

**TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
March 26, 2018**

**I. ROLL CALL**

Town Council Members present:

Kristine S. Trocki, President  
Michael G. White, Vice President  
Blake A. Dickinson  
Mary E. Meagher  
Eugene B. Mihaly

Friends of the Jamestown Seniors present:

Ellie Chase  
Fred Pease  
Larry Bartley  
Coffee Bell  
Nancy Beye  
Don Richardson  
Heidi Moon  
Tom Tighe  
Ed Holland  
Kristin Sloan Maccini, Legal Counsel

Also in attendance:

Andrew E. Nota, Town Administrator  
Cristina D. Collins, Finance Director  
Andrew J. Wade, Parks and Recreation Director  
Peter D. Ruggiero, Town Solicitor  
Cheryl A. Fernstrom, Town Clerk

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Trocki called the special meeting of the Jamestown Town Council to order at 5:04 p.m. in the Jamestown Town Hall Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers at 93 Narragansett Avenue.

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

A) Organization, direction and interaction between the Town of Jamestown and the Friends of the Jamestown Seniors concerning the provision of senior services in the Town; review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote  
The meeting was called as a collective discussion to process information so that all parties can have the same information so that all parties are on the same page.

Kristin Sloan Maccini, Legal Counsel for the Friends of the Jamestown Seniors, addressed the meeting, reading a history of the Friends prepared by Ellie Chase. Friends Secretary Larry Bartley addressed the meeting, reading a prepared statement summarizing the Friends activities since 2015, beginning with the Friends request for assistance with maintaining the Grange property, assuming bill payment and insurance coverage for greater cost savings, and execution of an amended and restated lease with the Town as a lessee signed by the Town Administrator on August 30, 2015. Discussion of the relationship continued. The Friends request that issues and concerns be addressed at a future meeting in executive session. Lengthy discussion ensued.

Attorney Maccini commented on the management and operation of senior services in the Town of Jamestown and the Friends request for an executive session to address concerns as outlined in the February 23, 2018 memorandum. President Trocki noted executive session discussions must comply with the Open Meetings Act. Town Solicitor Ruggiero commented on what qualifies for executive session discussion. Lengthy discussion continued as regards what can be discussed in open and closed sessions.

Councilor Mihaly commented this is too large a body to address concerns and a smaller sub-group would be more appropriate. Attorney Maccini agreed with the sub-group concept to address issues and concerns. The list of issues and concerns was distributed for review. President Trocki stated the five areas of concern are manageable and can be addressed collectively, and asked for volunteers for the sub-group. The working group will have open public sessions posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act and on the Secretary of State website. The Town Clerk will coordinate the schedule of meeting dates and times. Discussion ensued of membership. It was determined the following will serve on the working group:

Andrew Nota, Town Administrator  
Peter Ruggiero, Town Solicitor  
Mary E. Meagher, Town Council  
Eugene B. Mihaly, Town Council  
Ellie Chase, Friends of the Jamestown Seniors  
Heidi Moon, Friends of the Jamestown Seniors  
Nancy Beye, Friends of the Jamestown Seniors  
Kristen Maccini, Friends Legal Counsel

Meetings will be posted on the Town website and at the same locations as Town Council meeting agendas and the *Jamestown Press* was requested to publish meeting dates and times. The working group will determine their task and final deliverable, and the Committee Charge is “The organization, direction and interaction between the Town of Jamestown and the Friends of the Jamestown Seniors concerning the provision of senior services in the Town.” Discussion continued. Vice President White commented the process to complete the task should be simple, and this should have been addressed without going to the Town Council.

**A motion was made by Councilor Meagher with second by Vice President White that the product to be created is a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Jamestown and the Friends of the Jamestown Seniors.**

Discussion. Until we know the checklist, we shouldn't set a goal. The Friends should have met with Town Administration to address issues and concerns. If an MOU is needed that is fine, but it may take time to complete. A list of issues should be developed first to determine if an MOU is needed. We have two institutions with shifting roles and it will take the collective minds of the group to work out a new and lasting relationship between the Friends and the Town. The deliverable is to meet and work on the list as presented by the Friends at this meeting, address Items 1 through 5, determine what is needed, work out who will perform what duties, and decide what is in the best interest of both sides. If a more legal document is needed the group should come back with that recommendation so the Charge can be revised. All members are prepared to work hard and move this process forward.

**No vote was taken on the motion and second.**

**A motion was made by Councilor Meagher with second by Councilor Dickinson to elect the individuals to this Board: Attorney Kristin Maccini, Town Solicitor Ruggiero, Town Administrator Nota, Nancy Beye, Heidi Keller Moon, Ellie Chase, Councilor Mihaly, and Councilor Meagher, with the two Solicitors and Town Administrator as non-voting members, leaving five voting members. President Trocki, Aye; Vice President White, Aye; Councilor Dickinson, Aye; Councilor Meagher, Aye; Councilor Mihaly, Aye.**

Discussion ensued of a timeframe for completion of the task at hand. Three months is a reasonable amount of time for the process, with a status report at the first meeting in May. The Clerk will coordinate with members to determine the first meeting date and time. Copies of the history of the Jamestown Seniors will be made available for anyone interested.

### **III. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Councilor Mihaly with second by Councilor Mihaly to adjourn. President Trocki, Aye; Vice President White, Aye; Councilor Dickinson, Aye; Councilor Meagher, Aye; Councilor Mihaly, Aye.**

The special meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Attest:

  
Cheryl A. Fernstrom, CMC, Town Clerk

Copies to: Town Council  
Town Administrator  
Town Solicitor  
Working Group