



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Jamestown Town Hall
Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers
93 Narragansett Avenue
Tuesday, January 3, 2023
5:30 P.M.

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PERSON ONLY.

The public is welcome to participate in this Town Council meeting. Open Forum offers citizens the opportunity to clarify an item on the agenda, address items not on the agenda, or comment on a communication or Consent Agenda item. Citizens are welcome to speak to the subject of a Public Hearing and are allowed to speak at the discretion of the Council President or a majority of Councilors present, or at other times during the meeting, in particular during New or Unfinished Business.

Anyone wishing to speak should use the microphone at the front of the room, stating their name and address for the record; comments must be addressed to the Council, not the audience. The Town Council hopes that citizens and Councilors alike will be respectful of each other's right to speak, tolerant of different points of view, and mindful of everyone's time.

Attachments for items on this meeting agenda are available to the public on the Town website at:

<https://jamestownri.gov/town-government/town-council/town-council-meetings-minutes/2023-meetings-minutes>

I. TOWN COUNCIL INTERVIEWS: The Jamestown Town Council will conduct interviews of applicants for the committee vacancies as follows:

TIME	NAME	COMMITTEE
5:30	Antonia Baum**	Library Board of Trustees
5:40	William Harsch	Conservation Commission, Library Board of Trustees & Quonset Development

**This interview will be conducted via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83368225011>

Meeting ID: 833 6822 5011 One tap mobile
+13126266799,,83368225011# US (Chicago)
+16465588656,,83368225011# US (New York)

Conclusion of Town Council Interview Session

**THE JOINT TOWN COUNCIL AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORK
SESSION WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 P.M.**

THIS MEETING WILL BE LIVE STREAMED: To view the meeting with no interaction:
<http://www.record-server.net/Jtown/StreamPrimJtown.html>

II. ROLL CALL

III. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. JOINT TOWN COUNCIL AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORK SESSION 6:00 P.M.

- A) Review, discussion, and/or potential action and/or vote of budget issues for the remainder of the current fiscal year (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) and pre-budget review and discussion of issues for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) pursuant to RIGL §16-2-21

The Town Council's Open Meeting will begin at 6:30 P.M.

V. 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 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
B) Non-scheduled request to address

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

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Approve and authorize the Town Clerk to forward to the local delegation to the RI General Assembly a Resolution In Support of Amendments to Abatements for Members of the Jamestown Fire Department. No. 2023-01

**VII. COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATOR, 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)

- A) Town Administrator's Report: Jamie A. Hainsworth
- 1) Damage to Town property December 22 & 23, rain storm
 - 2) Negotiations with the International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO)
 - 3) Electronic Permitting; Building permits
 - 4) East Ferry use update on CMS/Jamestown Newport Ferry Service
 - 5) Covid 19 Testing update

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: At the request of Councilor Brine consideration to form a Tax Relief Working Group and or Committee
 - 1) Correspondence from Marian Falla

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: New Workshop/Storage Building, Plat 7, Lot 1, Town of Jamestown
 - 1) Memorandum from Public Works Director Michael Gray to Town Administrator Hainsworth

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: At the request of President Beye consideration to form a Senior Services Committee

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Review of the recruitment process for a new Town Administrator

- C) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: At the request of Councilor Brine regarding the Commerce RI/Rhode Island Broadband Speed Test and Survey

X. ORDINANCES, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES AND EXPIRING TERMS

- A) Appointments, Vacancies, and Expiring Terms; Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote:
 - 1) Beavertail State Park Advisory Committee One (1) member; three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Lisa Primiano (seeking reappointment)
 - ii) Barbara Scanlon

 - 2) Conservation Commission: Three (3) members, three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) **Anne Kuhn-Hines-term limit (seeking reappointment)**
 - ii) Joyce Antonello (seeking reappointment)
 - iii) Gary Post
 - iv) Robert Laman
 - v) William Harsch

 - 3) Harbor Management Commission, Two (2) members, three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Michael Junge (seeking reappointment)
 - ii) Graham Jamison
 - iii) Gary Post
 - iv) Susan Romano (new applicant)

- 4) Library Board of Trustees, Two (2) members, three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Ted Baldwin
 - ii) Antonia Baum
 - iii) William Harsch

- 5) Juvenile Hearing Board, One (1) full member, three-year term ending 12/31/2025, and One (1) alternate member, two-year term ending 12/31/2024:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Agnes Filkins (seeking reappointment)
 - ii) Nancy Ventrone (seeking reappointment)

