

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 4, 2022
6:30 P.M.

I. ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on April 4, 2022. Town Council Members present were as follows: Nancy A. Beye, Mary Meagher, Michael G. White, and Randy White. Absent: Erik Brine

Also, in attendance: Town Administrator Jamie Hainsworth, Solicitor Peter Ruggiero, Police Chief Edward Mello, Finance Director Christina Collins, Public Works Director Michael Gray, Town Planner Lisa Bryer, and Town Clerk Roberta Fagan.

II. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Council President Beye called the meeting of the Jamestown Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Jamestown Town Hall Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers at 93 Narragansett Avenue and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. OPEN FORUM

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 prohibit 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 - none
- B) Non-scheduled request to address

No requests to address the Town Council.

IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND PROCLAMATIONS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote regarding a Proclamation declaring April as the Month of the Military Child in the Town of Jamestown

President Beye read Proclamation 22-03, declaring April as the Month of the Military Child in the Town of Jamestown.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to approve Proclamation 22-03, declaring April as the Month of the Military Child. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS, LICENSES AND PERMITS

The Town Council will review each license application and vote on it individually. 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. Review, Discuss and/or Take Action and/or Vote on the following items:

A) Event/Entertainment License: All Event/Entertainment license application approvals are subject to any and all COVID-19 protocols in effect at the time of the event; Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote for the following:

- 1) Applicant: Jamestown Arts Center
Event: "to be near you" Artists Talk & Dance Film Screening
Date: Thursday, April 7, 2022, 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Location: Jamestown Arts Center

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to approve the Jamestown Arts Center April 7, 2022 event application for the "to be near you" Artists Talk & Dance Film Screening. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- 2) Applicant: Jamestown Women's Club
Events: Easter Egg Hunt
Date: Saturday, April 16, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Locations: Conanicut Battery

President Beye recused herself from the vote.

Vice President Meagher noted that the application requested approval of the East Egg Hunt at the Community Farm, not at the Conanicut Battery.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to approve the Jamestown Women's Club, Easter Egg Hunt event application taking place at the Jamestown Community Farm on April 16, 2022. Vote: Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- 3) Applicant: Jamestown Historical Society
Events: Battery Day
Date(s): Saturday, May 21, 2022, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Locations: Conanicut Battery

A motion was made by Councilor R. White second by Vice President Meagher to approve the Jamestown Historical Society May 21, 2022, Battery Day event application. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- 4) Applicant: Jamestown Historical Society
Events: Windmill Day
Date(s): Saturday, July 23, 2022, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Locations: Windmill, North Road

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to approve the Jamestown Historical Society July 23, 2022, Windmill Day event application. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- 5) Applicant: Mark Holland/Jamestown Rotary Club
Event: 46th Annual Jamestown Classic Bike Race
Date: Sunday, October 9, 2022, 7:00 a.m. – Noon
Location: Ft. Getty Pavilion
a) Email from Mark Holland/Jamestown Rotary club (non-profit) requesting a waiver of the Ft. Getty Pavilion fee; and/or payment for the police detail, by the Town of Jamestown for the Annual Jamestown Classic Bike Race on October 9, 2022

Discussion ensued.

Vice President Meagher confirmed with Chief Mello that the police detail will not be as costly with the event taking place on Sunday of Columbus Day weekend. The Rotary contributes greatly to the Town of Jamestown, Vice President Meagher commented and was happy to make a motion to support the waiver of fees request.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor R. White to approve the request to waive the Ft. Getty Pavilion fee; and/or payment for the police detail, by the Town of Jamestown for the Annual Jamestown Classic Bike Race on October 9, 2022. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote: Request from Robert Sutton, President of the Jamestown Community Farm, land protection of the Community Farm land
- 1) Jamestown Community Farm requests for an appropriation not to exceed \$400,000 for the purposes of assisting in the purchase of additional permanent protection of the Town's reservoir watershed and Center Island Greenway, located at East Shore Road and Eldred Avenue, Plat 4 lots 2, 133, 134, 135, 136, 141, and 142
 - 2) Copy of the February 2, 2022 letter from Robert Sutton to the Jamestown Town Council

Discussion ensued.

