pay, gives a collection option for the town to allow us to try to bring more revenue in that otherwise might not. And why do I say

that? Because we have 146 properties with tax liens on them. In the private industry, you might say these are bad. Some of these are bad, hey, they're uncomfortable. But here in municipal government, we keep them on the rolls forever. So they feel like that. In some cases, they've been on the rolls since 1972. We're not going to see these people walking through the door letting the audience know that. So we need to incentivize these people to walk through. The incentive that mass general law has provided the municipality is that, hey, you can enter into a payment agreement with these folks. Taking that, reducing the interest that they owe in exchange for them giving you some of the money that they owe you. We can waive some of that pursuant to mass general law if the council allows it. The way we would do this is we would enter into a mutually agreeable payment agreement between the resident and that mutually agreeable, the terms of that are pretty well set by Mass General Law. I will say, of course, you may or may not be aware, but Mass General Law changed the terms of those payment agreements, on November 1st of 2024. But what they are right now, and just so that everybody's aware, these payment agreements could last up to 10 years. They could allow the town to waive up to 100% of the treasurer's interest. That's the interest that starts to accrue at that 14% rate after they own the tax. So you walk through the door, you need to put 10% down. We can come up with an agreement where you pay back the money for a period of up to 10 years. I would say no shorter than six, but up to 10 years. And I could potentially waive on behalf of the town 100% of that treasurer interest. So, again, why would we do this? Why would we waive, potentially, more revenue for the town, right? I mean, I don't know for everybody who's thinking that. And the idea is that we wouldn't collect it otherwise. It's just a simple answer. These people are not manning down our door to pay these tax balances. Again, 146 properties. It's \$2.2 million of interest, taxes, penalties. If we want to try to collect some of this, we have got to incentivize people to walk in the door that wouldn't have walked in otherwise. And this is that incentive. We would, the finance department, we would work together to come up with a desktop policy guide to make sure that this is absolutely, fairly across the town to all the people who want it. The agreements would be in writing. The agreements would be mutually agreeable to both the town and the resident. And we also would have additional specifics of no penalty for prepayment. That's much akin to mortgages for the most part. If you want to pay it off earlier you can. Again, a minimum of 10% down. If you're all of a sudden in a hardship, something changed in your life, you can come to us, let us know, and we can stay the payment agreement until your situation settles back out. However, at the same time, if you fail to apply for the terms of the payment agreement, if you stop paying for any reason and don't communicate with the Director of Collector's Office, that payment agreement, there's simply not a lot of room or bandwidth to go back and forth about trying to figure out what happened to a payment agreement. We have to be consistent and we have to be effective in administering these. If people do not audit the terms of the payment agreement, the payment agreement is canceled and everything, all interest that was originally waived is reinstated. Other smaller housekeeping items, if you're in bankruptcy, you can't enter into one of these agreements. The town agrees not to enter for foreclosure on your property while you're actively in a payment agreement. And we will consider your payment agreement terms based on your ability to pay.

Treasurer/Collector O'Connell stated we're not currently going to ask for any documentation to determine your financial standing. We're not going to try to say, okay, well, you have certain amount of assets that you can enter into this agreement. You have too many assets you can't. We're not going to require that level of detail, but we are going to take each individual's circumstances into consideration. It's fair and decent. And that's really one of the fair and decent to the resident, also looking out for the needs of the town, which is to collect this revenue. So that's what we want to do. The town has never had this option before. We see, although this law has been on the books of Mass General Law for a while, again, it changed and updated it just last year, but the town has never, given the treasurer or

collector the option to waive interest in exchange, or pardon, to waive interest as part of a payment agreement. So we are very enthusiastic about it, but it's another option for the treasurer or collector to collect money on behalf of the town. I think it's a great opportunity for the resident to avail themselves and, I don't want to call it an amnesty program, but it gives them an opportunity to maybe pay a debt that they couldn't have paid otherwise. So, it feels like a win-win.

Councilor Maglio explained that one of the pieces that I missed the first time we were talking about it, and we talked, we had a conversation about it, and you mentioned it tonight again, that I want to just underscore for residents is that there's no amount of tax burden that is going to be waived. It's just a portion of the interest. And you have said that, but I think it's important to highlight that. Because everybody is responsible for their tax burden, and this is an opportunity to actually bring some movement and some forward motion to that, and to get some of that outstanding money paid. And so it's just that slight portion of treasurer's interest that would be waived.

