

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
April 20, 2020

I. ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on April 20, 2020. This meeting was held pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-05, executed by Governor Gina Raimondo and was teleconferenced via Zoom. The public access code to participate by phone was 646-558-8656 or 253-215 8782. To participate by computer or mobile app: <https://zoom.us/j/442236140> Meeting ID: 442 236 140. Town Council Members present were as follows: Michael G. White, Mary Meagher, Nancy A. Beye, William J. Piva, Jr. and Randy White. Also present Town Administrator Jamie A. Hainsworth, Finance Director Christina D. Collins, Town Solicitor Peter D. Ruggiero, Chief of Police Edward A. Mello, Parks & Recreation Director Andrew Wade, Public Works Director Michael Gray and Town Planner, Lisa Bryer.

II. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Council President White called the meeting of the Jamestown Town Council to order at 6:36 P.M. in the Jamestown Town Hall, Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers at 93 Narragansett Avenue, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATOR, SOLICITOR, COMMISSION/COMMITTEE COMMENTS & REPORTS

Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Council May Review, Discuss and/or take Action and/or Vote on the following items:

- A) Town Administrator's Report: Jamie A. Hainsworth-
- 1) Discussion on COVID-19 Emergency Declaration

Town Administrator Hainsworth provided an update on the Town's response to Covid-19.

Vice President Meagher thanked Town Administrator Hainsworth and Town Staff for all their work during this difficult time.

Councilor White echoed the thanks and stated he was very proud on the response of Jamestown.

- 2) FY 2020-2021 Town Administrator's Proposed Budget Update

Town Administrator Hainsworth discussed the difficulty with the budget process due to COVID-19.

- 3) Jamestown Arts Center Public Art Project Jamestown Arts Center

Town Administrator Hainsworth advised on the project.

- 4) Mail Ballot Voting Presidential Preference Primary

Town Administrator Hainsworth advised the Primary has been postponed to June 2nd and it is encouraged to utilize Mail Ballots.

- 5) Jamestown Library Renovation Project Status Update

Town Administrator Hainsworth advised the Board has yet to meet; however they will be pursuing bond funding.

Vice President Meagher further advised on OLIS funding.

6) Tax Assessment Board of Review Appeal Hearing

Town Administrator Hainsworth stated Tax Appeal Hearings were held by conference call and he also thanked Tax Assessor Brochu on a job well done.

B) Public Works Director Report: Michael Gray

- 1) Town project reports
 - a) Town Wells
 - b) Water Treatment Plant
- 2) Pumping report
 - a) Transfer Pumping/Reservoir
 - b) Distribution System
 - c) Wastewater Treatment Facility

Public Works Director Gray advised on operations.

C) Finance Director's Report: Christina D. Collins

- 1) Comparison of Budget to Actuals as of March 31, 2020

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Council May Review, Discuss and/or take Action and/or Vote on the following items:

- A) Review, discussion and possible action on the FY2020-2021 Tentative Budget, Review and Discussion of Proposed Town Administrator's Budget

Town administrator Hainsworth advised it is prudent to continue with the budget process, as if the Financial Town Meeting will be held on June 1st. He also commented on the difficulty due to COVID-19. He further advised the Council needs to adopt the budget by May 1st.

Finance Director Collins advised on current budget information.

Councilor Piva questioned the funding of the Jamestown Chamber.

Finance Director Collins advised the Chamber was provided \$4,000 in funding; however they had requested \$9,000.

President White reviewed the budget with regards to needs vs. wants.

Discussion ensued on the budget.

Councilor White questioned the Fire Department Equipment Budget, specifically the Pumper Truck.

Chief Bryer advised on the past truck replacement and the age of equipment. Further explaining the trucks are close to 30 years of age.

Discussion ensued on Fire Truck funding.

Councilor Beye questioned the Club House Construction Administration Fee.

Public Works Director Gray advised on Administrative Fees and costs associated with the construction.

Affordable Housing budget was reviewed.

Councilor White questioned replacement of police vehicles.

Chief Mello advised on vehicle replacement.

Councilor Piva stated he would support this budget pre Covid; however due to so many financial concerns of residents only critical items should be funded. He also requested Department Heads take a look at the budget to identify further cuts. He also stated there could be reductions in the school with busses not running and reduction in electricity.

Vice President Meagher agreed with another review.

Council President White stated he should have some feedback from the school.

Town Administrator Hainsworth requested guidance from the Council.

Councilor Piva stated he would like to see 0% increase.

Councilor White questioned what the impact would be on revenues.

Finance Director Collins advised on seasonal camper deposits and revenue impact of the campground.

Discussion ensued on budget.