- 6) Jamestown Tree Warden, pursuant to RIGL§2-14-2: each city and town must appoint a licensed arborist to serve as a tree warden each year during their January Council meeting. Review, discussion, and/or potential action and/or vote:
 - a) Letter of interest for reappointment
 - i) Steve Saracino
 - b) Letter of recommendation
 - ii) Jamestown Tree Preservation and Protection Committee Chairman Walter Bopp

- 7) Quonset Development, One (1) member, three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of Interest
 - iii) Jim Rugh
 - iv) William Harsch
 - v) Joseph Cannon

XI. 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) November 28, 2022 (Executive Session- sealed)
 - 2) December 5, 2022 (Regular Meeting)
 - 3) December 19, 2022 (Regular Meeting)

- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
 - 1) Jamestown Zoning Board of Review (November 15, 2022)
 - 2) Bike Committee Minutes (August 17, 2022)
 - 3) Bike Committee Minutes (October 21, 2022)
 - 4) Bike Committee Minutes (November 18, 2022)

C) Tax Assessor's Abatements and Addenda of Taxes

ABATEMENTS TO THE 2022 TAX ROLL		
14-0396-00	UPDATED PROP INFORMATION	\$ 461.04
13-1954-50	UPDATED PROP INFORMATION	\$ 411.48
04-0253-64	UPDATED PROP INFORMATION	\$ 455.61
10-0344-65	UPDATED PROP INFORMATION	\$ 828.38
TOTAL ABATEMENTS TO 2022 TAX ROLL		\$2,156.51
TOTAL ADDENDA TO 2022 TAX ROLL		\$ 0.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$2,156.51

XII. 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 Email to: Town Council
From: Marian Falla
Received: December 23, 2022
Re: Tax Relief Committee and Accessory Dwelling Units

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-6(c) Notice of this meeting shall be posted on the Secretary of State's website and at the Town Hall and the Jamestown Philomenian Library. Notice is also posted at the Jamestown Police Station and on the Internet at www.jamestownri.gov.

ALL NOTE: If communications assistance is needed or other accommodations to ensure equal participation, please call 1-800-745-5555, or contact the Town Clerk at 401-423-9800, via facsimile to 401-423-7230, or email rfagan@jamestownri.net not less than three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

Posted on the RI Secretary of State website on December 29, 2022



Town of Jamestown
Resolution of the Town Council

No. 2023-01

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
AMENDMENTS TO ABATEMENTS FOR MEMBERS
OF THE JAMESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown at the regular meeting held Tuesday, January 3, 2023, addressed the current tax abatement provided to every member in good standing of the Jamestown Fire Department; and

WHEREAS the Town Council considered several alternative tax abatement provisions provided by the Town administrative staff and Town Administrator to amend the present tax abatement levels for every member in good standing of the Jamestown Fire Department; and

WHEREAS after consideration of the proposed tax abatement amendments, the Town Council voted to request the R.I. General Assembly to support and authorize the following amendments to the local tax abatements provided to every member in good standing of the Jamestown Fire Department a real property tax abatement up to Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) based on a formula attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit 1.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown hereby resolves, approves, and authorizes the Town Clerk to forward this resolution to the local delegation to the RI General Assembly for their support and passage to enable the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown to adopt such tax abatement amendments to the Jamestown Code of Ordinances.

By Order of the Jamestown Town Council

Nancy A. Beye, President

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby attach my hand and the official
Seal of the Town of Jamestown this ___ day of January 2023.

Roberta Fagan, Town Clerk



**JAMESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT
Fire Department Tax Abatement Program**

A. Tax Abatement Program

General Purpose:

Any member who meets the criteria of being a member "in good standing" is eligible for an annual tax abatement from the Town of Jamestown. The amount of the abatement is based on length of service.

Criteria for a member "in good standing" is as follows:

1. A member who actively participates in twenty-four (24) JFD training sessions, approved outside training classes or approved outside continuing education courses.
2. The member must respond to a minimum of twenty percent (20%) of the total fire incidents during the previous year's award year. An award year is defined as a fiscal year (July 1-June 30th)

Tax Abatements are distributed as follows:

1. Any active member who qualifies as a member "in good standing" will receive a property tax abatement for their property or the cash equivalent per schedule below.
2. Any active member of the Department who retires after July 1, 2023, and who has completed twenty-five (25) "member in good standing" years of service and has reached age fifty-five (55) will receive an annual \$2,000.00 property tax abatement or the cash equivalent if they do not own property. This benefit is transferrable to a surviving spouse until they are re-married or deceased.

