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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
TOWN OF JAMESTOWN

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown will conduct a public hearing on March __, 2017 at ___ p.m. at the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Avenue on the following proposed amendment to the Code of Ordinances regarding Chapter 38 – Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article V - Weapons. Opportunity shall be given to all persons interested to be heard upon the matter at the public hearing. The following proposed ordinance amendment is under consideration and may be adopted and/or altered or amended prior to the close of the public hearing without further advertising, as a result of further study or because of the views expressed at the public hearing. Any alteration or amendment must be presented for comment in the course of the public hearing. The proposed amendment is available for review and/or purchase at the Town Clerk’s Office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Holidays and on the Town’s web site at www.jamestownri.gov.

Section 1. Be it hereby ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown that the Jamestown Code of Ordinances, Chapter 38, as the same may have been heretofore amended, is hereby amended by changing the text of the Chapter, as follows:

NOTE: words set as ~~striketrough~~ are to be deleted from the ordinance; words underlined are to be added to the ordinance.

See Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized to cause said changes to be made to Chapter 38 of the Town of Jamestown’s Code of Ordinances.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

Ad Date(s): _____

Publication Source: Jamestown Press

Hearing Date: _____

Action: _____

Certified: _____

1 **Exhibit A**

2 **Sec. 38-111. - Use of rifled firearm while hunting.**

3 No person shall, while hunting within the town, use a rifled firearm, other than a shotgun
4 outfitted with a rifled barrel or a muzzleloader with a rifled barrel.

5 **Sec. 38-112. Definitions.**

6 The following definitions shall have the following meanings for the purposes of this chapter:

7 “Building”: any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy,
8 including but not limited to a dwelling, and or accessory building or structure.

9 “Discharge”: the operation of a firearm as to cause the ignition of the powder charge with or
10 without the expulsion of a projectile from the firearm.

11 "Firearm": includes any machine gun, pistol, rifle, air rifle, air pistol, "blank gun," "BB gun," or
12 other instrument from which steel or metal projectiles are propelled, or which may readily be
13 converted to expel a projectile, except crossbows, recurve, compound, or longbows, and except
14 instruments propelling projectiles which are designed or normally used for a primary purpose
15 other than as a weapon. The frame or receiver of the weapon shall be construed as a firearm
16 under the provisions of this section.

17 “Recreational Target Range”: a non-commercial target range which may be located indoors or
18 outdoors to practice the discharge of weapons aimed at a target.

19 **Sec. 38-113 Firearm Discharge.**

20 Conanicut Island is determined and declared to be a compact area as that term is set forth
21 pursuant to the relevant provisions of the R.I. General Laws at Title 11, Chapter 47, Section 50,
22 as amended, except for those areas of the Island with the zoning designation of RR-200 or RR-
23 80, as set forth in the Jamestown Code of Ordinances, Chapter 82 – Zoning, at 82-301 and the
24 Official Zoning Map, as amended. No person, not being at the time under police or military duty,
25 shall Discharge any Firearm on Conanicut Island in the Town of Jamestown, except as follows:

- 26 1. Legal hunting activity as defined by state and local regulations.
- 27 2. Target shooting on private property by the property owner or guest with written
28 permission of the property owner on a Recreational Target Range.
- 29 3. Use of a Recreational Target Range is restricted to the time period between 10:00 AM
30 to 6:00 PM, Wednesday through Saturday; provided, however, that all activity must
31 cease 30 minutes before sunset on a year-round basis.
- 32 4. All prudent safety measures shall be exercised to protect the public health, safety and
33 welfare.
- 34 5. The point of Discharge of any Firearm and the point of impact from any target, berm
35 or backstop shall be a minimum distance of 500’ feet from any Building.
- 36 6. The point of Discharge of any Firearm and the point of impact from any target, berm
37 or backstop may be less than that set forth in paragraph 5, supra, if, and only if, the

1 owner or owners of any Building within 500' from the point of Discharge and the
2 point of impact from a target, berm or backstop provides written permission for the
3 point of Discharge and the point of impact from any target, berm or backstop being
4 less than that required.

- 5 7. In no case shall any target, berm or backstop be located greater than 100' from any
6 point of Discharge of any Firearm.

7
8 No person shall Discharge any Firearm in such fashion that the shot, bullets, arrows, darts or
9 other missiles shall in their flight carry over, along or across the land of another, any public
10 roadway, designated public walking path, access way, sidewalk, hiking trail, park area, or bike
11 path, into which they shall not have written permission of the owner and occupant thereof to
12 shoot. Such written permission shall be carried on the person at all times when engaged in the
13 activity and shall be shown and exhibited upon request by the police.

14 **Sec 38-114. Use of weapons in self-defense and hunting.**

15 No provision of this chapter shall be construed as prohibiting the use of Firearms by licensed
16 armed guards or by private persons in the Town for the protection or defense of person or
17 property and/or hunting in accordance with applicable provisions of the General Laws.

18 **Sec. 38-115. Enforcement.**

19 Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be punished as provided in Section 1-15.