

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Work Session
January 11, 2008

A work session of the Jamestown Town Council was called to order at the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Avenue at 10:00 a.m. by Council President Julio J. DiGiando, for the purpose of setting Council goals for the 2008 - 2009 term. The following members were present:

Michael G. White, Vice President
William A. Kelly
Robert W. Sutton, Jr.
Barbara A. Szepatowski

also present:

Bruce R. Keiser, Town Administrator
Arlene D. Petit, Town Clerk
James Bryer, Fire Chief
Lisa W. Bryer, Town Planner
Judith Bell, Library Director
Howard Tighe, Fire Department
Michael Gray, Town Engineer
Steven Goslee, Public Works Director
Kenneth Gray, Tax Assessor
Frederick Brown, Building and Zoning Official
William Piva, Interim Parks and Recreation Director
Melissa Minto, Teen Coordinator

The following is a list of items discussed and some of the comments:

Landfill Closure:

- Fifty percent design was submitted in 2006
- There is no final design for the landfill closure at the present time
- Lot 47 should be used as support for the Taylor Point highway facility

Solid Waste/ Recycling:

- Looking for ways to improve recycling efforts
- Consider consulting service for information
- Northeast Recycling Council would make a presentation to the Town (schedule for mid-May)
- Work with real estate agencies to inform new residents and rentals
- Provide larger recycling containers
- Possible grant funding available

Jamestown Shores:

- High Groundwater Ordinance needs to be updated
- Separate references for septic and stormwater
- Elements should be better defined for Planning Commission
- Either Zoning or Planning should be dealing with the ordinance

- Planning has more resources than Zoning
- Change should be made to the special use permit standard
- Meeting with the Town Administrator, Administrative Officers, Town Solicitor, Planning and Zoning for recommendations to Council

Tax Sale Lots:

- Actively being monitored by Town's legal team
- This is not exclusive to the Shores area
- Town has taken title to 20 – 22 properties
- Cost to Town is approximately \$3,000 per lot
- \$100,000 recaptured in back taxes

Round Marsh Project:

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NCR) grant received in the amount of \$68,000 to eradicate phragmites at the north side of the sanctuary
- Grant requires in-kind match of twenty percent (DPW to assisting)
- First phase of study by NCRS – completion date?
- RIDEM to lend equipment

Downtown Village Improvements:

- Funding was allocated by RIDOT ten years ago
- The Town is ready to go out to bid; however still waiting for RIDOT funding to be available
- RIDOT will not fund underground wires
- Drawbacks to underground wires:
 - archeological – thirteen places under 18”
 - National Grid – not in favor
 - Cost prohibitive
 - RIDOT – no funding

Central Dispatch Facility:

- Renovations at police station would accommodate two dispatchers (Fire/EMS/Police)
- Central dispatch will allow direct communication with State as well as local departments
- There will be a new communication console
- Council not in agreement at this time with the need for two dispatchers
- Combine dispatching duties – reassess need
- Would allow for the present Fire Department Dispatcher to be responsible for the maintenance of equipment and fire station

East Ferry Public Access:

- Continue to provide public access for fishing
- Discussion on unbuildable lots in area
- Possible neighborhood touch and go

Fort Getty Master Plan:

- The Master Plan was adopted in 2005
- Funding of \$150,000 through RIDEM
- Town reserve of \$120,000
- Suggestions for an addition of a sailing center
- Revenue analysis needed to be done
- Increased use of Fort Getty by residents
- Possible boat storage (revenue)
- Master Plan to be updated and presented to Council

Center Island Trail System:

- Cost itemization needed
- Inquires to be made regarding funding

Bicycle Path:

- Town Planner working with Peter Healy from RIDOT
- Would like endorsement from Council
- Contact US Parks Service for assistance
- Request that RIDOT lowers speed limit on North Road
- Council agenda item as a safety issue

Safe Routes to School:

- There is a \$250,000 grant available
- To be implemented:
 - sidewalk Narragansett Avenue to Arnold Avenue
 - Melrose to North Road
 - sidewalks and curb butts for handicapped

Ballfields:

- Archeological issues
- Timeline for field repair

There will be another work session scheduled to continue goal setting discussion.

Attest:

Arlene D. Petit
Town Clerk

c: Town Council Members (5)
Town Administrator
Town Solicitor
Administrative Circulation