Abatement Schedule:

1 -9 years of service = \$1,000.00
 10-19 years of service = \$1,500.00
 20+ years of service = \$2,000.00 (maximum award)

Note: Dual Members of both the JFD and EMS are only allowed to earn only one (1) property tax abatement or cash equivalent per year.

Exhibit 1- Town of Jamestown 2023-01
12/29/2022



**JAMESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM**

A. Tax Abatement Program

General Purpose:

Any member who meets the criteria of being a member "in good standing" is eligible for an annual tax abatement from the Town of Jamestown. The amount of the abatement is based on length of service.

Criteria for a member "in good standing" is as follows:

1. A member who actively participates in 24 weekly training sessions, approved outside training classes or approved outside continuing education courses.
2. The member must have worked a minimum of 40 EMS shifts during the previous award year. An award year is defined as a fiscal year (July 1 -June 30th). A shift is defined as 6am-12pm, 12pm-6pm, or 6pm-6am. Shift pay is \$7.50 per six hours shift for Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) and \$4.00 per six hours shift for Drivers.

Tax Abatement are distributed as follows:

1. Any active member who qualifies as a member "in good standing" will receive a property tax abatement for their property or the cash equivalent per schedule below.
2. Any active member of the Department who retires after July 1, 2023, and who has completed twenty-five (25) "member in good standing" years of service and has reached age fifty-five (55) will receive an annual \$2,000.00 property tax abatement or the cash equivalent if they do not own property. This benefit is transferrable to a surviving spouse until they are re-married or deceased.

Abatement Schedule:

1 -9 years of service = \$1,000.00
 10-19 years of service = \$1,500.00
 20+ years of service = \$2,000.00 (maximum award)

Note: Dual members of both the JFD and EMS are only allowed to earn one (1) property tax abatement or cash equivalent per year.



Town of Jamestown
Town Administrator
93 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835-1199
401-423-9805
Email: jhainsworth@jamestownri.net

Jamie A. Hainsworth
Town Administrator

MEMORANDUM TO: Honorable Town Council
FROM: Jamie A. Hainsworth, Town Administrator
DATE: December 28, 2022
SUBJECT: Report for Town Council Meeting January 3, 2023

Damage to Town property December 22 & 23, rain storm: Last weeks storm did a significant amount of damage to some town properties, sidewalks and roadways. Chief Mello will brief you and include photographs of the damage. The following is a list of areas effected;
East Ferry: debris, collapsing sidewalk at rear of memorial square and the wood pile pier decking damage.
Ft Getty: debris clean up on access road, Ft Getty Pier large amount of debris clean up and decking damaged.
Mackerel Cove: Major amount of erosion, bath house footing damaged, beach dunes significantly damaged and the sidewalk eroded.
Conanicus Avenue: Approximately 20 feet of sea wall and side walk collapsed.

Negotiations with International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO): The current bargaining agreement with the IBPO will expire on June 30th, 2023. We are preparing to begin meetings with their representatives.

Electronic Permitting; Building permits: Staff continues meeting with Representatives from the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation (DBR) and the vendor on the States Master Price agreement "Open Gov" to coordinate the transition to e-permitting. Open Gov offers electronic permitting for various municipal functions and staff is exploring the options. As state law requires, the priority remains having the building permits available electronically before July 1, 2023. DBR will fund the first year's costs the Town is responsible for future years maintenance and services.

East Ferry use update on CMS/Jamestown Newport Ferry Service:

Covid 19 Testing update: From November 30th to December 28th there have been Seventeen (17) new positive Covid-19 cases reported with a total of 1370 for Jamestown, according to the RI Department of Health.

To: Roberta J. Fagan
93 Narraganset Ave.
Jamestown, RI
Date: 25 Oct 2022
Subject: Tax Exemption

Can this following item please be added to a future TC agenda?

Agenda item: Tax Exemption

Background:

Jamestown's character has changed materially since we moved here in 1984. The JT TC has in the past attempted to limit commercial activities in residential areas by zoning (i.e., Bed and Breakfast) and the recent STR ordinance. With Jamestown's growing popularity, it is recommended that the Town of Jamestown also revisit tax and property classification of properties/commercial entities within residential areas.