Treasurer/Collector O'Connell stated thank you for the clarification, councilor. There are effectively four components to a tax lien debt. You've got the basic tax debt, which can never be waived under any circumstances. You've got the collector's interest, which is the interest that accrues before the lien is placed. So let's say you're 30 days overdue, you're 60 days overdue. I'm sending you demand notices. I might be using yellow paper, but it doesn't mean that I placed a lien on your house yet. That interest, that's called a collector's interest, that is not wave able because that's on the books as a receivable on the ledger and we don't want to mess with that. There are fees associated with it. It costs us money to post your delinquency in your general ledger. It costs me money to go put this on your property. It costs me \$10.40 to mail your certified registered letter. All those fees are not wave able.

What is wave able is the treasurer's interest. That is the interest that starts to occur after I place you into tax title. So it doesn't impact our bottom line. It doesn't impact our financial reporting in any way because it has not been booked as a receivable. So it is wave able. That is the only portion of this that is wave able.

Councilor Flaherty stated I wanted to add is that I think this is a great way to open the door to resolve some outstanding tax debt, by making the prospect of beginning payment feel less overwhelming. I think this is a very people-oriented idea, because it will make it feel less overwhelming, and also make it more financially manageable to begin making payments and then get the ball rolling towards eliminating not just the debt, but also all the stress and anxiety that having such a burden over someone's head creates. So I think that this can be a huge help, not just to making our accounting whole, but for, the people who are experiencing these circumstances.

President Morin stated having worked with a community that has adopted this, and seen it work, I've seen a treasurer/collector be able to work with residents to retain the property that they've owned had circumstances that have placed them behind. You know, the success rate is very high in getting people back on track. It is important for us to collect every dollar that is owed. It is less important to try to collect interest on people who fall behind. If they are willing to work with us to get back on track. So I commend the mayor's office and the ways and means for their careful deliberation on this matter.

Council President Morin asked for the Motion for Order 25 069:

Councilor Maglio read the following Motion:

MOTION: I move that the Town Council enact an amendment to Section 2.630.020 of the Code of the Town of Braintree by adding subsection N as follows:

N. The Treasurer/Collector is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Town of Braintree, to enter into tax payment agreements with qualifying Braintree property owners, to the fullest extent permitted in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 62A, as may be amended from time to time.

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to approve Order 25 069

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

- **002 26** Council President: Town Council Rules Review or take up any action relative thereto

Town Council Rules

Rule Sixty-One: Adoption of Rules

These rules will be reviewed and adopted within 90 days after the first Council Meeting in every even year.

Councilor Ringius stated this was tabled in the Committee on Ordinance & Rules meeting earlier this evening for further review. If any councilor has any suggestions or revisions please forward them to Clerk Cimino for the committee to review at a future date.

Motion made by Councilor Maglio:

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Table item 002 26 to a future meeting

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS

- 003 26 Council President: Town Council FY27 Budget

Account Description	Explanation of Spending	Proposed FY 27 Budget	FY 26 Budget	FY 25 Budget	FY 24 Budget	Notes
Administrative/Clerical	Town Charter	\$89,606 plus COLA	\$89,606	\$83,645	\$80,809	Clerk of the Council salary
Cell Phone	24/7	\$600	\$600	\$600.00	\$600.00	Clerk of the Council cell phone
Elected Officials	Town Charter	\$47,500	\$47,500	\$47,500	\$47,500	Stipend
Auditor Fee	Town Charter	\$57,000	\$57,000	\$57,000	\$57,000	P&S now (CBIZ)
Consultant	Cut in FY25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Legal needs/feasibility studies
Advertising	Legal Ads	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	M.G.L. newspaper publications for public hearings
Technology	Cut in FY24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Covered iPad chargers and other accessories
Postage	Cut in FY24	\$100	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Printing	Reduced by \$100 in FY25	\$300	\$350	\$350	\$450.00	Approx. cost of one box business cards for each Councilor (\$50)
Office Supplies	Only covers printer cartridges	\$1,500	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	Printer Cartridges ~ \$600 per purchase and need 2x per year
Council Meetings	Reduced by \$200 FY25	\$2,000	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$2,000	All other office supplies and meeting needs, commendations, etc.
Mileage	Cut to zero FY24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	In TC Rules
Dues/Memberships/Subscrip.	Covers cost of one MMA conference per Councilor	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$2,250	\$2,250	In TC Rules (approx. \$300 pp)
Reserve Fund	Cut in FY23	\$350,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Town Auditor (CLA)	Previous years we budgeted about \$75,000 3-yr. average spent is ~\$61K; ~\$7K encumbered each year	\$62,500	\$62,500	\$65,000	\$65,000	Town Charter

President Morin stated I wanted the opportunity for the council to discuss today and at our next meeting the budget proposal that we would put together for consideration by the mayor in the mayors FY27 budget.

