

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**May 3, 2021**

**I. ROLL CALL**

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on May 3, 2021. 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 1 (301) -715-8592 or 1(312) - 626- 6799 or 833-548-0276 Meeting ID 99508532394. To participate by computer or mobile app: <https://zoom.us/j/99508532394>. Town Council Members present were as follows: Nancy A. Beye, Mary Meagher, Erik G. Brine, Michael G. White and Randy White. Also present Town Administrator, Jamie A. Hainsworth, Finance Director, Christina D. Collins, Town Solicitor, Peter D. Ruggiero, and Chief of Police, Edward A. Mello

**II. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council President Beye called the meeting of the Jamestown Town Council to order at 6:30 P.M. held via Zoom, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- A) Presentation: Update on the Paycheck Protection Program and Small Business Relief Grant Program by Caswell Cook, Commerce RI Special Projects Administrator

Caswell Cook was appointed by the Governor to assist with Commerce RI, for a number of different programs available to small businesses in RI. Mr. Cook reported on the following:

- Small Business Relief Fund \$5,000 grants available to businesses that make under \$1,000,000 a year. 50 businesses in Jamestown applied
- Grant for Child Care Facilities. President Beye stated she owns the only child care facility in the Town and has received the grant.
- The Shuttered Venue Operator Grants are available
- The Restaurant Revitalization Fund, there is between \$1,000 - \$10,000,000 available in funding, even if PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) funding was received previously. He encouraged everyone to apply for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding.

**IV. COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATOR, TOWN DEPARTMENTS, SOLICITOR, COMMISSION/COMMITTEE COMMENTS & REPORTS**

*Please Note the Following Items are Status Reports and Matters of Interest to the Council and are for Informational Purposes unless Indicated Otherwise and will be Acted upon in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b)*

Councilor R. White encouraged all dog owners to license their dogs with the Town. The number of registered dogs is down from the previous year. The importance of dog registration is not the revenue, but a licensed lost dog can be reunited with its' owner. The public health concern is

abated due to all licensed dogs are up to date on their rabies vaccination. Town Administrator Hainsworth has waived all late fees until after May 31, 2021.

- A) Town Administrator's Report: Jamie A. Hainsworth
  - 1) Covid-19 Status
  - 2) Financial Town Meeting, FY 2021-2022 Budget
  - 3) Update on North Road Repairs and Rehabilitation
  - 4) Municipal Parking Lot Narragansett Avenue
  - 5) Governor McKee extended Executive Order No. 20-46
  - 6) RI Slave History Medallions, Mr. Charles Roberts, Executive Director: Dedication on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 12:00 noon

Town Administrator Hainsworth reported on the following:

There have been 10 positive cases of Covid-19 in the last 3 weeks.

The Financial Town Meeting will be held in the same manner as last year, due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Town Administrator Hainsworth met with State Representative Deb Ruggiero and an individual from DOT to discuss North Road, especially the Great Creek area. DOT has a STIP (State of Transportation Improvement Plan) coming out and discussion will continue to see if the Great Creek area of North Road is still the priority. DOT is not accepting new projects in the STIP this year, they are reshuffling projects already on the priority list. The comment period for the STIP is June 22 – July 23 and the Public Meeting being on July 22.

Town Administrator Hainsworth met with both the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Jamie Munger and the Executive Director, Michela Cahoon, to ensure the Take It Outside initiative is being used to the best of its' ability at the Municipal Parking Lot on Narragansett Avenue.

Governor McKee has extended the Executive Order No. 20-46 until May 27, 2021 which permits meetings to be held by virtual means.

A reminder to everyone, the RI Slave Medallion dedication will be on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 12:00 noon. COVID-19 compliant.

The Memorial Day Parade will be on May 27, 2021.

- B) EMA Report: Chief Edward A. Mello: Regarding COVID-19  
Chief Mello reported on the following:

COVID-19 testing will continue on West Street between the hours of 1:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Testing was cancelled last week by the Department of Health due to the high wind conditions.

The Department of Health and the Department of Education are focusing on vaccinating and/or offering the vaccine to students ages 16+. We are assisting both Narragansett and North Kingstown High Schools beginning on Wednesday, May 5, 2021.

## V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

- A) Upcoming Meetings and Sessions – dates and times
  - 1) Town Council/Water and Sewer Regular Meeting May 17, 2021 @ 6:30

- P.M.
- 2) Annual Financial Town Meeting - June 7, 2021 @ 7:00 P.M.
  - 3) Town Council/Water and Sewer Regular Meeting June 21, 2021 @ 6:30 P.M.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

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

- A) Review, Discussion and/or Action and/or Vote regarding the Request of Vice President Meagher for a Resolution in Support of General Assembly House Bill 6271 which provides the board of licenses in the town of Jamestown, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section any proposed retailer Class BVL license intended to be located at 53 Narragansett Avenue, Plat 9, Lot 207 of the applicable town of Jamestown tax assessment map
  - 1) Letter of Support by Saint Mark Church Pastor, Reverend W. Douglas Grant
  - 2) Legislation introduced in the General Assembly, House Bill 6271

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Brine to support Representative Ruggiero's Bill [H6271] to, as said by you Nancy, that we would have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section, any proposed retailer Class BVL license intended to be located within the distance of a church, the specific one at 53 Narragansett Avenue.**

Discussion. This is the old Baker's Building. Maybe we would just send a letter to Deb Ruggiero and House Municipal Government and Housing notifying them that we have done this.

**Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye**

- B) Review, Discussion and/or Action and/or Vote regarding the request of the Jamestown Arts Center for permission to exhibit three temporary artworks outside on Town property for the Summer 2021 season

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Brine to grant the request of the Jamestown Arts Center for permission to exhibit three temporary artworks outside on Town property for the Summer of 2021 season.**

**Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye**

## VII. ORDINANCES, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES AND EXPIRING TERMS

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

- A) Appointments, Vacancies and Expiring Terms; review, discussion, and/or action and/or vote
  - 1) Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee (Two (2) vacancies with a three-

year term ending date of May 31, 2024); duly advertised

- a) Term Limit reached
  - i) Heather Lopes
- b) Letter of interest for reappointment
  - i) Nicholas Radesca
- c) Letter of interest for appointment
  - i) Michael Liebhauser

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to reappoint Nicholas Radesca to the Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee for a three-year term with an ending date of May 31, 2024. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye**

- 2) Coastal Resources Management Council (One (1) vacancy with a two-year term ending date of May 31, 2023); duly advertised
  - a) Term Limit reached
    - i) Hali Beckman
  - b) Letter of interest for appointment
    - i) Sheila Reilly

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to appoint Sheila Reilly to the Coastal Resources Management Council for a two-year term with an ending date of May 31, 2023. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye**

- 3) Jamestown Fire Department Compensation Committee (Two (2) Fire Department Representatives vacancies with a term ending date of May 31, 2024 and Two (2) Citizen-at-Large Representatives with unexpired term ending dates of May 31, 2023 and May 31, 2024); duly advertised
  - a) Term Limit reached
    - i) Ron Barber
  - b) Letter of interest for reappointment
    - i) Patricia Perry
  - c) No applicants for Citizen-at-Large

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to reappoint Patricia Perry to the Jamestown Fire Department Compensation Committee for a three-year term with an ending date of May 31, 2023. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye**

- 4) Jamestown Housing Authority (Two (2) vacancies with an unexpired term ending date of December 31, 2025 and an unexpired term ending date of December 31, 2024);
  - a) Letters of resignation – Motion to accept
    - i) Edward Gromada
    - ii) Karen M. Bell
  - b) No letters of interest received

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Brine to accept the resignations from Edward Gromada and Karen M. Bell.**

**Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye**

- 5) Tax Assessment Board of Review (One (1) vacancy with a three-year term ending date of May 31, 2023); duly advertised
  - a) Term Limit reached
    - i) William Dawson – letter of request seeking extension of term limit, per Section 1002 of the Jamestown Charter
    - ii) No other letters of interest received

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Brine to reappoint William Dawson for a three-year term with an ending date of May 31, 2023. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye**

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

### **VIII. 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) April 19, 2021 (Regular Meeting)
  - 2) April 8, 2021 (Budget Workshop)
  - 3) April 12, 2021 (Budget Workshop)
  
- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
  - 1) January 26, 2021 Zoning Board of Review
  
- C) Acceptance and Receipt of Jamestown School Department Bid Award for HVAC System Replacements and Upgrades for the Lawn Avenue School and Melrose Avenue School to: Arden Engineering Construction, LLC for the amount of \$767,600.00 (Seven Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand Dollars), as bid, as recommended by the Jamestown School Administration/School Committee
  
- D) Authorization of the Bid Award extension for Road Paving Work for the 2021 season for the bid prices as awarded in 2019 to Cardi Corporation as follows:
  - Item 1: Bituminous Surface Course \$71.00 per Ton
  - Item 2: Bituminous Binder Course \$66.50 per Ton
  - Item 3: Pavement Reclamation \$1.70 per Square Yard
  - Item 4: Fine Grading and Compaction \$1.50 per Square Yard
  - Item 5: Bituminous Surface Course (Bike Path) \$89.50 per Ton

President Beye acknowledged the Communications.

**IX. 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) Communications Received:

- 1) Copy of Letter to: Town Council  
From: Cynthia Leonard  
Dated: April 11, 2021  
Re: Support for proposed Zoning and Planning changes and Subdivision to Plat 8 Lot 31 at 113 and 115 Melrose Avenue
- 2) Copy of Email to: Town Administrator  
From: Marie O'Loughlin Jenkins, RI Legislature  
Dated: April 21, 2021  
Re: Jamestown Charter Amendment from November 3, 2021 Election is now law
- 3) Copy of letter to: Town Administrator  
From: Representative Deborah Ruggiero  
Dated: April 28, 2021  
Re: Flooding of the Great Swamp area on North Road and requirements for bridge replacement, included in the re-write of the State Transportation Improvement Plan for 2022-2031

B) Public Notices Received:

- 1) Copy of Notice to: Town of Jamestown  
From: Town of North Kingstown Planning Commission  
Dated: April 26, 2021  
Re: Notice of Public Hearing for Amendment of the NK Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, May 4, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.
- 2) Copy of Notice to: Town of Jamestown  
From: Church Community Housing Corporation  
Dated: April 22, 2021  
Re: Combined Subdivision Master Plan Informational Meeting and Preliminary Public Hearing for the Proposed 4 Lot Subdivision with Waivers/Variations for Property located at Plat 4 Lot 52, 91 Carr Lane, May 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

C) Resolutions from other Rhode Island Cities and Towns Received:

- 1) Copy of Resolution to: Town Council  
From: Gloucester Town Council  
Adopted: April 15, 2021

Re: Opposition to Rhode Island 2021 Gun Control Legislation

**X. 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.

A) Scheduled request to address: Keith Roberts

Keith Roberts of 93 Umiak Avenue, addressed the Town Council with his concerns regarding information security.

B) Non-scheduled request to address

No requests to address the Council were made.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Brine to adjourn at 7:15 P.M. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye**

Attest:

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Denise Gamon, Town Clerk's Assistant