The rental challenges related to STRs highlight areas in Jamestown current tax and residential property classification that may need to be reviewed. The *commercial aspects* of residential rentals, the growth of this industry in JT and the growing number of properties that are *not* occupied by residents, warrants *the review of the existing tax and property classification. In this way the tax classification would better align with conditions that exist today.*

Other island and coastal communities are evaluating or have modified their tax and property classifications to address these evolving commercial market conditions. (See attached Newport and Middletown related articles)

JT Potential Actions:

Now that the STR ordinance is enacted, can JT TC explore tax relief options for its residents who are not using their residential property commercially? Some sort of tax exemption maybe appropriate. It is suggested that JT TC established an ad-hoc tax relief committee to evaluate what other coastal communities are doing to address this challenge and then provide the TC with recommendations/options.

As I understand, Jamestown's goal is to maintain its residential base since this is the backbone of its charm and character. Some type of tax classification change/exemption could result in a benefit to this existing residential base and attract additional non-commercial residents to JT.

In summary, it is suggested that JT TC evaluate what other communities have done and maybe have a subcommittee investigate options related to the implementation of a tiered tax structure and/or implementation of a tax exemption for JT residents.

Thank you,
Marian Falla

██████████
██████████ ██████████

Newport takes step toward giving full-time residents a property tax break. Here's how.

Savana Dunning

Newport Daily News

NEWPORT — After two years contemplating ways to establish higher property tax rates for residents who don't live in the city year-round, the City Council unanimously submitted a bill proposal for local legislators to sponsor at the General Assembly that would allow them to do just that.

"This comes from the work the (Ad Hoc Taxation Relief Committee) has been doing, based on many discussions from this council where we talked about the need to try and find ways to make living in Newport year-round easier for our residents," Councilor Jamie Bova said Wednesday. "I think that it would really benefit all Newporters and make our city more livable for years to come if we can put this into law."

This decision comes a month after the Town of Middletown's new tiered tax rate system for full-time residents went into effect.

Newport currently taxes residential and commercial real estate properties at different rates, but the city has been exploring tax relief options for year-round residents, as opposed to summer home owners, since 2020.

The resolution and accompanying bill proposal was presented to the City Council by the city's Ad Hoc Taxation Relief Committee as an alternative to enacting a homestead exemption. Like several cities across Rhode Island, Newport has had the authority to create a homestead exemption since 2002, but it has yet to draft an ordinance to define it further and has not implemented it into the city budget.

City Manager Joe Nicholson, who worked as a part of the Ad Hoc Taxation Relief Committee, said a homestead exemption didn't provide the kind of tax relief the city wanted, but the city's specific homestead exemption statute in the Rhode Island General Laws limited its authority to enact other types of differential tax rates.

Bova presented a similar resolution to the City Council in 2020 that would have asked for permission from the General Assembly to create a split-tax system in lieu of a homestead exemption. However, after the proposal received pushback from then-Councilor Jeanne Marie Napolitano and Councilor Kathryn Leonard, then-Mayor Bova moved to table the resolution in favor of a workshop instead.

Napolitano later co-sponsored a resolution in March 2020 alongside Leonard and Councilor Lynn Underwood Ceglie that proposed specifically taxing short-term rentals differently than residential properties. This, too, was tabled in favor of discussing the options at the tax workshop.

The Ad Hoc Taxation Relief Committee was born from said workshop as the council decided it needed more research done on the subject.

More: Newport City Council seeks options on tax break for full-time residents

The resolution passed Wednesday is the culmination of the ad hoc committee's work. Comprised of City Manager Joe Nicholson, City Solicitor Christopher Behan, City Finance Director Laura Sitron, other city staff members and several members of the public, the committee reviewed the current homestead exemptions in place throughout Rhode Island and a 2021 report on property tax relief throughout the country from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy to recommend a specific model that would raise residential taxes for non-resident property owners without unintended side effects for other properties.

The model proposed by the report calculates a base rate for all residential properties, estimates how much money would be discounted from year-round residents' taxes based on average property value, then increases the rate for non-qualifying property owners enough to make up for the loss.

Since the proposed model calculates the non-qualifying property tax rate based on a flat dollar amount to be raised, year-round residents with higher property values would see less of a percent discounted from their tax bill than those with lower property values.

At the Wednesday meeting, Leonard said the committee's report, which was attached to the resolution, was too difficult to understand for the general public and the proposed taxation model distributed the tax discount unfairly among qualifying properties.

"Maybe I'm wrong, but the fairness of it, I think, is that everybody gets what would be probably an equal amount, so that it's fair to everybody" Leonard said. "I don't think this is self explanatory at all."