- B) Upcoming Meetings and Sessions – dates and times
 - 1) Town Council Meeting Schedule: April 27, 2020, May 4, 2020

Town Administrator Hainsworth advised the April 27th meeting would be for budgetary items.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Council May Review, Discuss and/or take Action and/or Vote on the following items:

- A) Review, discussion and possible action to extend the March 16,2020 Executive order to June 15, 2020, unless revoked earlier; the continuation of the authorization of the Town

Administrator to take any and all necessary actions to implement best practices guidance regarding municipal government actions to curtail the spread of the COVID 19 virus.

Discussion ensued on date to grant extension to.

A motion was made by Councilor White with second by Councilor Piva to approve the extension of the Order to May 8th unless revoked Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye; Councilor, White, Aye

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Beye to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye; Councilor, White, Aye

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

An item on the Consent Agenda need not be removed for simple clarification or correction of typographical errors. Approval of the Consent Agenda shall be equivalent to approval of each item as if it had been acted upon separately for review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote. A Consent Agenda item or items may be removed by the Town Council for review, discussion and/or potential action and or vote.

- A) Adoption of Town Council Minutes
 - 1) February 7, 2020 (special meeting)
 - 2) February 18, 2020 (regular meeting)
 - 3) February 18, 2020 (executive session)
 - 4) March 2, 2020 (regular meeting)
 - 5) Jamestown Water and Sewer Matters (February 18, 2020)

- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
 - 1) Jamestown Planning Commission (October 16, 2019)
 - 2) Jamestown Planning Commission (November 20, 2019)
 - 3) Jamestown Planning Commission (December 4, 2019)
 - 4) Jamestown Planning Commission (January 15, 2020)
 - 5) Jamestown Planning Commission (February 5, 2020)
 - 6) Jamestown Tax Assessment Board of Review (January 15, 2020)
 - 7) Jamestown Tax Assessment Board of Review (February 4, 2020)
 - 8) Jamestown Tax Assessment Board of Review (February 13, 2020)

- C) Authorization for the Town of Jamestown to engage in a cooperative DEM Supplemental Environmental Project with Conanicut Marine Services regarding improvements to Town-owned land at Taylor Point to facilitate public access to the bay.

- D) Ratification of the actions taken by the Town Administration in response to COVID 19 virus spread to date; issued under the Honorable Town Councils

Executive Order # 2020-01 issued upon Declaration of the State of Emergency due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus:

- 1) Extension of grace period for Water & Sewer Bill to June 1, 2020.
 - 2) Extension of Dog Registration fees from April 30 to May 30, 2020.
 - 3) Signed Mutual Aid Agreement, on March 25, 2020: between Jamestown and North Kingstown Police Departments for a continued operations plan for dispatch services in the event COVID-19 disrupts their ability to operate.

 - 4) Emergency Order # 20-02 issued March 25, 2020 to March 28, 2020: ordering the quarantine of all people coming into Jamestown from a State where a quarantine order was in existence, to self-quarantine for 14 days. This order was rescinded on March 28, 2020, when the Governor issued Ex. Order 20-14: requiring a 14 Day Quarantine for all out of State people coming into Rhode Island.
 - 5) Emergency Order # 20-03 issued March 26, 2020: regarding a temporary ban on the use of all reusable bags in retail businesses.
 - 6) Emergency Order # 20-04 issued April 2, 2020: regarding the temporary closing of Fort Getty and Mackerel Cove Beach and their adjacent areas, to all motor vehicles with no parking each Friday from noon to Monday at 8:00 a.m. Also included in this order; parking pursuant to Ordinance 70-84 on Fort Wetherill Road, Newport Avenue, Fort Wetherill Boat Basin, Fort Getty Road and Beavertail Road, except by special permit issued by the Chief of Police.
- E) Authorization of the Warrant and Resolutions for the June 1, 2020 Financial Town Meeting (Warrants are routine in matter as they relate to setting the tax rate.)
- 1) Resolution Number 1: Sewer Line Frontage Tax Rate (.68 cents per liner foot, included on tax bill for homes in the Sewer district)
 - 2) Resolution Number 2: Borrowing in Anticipation of Taxes (Authorizes the Town the ability to borrow funds in anticipation of the 1st quarter's taxes being due.)
 - 3) Resolution Number 3: Disposition of Collected Back Taxes (All back taxes to be placed in the General Fund at time of receipt.)
 - 4) Resolution Number 4: Setting the Tax Rate (Actual rate to be determined within a range at the FTM.)
- F) Approval of Event License Applications
- 1) Applicant: Town of Jamestown Parks & Recreation
Event: Jamestown Day Music & Arts Festival
Dates: October 3, 2020 with Rain Date of October 4, 2020
Location: East Ferry

 - 2) Applicant: Save the Bay
Event: 44th Annual Save the Bay Swim
Dates: July 11, 2020

Location: Bridge Authority Lawn

- G) Review and Approval of the Jamestown Arts Center’s Exhibition, “The Outdoor Arts Experience 2020”; Celebrating Community through Art

