

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**February 11, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was called to order at the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Avenue at 7:00 pm by Council President Julio J. DiGiando.

The following members were present:

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

Late arrival at 7:28 pm:        Barbara A. Szepatowski

Also present:

Bruce R. Keiser, Town Administrator  
Peter D. Ruggiero, Town Solicitor  
Kimberly A. Turcone, Deputy Town Clerk  
C. Christopher Powell, Conservation Commission  
Steve Goslee, Director of Public Works

**I.     AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

*None*

**IV.    COUNCIL SITTING AS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSING BOARD**

*All approvals for licenses and permits are subject to the resolution of debts, taxes and appropriate signatures as well as, when applicable, proof of insurance.*

*None*

**V.     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.*

- 1)     Adoption of Council minutes:
  - a)     January 14, 2008 work-session
  - b)     January 28, 2008 regular meeting
- 2)     Town Council Meeting Notices:
  - a)     March 4, 2008 Budget work-session
  - b)     March 18, 2008 Budget work-session (school)
  - c)     March 25, 2008 Budget work-session
- 3)     Bills and Payroll
- 5)     CRMC Notices:
  - a)     February 2008 Calendar
  - b)     Coast Feature Fall/Winter 2008
  - c)     Semi-Monthly Meeting Agenda for 2.12.2008
  - d)     Meeting Notice re: change in management plan
- 6)     Proclamations & Resolutions from other Rhode Island cities and towns
  - a)     City of Newport:
    - i)     Resolution 2008-11 re: opposition to an increase in the Pell Bridge toll

- ii) Resolution 2008-13 re: voter approval for the expansion of hours of a license video lottery facility

7) Abatements/Addenda of Taxes

A motion was made by Councilor Kelly and seconded by Councilor White to accept the consent agenda without item #4 (Minutes from Boards, Commissions and Committees). So voted: 4-0

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4) Minutes from Boards, Commissions and Committees:

- a) Personnel Board minutes from: 3.29.2007, 7.19.2007 & 9.20.2007
- b) Zoning Board of Review minutes from: 11.27.2007
- c) Tax Assessment Board of Review minutes from: 12.19.2007
- d) Harbor Management Commission minutes from: 12.12.2007
- e) Library Board of Trustees minutes from: 1.8.2008

Councilor Sutton questioned if the oil pipe issue, as indicated in the minutes of the Library Board of Trustees has been resolved. Mr. Goslee, Director of Public Works stated that it has.

A motion was made by Councilor Sutton and seconded by Councilor Kelly to accept item #4 (Minutes from Boards, Commissions and Committees). So voted: 4-0

**VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT**

*The Town Council may seek to go in Executive Session to discuss the following items:  
None*

**VII. COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATOR, SOLICITOR, COMMISSION/COMMITTEE COMMENTS & REPORTS**

1) Town Administrator Report – verbal

The Town Administrator reported on the following issues:

- The Town Administrator and Town Engineer, Michael Gray, met with several contractors who are interested in bidding on the Highway Barn project. The Town Administrator is confident that the town will soon receive very competitive bid proposals;
- Appraisals for the 44 Southwest Avenue property are underway. Church Community Housing Corp. are in the process of providing the assessment and the Council should have them by the Board of Water and Sewer Commission meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>;
- The Town Administrator stated that he should have some form of communication with the US Coast Guard regarding the Beavertail Lighthouse lease agreement to the Council by February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Councilor Kelly voiced his concern regarding the final payment to Pezzuco Construction Inc. in regards to several issues that have not been completed in the Town Hall building. The Town Solicitor stated that the Town Administrator has the authority to hold back some payment that is due if certain issues are not completed.