More: [Middletown is giving its full-time residents a tax break. Here what you need to know.](#)

Nicholson agreed the report was complex, but said the issue itself is complex and "has an effect on this city at-large." He reminded the council that the resolution was just to receive the authority to enact a split residential tax system from the state, and the council would need to take further action to implement any actual changes to the city's tax rates.

Councilor Angela McCalla also raised concerns about the proposed tax model in the report, though she and Leonard recognized this was not what they were taking action on. McCalla said she looked forward to having further discussions on the fairness of the proposed model.

More: [Middletown is giving its full-time residents a tax break. Here what you need to know.](#)

“(I’m thinking about) how much our taxation is disproportionately affecting our low to moderate income families,” McCalla said. “I think those are the questions I would want to know going forward: Is this equitable? What are the mechanisms that are put in place?”

Napolitano ultimately called for a vote, saying discussions about the specifics before acquiring the proper enabling legislation could prove problematic and the council approved the resolution unanimously.

City of Newport preparing for two-tier residential tax program

Newport residents are being advised to be on the lookout this week for an official mailing from the Tax Assessor's Office as City staff prepares to accept applications for the recently adopted two-tier residential tax program.

by [What's Up Crew](#) 20 hours ago

Newport residents are being advised to be on the lookout this week for an official mailing from the Tax Assessor's Office as City staff prepares to accept applications for the recently adopted two-tier residential tax program, the City of Newport announced in a press release today.

The program, which was adopted by the City Council earlier this fall, is intended to encourage year-round residency for both property owners and renters alike.

Qualified taxpayers are being encouraged to file an application between January 1, 2023 and March 15, 2023 for a new owner-occupied residential tax rate, which may reduce the amount year-round residents pay in real estate taxes on an annual basis.

In order to qualify:

- Owners of single-family homes must be a Resident of Newport and domicile at the subject property for more than seven (7) months of the year.
- Residential properties of three units or less may also qualify provided that all units are rented to tenants as their principal residence pursuant to a lease of one year or longer.

Please note that the property for which the owner-occupied residential tax rate is claimed must be legally titled in the name of the applicant;

the Trustee of a Revocable or Irrevocable living trust with the applicant residing at the property and paying the taxes; or in Applicant(s) as life tenants who have an obligation to pay the taxes and applicant resides at the subject property.

Applications must be accompanied by acceptable proof of residency, which is as a registered voter in the City of Newport, or a valid Rhode Island Driver's License/ID that lists the subject property as your address.

Owners applying for residential property of three units or less must include copies of leases for all units.

Applications can be filed in person at 43 Broadway, by mail, or electronically through the City's secure FTP site. English and Spanish versions of the application can be downloaded from the City's website at www.cityofnewport.com/residentrate. Questions can be directed to the Newport Tax Assessor's Office at 401-845-5365 or to the Finance Office at 401-845-5394.

Newport Tax Relief Committee Hopes to Continue Work

By Newport This Week Staff | on December 21, 2022

By Philip Cozzolino

As Newport prepares to roll out changes to its residential property tax structure, the ad hoc committee that first recommended the move is hoping to continue its work.

“It took some time, and we are happy with what’s come out so far,” said Penny Billington Hunt, a Newport resident who served on the city’s Tax Relief Committee. “There is some follow-up to further refine the program, both in terms of its rollout and the ultimate council decision about setting the two rates through the budget process, and we look forward to being able to work with the city on that.”

The committee, made up of citizens and city staff, met previously this year and was charged with researching and proposing tax relief strategies for year-round residents. Its final report to the City Council included dividing Newport’s residential tax classification into two categories – those who live in Newport for a majority of the year and those who do not – and taxing them at separate rates.

The goal is that properties that are proven to be owner-occupied for most of the year, or properties that are rented on a yearly basis, will save on annual property taxes, while non-qualifying homes will pay a higher rate to offset the savings.

In November, the City Council adopted the recommendation, and the ad hoc committee, temporary by nature, was dissolved.

The city will begin accepting applications for the program on Jan. 1. The application period runs through March 15.

“I just want to make it very clear that the property owner needs to be proactive in applying for this exemption,” said Council Vice Chair Lynn Ceglie at a Dec. 14 council meeting. “They need to come to City Hall to drop off their forms, mail them in or do the application online.”

“I would encourage people to apply for and embrace this program,” said Mayor Xay Khamsyvovong. “We really want to try to get to properties that are also occupied by renters here yearround. These aren’t just owner-occupied, single-family homes; we’re also talking about properties that may be rented out to Newport residents. Those are eligible.”