Robert Sutton, President of the Jamestown Community Farm, updated the Town Council and the status of the purchase of the Community Farm land. He reported that negotiations with Peter Ceppi are ongoing. The appraisal has been received, which Mr. Ceppi will need to review. The "One-Chance" fundraising committee remains optimistic that an offer will be accepted.

Finance Director Collins provided more context regarding the request to approve the warrant in draft form, which would be discussed later in the meeting when the Council reviews the Consent Agenda items.

Mr. Sutton expressed gratitude to all that helped support the idea and concept, especially Town Planner Bryer, Town Administrator Hainsworth, and Finance Director Collins.

A motion was made by Councilor R. White with second by Vice President Meagher to approve an appropriation not to exceed \$400,000 for the purpose of assisting in the purchase of additional permanent protection of the Town's reservoir watershed and Center Island Greenway, located at East Shore Road and Eldred Avenue Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote: Jamestown Friends of Rights of Ways CRMC Adopt-an-Access partner proposal
- 1) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between The Coastal Resource Management Council (CRMC), the Town of Jamestown, Friends of the Jamestown Right of Ways (ROWs), and the Jamestown Conservation Commission
 - 2) Memorandum from the Jamestown Conservation Commission to the Jamestown Town Council in support of the Jamestown Friends of Rights of Ways/CRMC Adopt-an-Access partner proposal

Discussion ensued.

Vice President Meagher had questions regarding the MOU and the role of the Friends of the Right of Ways (ROWs) in addition to the Conservation Commission. Paula Sherlin, a member of the ROWs addressed the Council on the draft MOU. The ROWs volunteers intend to monitor, and clear trash and vegetation in the 14 designated locations. The draft MOU had been revised and Ms. Sherlin reported that the CRMC indicated that they are ready to partner with the Town of Jamestown, the Friends/ROWs, and the Conservation Commission.

Solicitor Ruggiero cautioned the Town Council on potential liability. The Friends of ROWs is not an organized group registered with the State of RI. He recommended that they formerly organize. A copy of the draft MOU would be forwarded to Solicitor Ruggiero for review.

Vice President Meagher requested the item be tabled until the next Town Council meeting. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote on the FY2022/2023: Town Administrator's Proposed Budget; Possible action to adopt and recommend the proposed FY2022/2023 Town Budget of \$28,285,275 for consideration at the Annual Financial Town Meeting on June 6, 2022
- 1) Town Administrator's Proposed Town General Fund Budget of \$12,310,218
 - 2) Town Administrator's Proposed School Budget of \$15,975,057

Discussion ensued.

Town Administrator Hainsworth gave a brief summary of the proposed Town General Fund and School budgets. The proposed budgets fully fund both at the 4% cap. Finance Director Collins reiterated that the budget will not exceed the tax levy cap.

President Beye and Vice President Meagher acknowledged the challenges that the Town and School Administrations were faced during the budget deliberations, and they thanked Town Administrator Hainsworth, Finance Director Collins, Dr. Duva, and Finance Director Littlefield for finding a solution.

Vice President Meagher read Councilor Brine's email statement in support of the proposed budgets. Councilor R. White was pleasantly surprised that there was a Council consensus in support of the proposed budget. He remarked that the evolution of the budget exhibited the dedication and good faith effort by all to trim the school committee budget. The process had exposed areas that the Town Council will need to look at more broadly and proactively, with the continued stakeholder engagement (parents, staff, taxpayers). Town Administrator Hainsworth commented that the budget deliberations start each year in the Fall. The unexpected increased school tuition for the current and future fiscal year created budget challenges. Thanks to the coordinated and collaborative efforts of the Town Council, School Committee members, Finance Director Collins, School Finance Director Littlefield, Superintendent Duva, Solicitor Ruggiero, and Atty. Ferrara, Town Department Directors and Officials, and community members the proposed budget will move forward to the Financial Town Meeting.

A motion was made by Councilor M. White with second by Vice President Meagher to adopt and recommend the proposed FY2022/2023 Town Budget of \$28,285,275 for consideration at the Annual Financial Town Meeting on June 6, 2022. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote: Approve fee waiver request for the Ft. Getty Pavilion on July 30, 2022, for the Air Force Welcome Party by Col. Kenny Weiner
 - 1) Letter to the Jamestown Town Council and Jamestown Parks and Recreation from Col. Kenny Weiner

Discussion ensued.