- H) Request of Tax Assessor for Specific Abatements & Addenda of Taxes

MOTOR VEHICLE ABATEMENTS TO 2010 TAX ROLL		
03-0891-01M	Motor Vehicle	\$28.84
REAL ESTATE ABATEMENTS TO 2019 TAX ROLL		
02-0111-00	Plat 8, Lot 603	\$287.39
04-0563-45	Plat 5, Lot 52	\$442.75
12-0603-12	Plat 8, Lot 151	\$807.84
14-0396-00	Plat 8, Lot 525	\$325.22
23-1552-75	Plat 4, Lot 15	\$5,823.37
TOTAL ABATEMENTS		\$ 7,715.41
TOTAL ADDENDA		\$ 0.00

- D) Authorization for the Town Clerk to Advertise Committee Vacancies
- 1) Affordable Housing (3) Full Member Vacancies.
 - 2) Fire Department Compensation (2) Citizen- At-Large Vacancies
 - 3) Tax Assessment Board of Review (1) Full Member and (1) Alternate Member Vacancy
- J) Authorization of the Public Works Department Bid Award for a New Trash Ejector Trailer to Warren Equipment, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$105,000.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor Piva to accept the Communications. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye; Councilor, White, Aye

VII. COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND PROCLAMATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS FROM OTHER RHODE ISLAND CITIES AND TOWNS

The Council may acknowledge any of the listed Communications and Proclamations and Resolutions. Should any member wish to have a conversation on any of the matters, the item will be placed on a future agenda for review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote.

- A) Public Notice
 - 1) Copy of Notice of CRMC Aquaculture Preliminary Determination Request Form of File No. 2020-01-078, Antonio & Joseph Pinheiro in West Passage Jamestown, RI

- B) Communications Received:
 - 1) Copy of Letter to: Jamestown Town Council
From: Frank Meyer
Dated: March 5, 2020
Re: Beavertail

 - 2) Copy of Letter to: Jamestown Town Council
From: Paul Raterron
Dated: March 6, 2020
Re: Sister City/ Twin Town with Sainte-Marie-de-Ré

 - 3) Copy of Letter to: Jamestown Town Council
From: Jamestown Republican Town Committee
Dated: March 9, 2020
Re: JBOC Legal Fees and Expenses

 - 4) Copy of Letter to: Jamestown Board of Canvassers
From: Steven Brown, Executive Director ACLU, John Marion, Executive Director Common Cause Rhode Island, Jane W. Koster, President of League of Women Voters of Rhode Island
Dated: March 9, 2020
Re: Polling Location Security

 - 5) Copy of the Final Decision of the Jamestown Town Council Sitting as The Harbor Commission Board of Appeals; regarding the Hearing of Carolyn Sears for her request of Grace Period for non-use of her Permit for Mooring 306 C in Dutch Harbor

 - 6) Copy of the Final Decision of the Jamestown Town Council Sitting as The Harbor Commission Board of Appeals; regarding the Hearing of Kara and Christopher Museler; by their Attorney, Quentin Anthony, Esq; regarding the denial of their Guest Mooring Permit

- C) Proclamations and Resolutions from other Rhode Island Cities and Towns
 - 1) Town of Hopkinton Resolution regarding Primary Election Day

VIII. OPEN FORUM- To participate you will press *9 to raise your hand.

The meeting moderator will coordinate your participation.

Comments are not limited to items on this agenda. However, items not on this agenda will only be heard and not acted upon by the Town Council. Note: Section 42-46-6 of the Open Meetings Act, and Department of the Attorney General Advisory Opinions relevant to this item on any public body meeting agenda specifically prohibits the Town Council from discussing, considering or acting on any topic, statement or question presented. The Town Council may, if warranted, refer such matters to an appropriate committee, to another body or official, or post the matter for consideration at a properly-noticed, future meeting.

- 1) Scheduled request to address – None
- 2) Non-scheduled request to address

Mary Lou Sanborn, of Bay View questioned the Fire Pumper Truck. Chief Bryer advised on the need to have the three pumper trucks.

Linda Jamison, thanked everyone for keeping us safe and questioned the NFP standards for trucks. Chief Bryer stated most trucks are kept for 25 years, however Jamestown keeps them longer as they are held closer to 30 years.

Linda Jamison also questioned the Capitol Improvement Line item in Public Works. Town Administrator Hainsworth advised 1.5 Million in Bond would pave the north end in two plats and East Passage and West Reach.

Linda Jamison further questioned the Golf Course and funds for the Club House.

Town Administrator Hainsworth and Public Works Director Gray advised on the funds used to construct the Club House.

Dr. Frankel stated many residents are under a great deal of pressure and recommended removing the pickle ball court from the budget, as many small businesses will not withstand this crisis.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Beye to adjourn at 8:02 P.M. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye; Councilor, White, Aye

Attest:

Erin F. Liese, CMC, Town Clerk