Billington Hunt hopes the committee will be reinstated through June 30 to monitor the program's rollout, provide feedback and work with the city on refining details, if needed.

In its work on providing the recommendation to the council, the committee extensively researched methods of property tax relief for qualifying residents, calculating and weighing options like a homestead exemption, and determined how such strategies played out in nearby municipalities.

One of the components of the new program is that savings for qualified properties will be a fixed number, rather than a percentage off the home's assessed value, as with a homestead exemption. Making the savings uniform for all qualifying homes prevents the highest assessed properties from seeing the largest discounts, Billington Hunt said. That lesson came from the town of Narragansett, which rolled out a 10 percent homestead exemption for residents in 2017 and saw the most savings go to property owners with the highest assessed homes.

"The Newport method makes the savings more meaningful to people in a lower income bracket, and I think that's a very important feature of the program," Billington Hunt said. "While many residents are struggling with property tax increases, and rental tenants are certainly struggling with rent increases driven by valuation increases, there are also some residents who say they really don't need the discount, and they don't know why they're eligible for it. We live in a fixed income community, and I think it's helpful for people to know there is some thought put into the way this discount is structured."

While the method has been seemingly worked out, exact figures have not. For example, the actual discount for qualifying properties is currently unknown. Further, the city does not know how many qualifying properties there are, nor how many homeowners will apply. While the city maintains a rental registration database for residential properties in Newport, it does not keep track of how many properties are occupied year-round.

The difficulty around enforcing mandatory participation in the rental registration database, along with the potential for abuse, is one of the reasons Billington Hunt hopes the committee can continue.

"Those were some of the sensitivities around rolling out something like this," she said.

At the council meeting, finance director Laura Sitrin said the city is expecting about 5,000 applications.

"We have been fielding numerous phone calls in the last few days, lots of people walking in, as well, and asking questions," she said. "The word is getting out there."

"That is one of the things we hope to learn as we see this program roll out," said Billington Hunt. "We are excited to see what the ultimate enrollment is. I hope to see the city use this data to also cross-reference our short-term rental database."

Another component of the new program includes an isolation of the commercial tax rate from the changes being made to the residential tax structure.

Newport currently employs the maximum disparity between its commercial and residential tax rates, with the commercial rate at 150 percent of the residential rate. The committee found that other municipalities that tried separate rates for different residential tax classifications ended up increasing the commercial tax rate in order to make up for the intended savings. With that move not a possibility in Newport, the intent is that the savings accrued by qualifying property owners through the new program will be compensated for exclusively by tax increases on non-qualifying homes.

The increase to non-qualifying properties will be a percentage, so that the non-qualifying properties with the highest assessed value will pay the most.

"The only decision to be made is how much to shift the burden," Billington Hunt said. "That is the piece that city staff will talk about in the sense of making the decision during the upcoming budget process when they set the tax rate. There is a policy decision to be made there that has not been determined at this time.

"We don't want the program to be panned as ineffective, but we don't want to shock everybody, either," she said.

In order to qualify for the discount, owners of single-family homes must be Newport residents and live at the subject property for more than seven months of the year. Residential properties of three units or less may also qualify provided that all units are rented to tenants as their principal residence pursuant to a lease of one year or longer.

Applications must be accompanied by acceptable proof of residency, as a registered voter in the city of Newport, or via a valid Rhode Island driver's license/ID that lists the subject property as the applicant's address. Owners applying for residential properties of three units or less must include copies of leases for all units.

Applications can be filed at City Hall, by mail or online through the city website. The application is available in both English and Spanish.

The Newport City Council approved new tax classifications on Nov. 9 that will reduce rates on homeowners who rent out properties long-term, rent from owner-occupied homes, and own multiple long-term rentals.

According to current projections, the new classes will reduce tax rates by about 7 to 10 percent.

“The reason we worked hard to pass this two-tiered system was to allow and encourage landlords to have year-round leases, so more people could have housing,” Councilor Kate Leonard said. “It is a problem in this town.”

The ordinances were adopted unanimously, with an exception for military families.

“If they get transferred, there is no penalty for owners when military tenants to let them out of their leases,” said Leonard.

This section of the new ordinances will also not allow landlords who rent to military school tenants from September through May and then rent short-term during the summer to receive a tax exemption.

“Full year leases in two- to threefamily properties with the landlord occupying one unit will give the landlord a tax break to encourage more housing supply for locals,” said Leonard.