**VIII. PUBLIC HEARING**

*None*

**IX. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

*None*

**X. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

- 1) Copy of letter from Rep. Bruce J. Long to the Governor re: open space bond referendum

A motion was made by Councilor White and seconded by Councilor Kelly to accept the letter of communication from Rep. Bruce J. Long. So voted: 4-0

- 2) Copy of letter from CRMC to the Town Planner re: subdivision of land

A motion was made by Councilor Sutton and seconded by Councilor Kelly to accept the letter of communication from CRMC. So voted: 4-0

**XI. LICENSES & PERMITS**

*All approvals for licenses and permits are subject to the resolution of debts, taxes and appropriate signatures as well as, when applicable, proof of insurance.*

*None*

*Councilor Szepatowski arrives*

**XII. OPEN FORUM**

- 1) Scheduled request to address

- a) State Representative Bruce J. Long re: legislative update(s)

Representative Long updated the Council on the following items:

- Fees regarding the Newport Bridge
  - School bussing costs
  - Additional funding for schools
  - Support for a tax free Art's District
  - Free parking in CRMC designated rights-of-way
- b) Anthony DeLuca re: Jamestown Bridge
- Power point presentation regarding the proposed plans to construct a fishing pier
  - Danger of the remaining trestle during hurricane season
- c) Donald Kern re: Jamestown Bridge
- Continuation of presentation regarding the proposed plans to construct a fishing pier
  - Danger of the remaining trestle during hurricane season

- 2) Non-scheduled request to address

- a) Karen Krider of Skysail Court addressed her support of a tax free Art's District
- b) Alli Sabalis of Beacon Avenue addressed her support for a tax free Art's District
- c) Ellen Winsor of East Shore Road announced that a meeting will be held on the Sole Source Aquifer with the EPA on Wednesday,

February 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Library

**XIII. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

1) Letter from Nancy Bennett re: appointment to the Planning Commission  
A motion was made by Councilor Kelly and seconded by Councilor Szepatowski to accept the letter of communication from Nancy Bennett. So unanimously voted

2) Letter from Eric T. Lexow re: resignation from the Jamestown Police Pension Committee  
A motion was made by Councilor Kelly and seconded by Councilor Szepatowski to accept the letter of resignation from Eric T. Lexow. So unanimously voted

**XIV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None*

**XV. NEW BUSINESS**

1) Tax Free Arts District  
Council President DiGiando opened the discussion regarding a tax free Art's District for Jamestown. Rep. Bruce J. Long discussed the proposed bill's progress within the Senate and House. He added that the proposed bill should have no effect on the State's budget.

The Town Administrator stated that this proposal will have very little financial impact upon the town.

Rep. Long stated that he will send a copy of the proposed bill to the Town Clerk's Office and requested that this item be placed on the March 10, 2008 Council agenda for further discussion.

2) Hiking/Walking Trails (*per Councilor Sutton*)  
Councilor Sutton requested that this item, as well as the RI DEM Trails Grant(s) be placed on the agenda for tonight's discussion. He added that the Town has a \$50,000.00 grant from the State for trails that has not been used yet.

Chris Powell of the Conservation Commission passed out a rendering with new trails going through the Neale and Dutra farms and into the Great Salt Marsh.

The Town Administrator reported that he has been in contact with a potential donor who would like to develop a trail systems throughout the farmland.

Mr. Powell suggested that with the help of the Town Administrator, Town Planner, Town Engineer and Conservation Commission, a plan can be drafted and brought back to the Council for their input.

Council President DiGiando requested that the Town Administrator be placed in charge of this project.

3) RI DEM Trails Grant (*per Councilor Sutton*)

This item was addressed under New Business item #2 (Hiking/Walking Trails)

4) Sole Source Aquifer

The Town Administrator presented a summary in regards to the status of the Sole Source Aquifer which included a facts sheet. He added that federal funding for improvements are not likely for landfill remediation projects.

The Town Administrator suggested that after the meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2008 with the EPA, that this topic should be further discussed at the Board of Water and Sewer Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Councilor Kelly asked the Town Administrator if the town would receive any additional funding if the island does become designated as having a Sole Source Aquifer. The Town Administrator reported that the island would not receive any additional funding.

Councilor Szepatowski added that the EPA does not regulate as much as educate the community and agreed that there would be no federal funding available for this project.

It was the consensus of the Council to wait to discuss this issue further at the Board of Water and Sewer Commission meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Councilor White and seconded by Councilor Kelly to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm. So unanimously voted

Attest:

Kimberly A. Turcone  
Deputy Town Clerk

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