I've consulted with Clerk Cimino about funding levels for the various items in the in the council budget. It is a modest budget, by any means, and we are not in all but one line looking for any major increases but I did want to call the council's attention to the reserve fund that is included in our budget. It was the, reserve fund as was distributed in the materials for preparation in this meeting statute allows for. creation of a reserve fund for unanticipated and emergency circumstances for spending during a fiscal year.

You can have up to 5% of your operational budget placed in a reserve fund that is placed under, in a municipality it's placed under the council's authority. But any spending from it comes at the initiation, solely at the initiation of the mayor. Again, it can be for up to 5% of an operational budget. In most cases and in most municipalities, it is not good financial practice, usually calls for one-half of 1% of an operational budget to be placed into a reserve fund.

It's spent on things like, Snow and Ice removal. If there's damage to a vehicle that puts it out of service and we need to buy a replacement vehicle. There are various things that come up that are unforeseen during the course of the fiscal year. I would point out in a budget booklet for FY2026 in the narrative, there were \$2 million spent in FY25, more than the adopted budget for FY25.

\$1.1 million was related to fire salary/over time. \$300,000 was worth of unforeseen expenses in utilities. \$125,000 in legal expenses. \$62,000 in insurance. \$118,000 in other operating budget expenses. We filled these needs through free cash transfers largely. When we had a vehicle that needed to be replaced, we had to borrow because we didn't have a reserve fund.

That struck me, and it was my first Ways and Means meeting as a councilor, it struck me that we had defunded this fund in FY23 and never replenished it. I think we're still in a period of recovery. I think we're in a much, much better place than we were two years ago when we attended that meeting and we had to borrow to pay for a cruiser. I am not asking for one-half of one percent of our operating budget which would be \$875,000 to be put in, but I think we should have. And I think \$350,000, because it was a portion, I still think that's still too high, but I think we should see this fund with \$100,000 at least so that it is available for emergent circumstances rather than going into free cash. I think, you know, when rating agencies and bond rating agencies look at our procedures and see that we've established reserve funds for emergent circumstances, they look at that more favorably than when we're availing ourselves of free cash. It looks like we've prepared ourselves. And though we may not be able to do it to the extent that we would like to, we should get back to having this fund available at the mayor's initiative to be used for emergencies. I think it's a prudent step. It's similar to other steps that we've taken, such as the special education stabilization fund and other steps that we've taken to get back on the right track on appropriate fiscal reserve policies.

President Morin stated with that I'll open it up to the Council for any comments on the budget, any areas of interest that they have or would like to see addressed.

Councilor Boericke stated I'm unclear on how a reserve fund in the town council's budget is different than the establishment of any other reserve fund that would be created. So that's the first question. The second thing that I think, when I look at this, where I see a big, giant, gaping hole is zero in the legal section and the consultants, which we also had to cut because of dire financial needs. To have \$350,000 in a reserve fund that's at the behest of the mayor and nothing for a legal counsel, which in my opinion, and I know we've had this discussion, at least for four years we do not have our own legal representation which hampers our ability to work on new ordinances to do investigations to get

opinions because we have to root everything through the mayor's office depending on who's in that corner office that could either stymie or fast track any number of requests. So I'm a little hesitant to put a bucket of money in there before we fund anything. We have zero right now for a legal counsel for the town council. So those two comments to sort of kick off the conversation.

Councilor Maglio stated when I look at this and I see zeros in the lines of technology and \$300 for printing and the fact that there was one other that was just outrageously small um I remember when these were first being cut like this is actually chipping away at democracy if we don't have a system place to provide recordings and minutes and documentation and printouts and you know it's 2026 we can't be working from iPads that are from 2018/2017. We have our own technology and so we're making it through but in terms of a town body to function we need some of those elements restored. Clerk Cimino I would look to you for advice and input on places where you, when it gets to be that time, I would look for where, what would help you the most in doing your job, which is to support all nine of us.

Clerk Cimino stated I do believe technology and new iPads or whatever, everybody decides whether a laptop or iPad - I don't know if it would be in the budget, but that's definitely something that needs to be thought of. The new councilors had a little bit of a trial period trying to get on to the old iPad, and I feel like new technology would be really helpful. Then instead of printing out documents every time for meetings as well.

Councilor Flaherty stated I certainly can see how it is exceptionally prudent to have reserve in our budget. I guess I just want to understand, how such a fund works to a greater extent. How it's distinguished from the realization fund and why would we strategically plant a lot of money, even if we brought it down to \$100,000 what you said was a little more appropriate, that's a little more than 1/3rd of a total sum of everything that's in there, and it's, you know, a salary. So, strategically, why would we decentralize our Reserve funds and put them department by department rather than a large one there to service the whole budget, should there be a need.