Councilor Jamie Bova explained other changes, including a language change from “taxpayer” to “applicant,” saying she feels there is confusion regarding homeowners vs. rental units in the application process.

City solicitor Christopher Behan further stated that someone who is receiving the lower tax rate on a property that they live in yearround can also receive that rate on another property owned in the city if it is rented out yearly.

“I think that this two-tiered residential tax program will have an impact on our residents,” Bova said. “This is a long time coming.”

She cited the hard work of city staff and the ad hoc Tax Committee, who culled a report after many months. “Their report was substantial and comprehensive,” she said.

Bova said the next step is “ensuring outreach” and enrollment to residents. “I am sure there are many people who don’t know we are implementing this program,” she said.

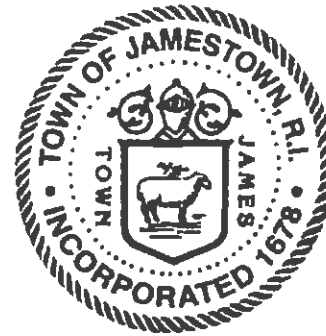
Leonard said, “The goal was to bring in more units to local people. Many landlords rent their units from September to May, and then [use them as] summer rentals for those three months for big, big dollars.”

She pointed to a landlord who earns \$60,000 to \$70,000 a month in rent during the summer.

“People don’t understand the impact for people looking for housing here if those landlords are not generous enough to offer those units at fair market value,” she said.

**Town of
Jamestown, Rhode Island**

PO Box 377
Jamestown, RI 02835- 1509
Phone: (401) 423-7220
Fax: (401) 423-7229



Date: December 22, 2022

To: Jamie Hainsworth
Town Administrator

From: Michael Gray
Public Works Director

RE: New Workshop/Storage Building
Plat 7 Lot 1
Town of Jamestown

We have set aside capital funding over the last several years for the construction of a new workshop/storage building adjacent to the highway garage at 5 Freebody Drive, Plat 7 Lot 1 as depicted on the attached Site Plan and Building Plan. I would like to present this project to the Town Council at the January 3rd regular meeting. If the Town Council supports this plan, I will present the project to the planning board and seek a modification to the special use permit for the property at zoning in January.

The proposed workshop/storage building will provide much needed space for the public works department to complete construction projects for the Town. Two existing bays within the unheated storage area of the highway garage have been dedicated to the carpenter for wood working equipment, shelving storage, lumber racks, and tools as shown in the attached photos. This area is directly adjacent to truck and equipment storage where rainwater, snowmelt and salt drops onto the concrete floor impacting the working conditions, tools, and lumber materials. Trucks and equipment must park outside to allow projects to be built in the garage. Since 2009 many projects have been completed in the existing highway garage building that include: Mackerel Cove Life Guard Station, Pavilion Bathrooms, West Ferry Bathroom, East Ferry Pump House, Floats/docks replacements at East Ferry and West Ferry, and many small scale projects for Town Buildings. We will be constructing the new Fort Getty Guard Shack in the garage this winter.

The Town Council has supported the funding of a new building for the public works department with dedicated space where the staff can work on projects for the Town. The proposed building as shown on the Building Plan measures 32'x65' which is the approximate footprint within the existing highway garage that was dedicated for the workshop, material storage, and project space. Two bays are proposed for the new

workshop with a 16' ceiling height to construct projects within the building. Proposed door heights will allow the loader to drive in and lift the projects and move them out to a trailer for delivery. The area adjacent to the bays will allow the woodworking tools and equipment to be set-up with adequate space to work safely. A mezzanine is also proposed above the work space for additional storage for lumber and materials. Attached is a photo of a building on the former CMS property located behind the Jamestown Police Station as an example of the siding and roofing material and color.

The location of the proposed building is along the edge of the existing paved parking lot just north of the existing highway garage as shown in the attached photos. Currently this paved area is used for gravel material storage which will be relocated on the site adjacent to the existing driveway as shown on the site plan. There are no changes proposed for ingress or egress to the lot with the proposed construction.

The following parking calculations are prepared for the buildings:

Highway Garage Offices	1600 sf / 400 sf/space = 4
Garage – Mechanic Bays (heated)	6695 sf / 400 sf/spaces= 16.7
New Workshop	2,080 sf / 400 sf/space = 5.2
Total	26 spaces

The existing parking for the highway garage received a variance from the zoning board in 2008 for the existing 19 spaces where 33 spaces were calculated at that time. There are 11 employees in the Highway Department which has provided ample parking since the garage was constructed in 2009. The new workshop will require an additional 5 spaces as calculated but no spaces are proposed for this project since no new employees are planned for the department.