Col. Weiner addressed the Town Council and commented that Jamestown has been the best location he has ever been stationed in while serving in the US Airforce. The Welcome Party plans are progressing. He thanked the Council for their consideration.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to approve the fee waiver request for the Ft. Getty Pavilion on July 30, 2022, for the Air Force Welcome Party by Col. Kenny Weiner. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

VIII. ORDINANCES, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES, AND EXPIRING TERMS

- A) Ordinances; Discussion and Possible Action to Order to Advertise in the Jamestown Press; Notice of a Public Hearing for Proposed Amendments to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Amusements and Entertainment, Article I -In General; These

Amendments are proposed to update and modernize the existing Amusement and Entertainment ordinance

Discussion ensued.

Chief Mello reviewed the changes to the draft ordinance based on Council recommendations. Vice President Meagher suggested more consistency in the language (i.e. license vs permits). Councilor R. White was confident that once the suggested changes had been made in consultation with Solicitor Ruggiero, he would be in support of the ordinance.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to order to advertise, pending suggested changes, in the Jamestown Press; Notice of a Public Hearing for Proposed Amendments to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Amusements and Entertainment, Article I -In General; These Amendments are proposed to update and modernize the existing Amusement and Entertainment ordinance. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote regarding the Jamestown Bike Committee and permission to advertise for the newly formed committee.
 - 1) Bike Committee Charge
 - 2) Councilmember appointment

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to approve the draft charge and gave permission to advertise for the newly formed Bike Path Committee. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- C) Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote: permission to advertise unexpired and expiring vacancies for the following Committee/Boards/Commissions:
 - 1) Affordable Housing (2) Members, three-year term ending 5/31/2025
 - 2) Fire Department Compensation (2) Citizen-At-Large; three-year term ending 5/31/2025
 - 3) Tax Assessment Board of Review (1) Member; three-year term ending 5/31/2025

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to give permission to advertise for the unexpired and expiring vacancies. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) Adoption of Town Council Minutes

- 1) March 14, 2022 (Town Council Budget Work Session Meeting)
 - 2) March 15, 2022 (Joint Budget Work Session Meeting)
 - 3) March 21, 2022 (Regular Meeting)
- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
- 1) Jamestown Zoning Board of Review (February 22, 2022)
- C) Authorization of the Warrant and Resolutions for the June 6, 2022, Financial Town Meeting (Warrants are routine in matter as they relate to setting the tax rate.)
- 1) Resolution Number 1: Sewer Line Frontage Tax Rate (.68 cents per linear foot, included on the tax bill for homes in the Sewer district)
 - 2) Resolution Number 2: Borrowing in Anticipation of Taxes (Authorizes the Town the ability to borrow funds in anticipation of the 1st quarter's taxes being due.)
 - 3) Resolution Number 3: Disposition of Collected Back Taxes (All back taxes to be placed in the General Fund at time of receipt.)
 - 4) Resolution Number 4: Setting the Tax Rate (Actual rate to be determined within a range at the FTM.)
 - 5) Resolution Number 5: An Appropriation Not to Exceed \$400,000 For the Purposes of Assisting in The Purchase of Additional Permanent Protection of The Town's Reservoir Watershed and Center Island Greenway, Located at East Shore Road and Eldred Avenue, Plat 4 Lots 2, 133, 134, 135, 136, 141, And 142

Discussion ensued.

The Town Council requested that item C) 5) Resolution Number 5 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor R. White to approve the consent agenda. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

X. 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
- 1) Copy of Email to: Jamestown Town Council
From: Vice President Meagher
Dated: March 23, 2022
Re: Dutch Island control burn
 - 2) Copy of Email to: Jamestown Town Council
From: Linda Jamison
Dated: March 21, 2022
Re: No waiver

- 3) Copy of Email to: Jamestown Town Council
From: anonymous
Dated: March 22, 2022
Re: War College Transients Lobbying
 - 4) Copy of Email to: Jamestown Town Council
From: Chris Powell
Dated: March 25, 2022
Re: Fox Hill Farm and Ft. Getty Park
- B) Petitions, Proclamations, and Resolutions
- 1) Resolution of the City Council of the City of Woonsocket in Opposition to S-2557 and H-7829 Mandatory Translation Services

The Town Council acknowledged the Communications received.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor M. White to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

Attest:



Roberta J. Fagan, Town Clerk