President Morin explained this is a Reserve fund for the entire budget. This is not for the Council. This is supposed to act as a reserve fund that's put aside for unexpected or emerging circumstances that impact the entire. So, when the, for instance, when the police department, had a cruiser accident, this fund would have been available in most other communities, but we zeroed it out in FY23, so we had to borrow money. And what I'm trying to avoid is getting into situations where if we have an emergency like that in the fiscal year in any department, that there are funds that are available, that aren't taken from free cash. How this is distinguished from a stabilization fund is a stabilization fund requires a two-thirds vote. So to have money taken from it and appropriate, this requires a strict majority vote. It's both are at the initiative of the mayor. This just requires a simple majority vote. And again, it's at the behest of the mayor. It is supposed to be put aside for any emergency that happens in any department. This expedites the process in a way that... Particularly more effective than in towns who would otherwise have to go to town meeting in these issues, but in a council, this is also, it would serve us much better than having it zero funded. It shows that we're doing things the right way than going through free cash to solve it. Where the funds would come from is, in my view, would not be from the levy. I would say, I would take it similarly as in the FY26 budget \$300,000 was taken from overlay. You have it declared surplus by the assessors, and you move it into the, into the, to use it to fund the reserve fund. And so it has no impact on the monies raised for levy for other purposes. So it wouldn't be affecting anybody's

ability or the ability of the town to pay for a salary. And sacrificing that to fund it. You would be just utilizing overlay surplus that you don't need to settle abatements on assessment, things like that. Push that in, and rather than having it declared free cash, and then going into free cash and pulling out to pay, it's in a reserve fund set aside for an emergency circumstance. It demonstrates to rating agencies that we're being responsible, prudent, and forward-thinking in how we put money aside for emergencies that we're not doing now. And so you pay, hopefully our bond rating will recover as a result of doing something like this. So yeah, we're putting money that's in overlay into a reserve fund. We're going to pay less interest, hopefully, on what we borrow because we're doing this. So that's strategically, I think. We take a little from overlay surplus, we don't take anything from the levy, we put it into a fund that the mayor can initiate the use of for any purpose in town government, and we, hold harmless our levy. So, I just think this makes sense. Finding the right number to reestablish this, I think, you know, if we're serious about it, we have to have 6 figures in here. I totally agree that there are other needs that we should address in the budget. I would ask you to forward your ideas for increasing or decreasing any amounts in this proposed budget to the clerk so that they can be fully considered at the next meeting and we can finalize what we put in our proposal to the mayor at the next council meeting.

Councilor Boericke stated I think where I'm just trying to understand I recollect for this evening's meeting my reading I think that the finance director was going to come up with some policies, and guidelines that were going to be written down on reserve funds and stabilization funds and all make a manner of um and I'm fully supportive of getting a reserve fund established I think where I'm just trying to get my head around is why isn't the town council budget and not in its own thing its own budget its own bucket I know we had a we created we created a special ed fund we created a I think a building stabilization fund and I just I'm not clear on why this would go in the town council budget. And, again, maybe we can get an answer at the next meeting. I think it is incredibly important to have a reserve fund. I'm just a little flummoxed as to why it would be part of the town council budget.

President Morin replied it's mainly the guidance provided in the statute that its placed there. (MGL Chapter 40 Section 5A)

This was tabled to a future meeting so members could review the proposed budget and submit any revisions or proposals they may have.

Motion made by Councilor Maglio:

Motion: by Councilor Maglio to Table item 003 26 to a future meeting

Second: by Councilor Ringius

Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS

President Morin asked is there a Motion to move all remaining items under new business to their respective committee(s)?

Councilor Maglio made a **MOTION**: to refer all new business to their respective committee(s):

Refer to the Committee on Personnel Issues

- 26 002 Council President: Appointment – Town Clerk or take up any action relative thereto
Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee on Personnel Issues Order 26 002
Second: by Councilor Ringius
Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)
- 26 003 Council President: Re-Appointment – Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino or take up any action relative thereto
Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee on Personnel Issues Order 26 003
Second: by Councilor Ringius
Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)
- 26 004 Council President: Appointment – Town Auditor or take up any action relative thereto
Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee on Personnel Issues Order 26 004
Second: by Councilor Ringius
Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

Refer to the Committee of Ways & Means

- 26 005 Mayor: FY2026 Supplemental Appropriation #1 or take up any action relative thereto
Motion: by Councilor Maglio to refer to the Committee of Ways & Means Order 26 005
Second: by Councilor Ringius
Vote: For (8 – Boericke, Daiute, Flaherty, Maglio, Morin, Quilty, Ringius, Sterling),
Against (0), Absent (1 - Reynolds), Abstain (0)

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 @ 7:30pm

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:17p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Cimino, Clerk of the Council