There are existing utilities on the property as noted on the site plan attached. The new building will require electrical that will be installed underground to the building. The water and sewer needed for a small bathroom will be connected to the municipal water and sewer system onsite.

Surface water runoff from the proposed building and existing pavement areas is collected in drainage swales that discharge to a water quality basin located within the grassed median area of the wastewater treatment plant.

Additional evergreens will be planted along Bay View Drive to extend the screening planted for the highway garage.

Exterior lights will be installed on the front of the building for safety. The building will receive minimal light during the off hours and during snow storm operations.



Photo inside unheated bays of highway garage. Carpenter work area shown





Carpenter work space



Proposed location for workshop adjacent to existing pavement in area of material bins.



Workshop location looking south toward highway garage.



Photo taken behind police station of a building on the former CMS property. This is an example of the siding and roofing color for the proposed new workshop.

THE MIDDLETOWN SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTER
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Name and Office

The name shall be the Middletown Senior Citizens' Center. The principal office of the Center shall be located at 650 Green End Avenue in the Town of Middletown, County of Newport, State of Rhode Island.

ARTICLE II

Board of Directors

A Board of Directors shall formulate policies and procedures to identify and evaluate issues concerning the needs of the older population of the Town of Middletown, and such other older persons as may be identified by the Board. The term "older population" shall mean those residents of the Town of Middletown who have attained the age of fifty-five (55) or older, or such other persons as may be identified by the Board.

1. The Board of Directors is empowered by the Town Council of the Town of Middletown as follows:

a. To establish policies and procedures relating to all senior services programs and to the operation of the Middletown Senior Citizens' Center and to assist the Town Administrator and the Executive Director, as the case may be, in the implementation of said policies and procedures.

b. To prepare the annual senior services department budget for transmission to the Town Administrator and to pursue the proposed budget with the Town Council.

c. To review periodically the status of the senior services department budget.

d. To advise the Executive Director and the Town Administrator, as the case may be, on policies relating to the earning and spending of senior funds, including making any application for funds that may be available from public and private sources and utilizing those funds to meet the needs of senior citizens.

**** AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - March 6, 2000

e. To make recommendations to the Town Administrator in the recruitment and selection of future center personnel.

**** f. To assess annual dues as may be voted on by the Board of Directors, ~~and to waive any such dues for seniors who have reached their seventy-fifth (75th) birthday.~~

2. No individual Board member or group of Board members may give instructions to, or make requests of the Executive Director unless authorized by the full Board of Directors. Only the Chairperson or Board designate shall communicate authorized instructions.

3. No Board member shall chair any committee in the operation of the Center, such as travel committee, hospitality committee, etc., and any other committee established by the Board or the Executive Director, *unless authorized by the Board.

4. MEMBERSHIP. The Board of Directors shall be appointed by the Town Council. The Board shall be comprised of nine (9) members, ~~of which no fewer than six (6) members shall be seniors residing in the Town of Middletown.~~ * and all of which shall be residents of the Town of Middletown.

members of the Center in good standing and residents of the Town of Middletown.
5. TERMS OF OFFICE. Each director shall hold office for a term of three (3) years. Appointments made during January, 1992; shall be staggered to provide that the terms of only three (3) members shall expire during any one year. All appointments shall expire in the month of January.

6. REMOVAL. The Board of Directors upon a two-thirds vote may recommend removal of any Director to the Town Council. The Town Council may remove any member upon such recommendation or on their own motion when, in the opinion of the Town Council, such removal is necessary for the proper functioning of the Board.

7. RESIGNATION. A member of the Board of Directors may resign any time by giving written notice to the Chairperson of the Board and to the Town Council. The resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice or upon the giving of such notice if such time is not so specified, and unless otherwise specified in such notice, the acceptance of the resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

*** AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - October 21, 1996

* AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - January 21, 1992

8. VACANCIES. A vacancy on the Board shall be filled by a majority vote of the Town Council. Any member filling a vacancy shall serve until such member's death, resignation, removal or the expiration of the term being filled. A member filling such vacancy may be re-appointed by the Town Council.

9. ANNUAL MEETINGS. The annual meeting of the Board shall be held ~~on the last Tuesday during the month of February~~ ^{*** April} ~~February~~ ^{at the February meeting.} The annual meeting shall be for the purpose of electing officers, evaluating the years activities and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the Board. The annual meetings shall be held in accordance with the provisions of Rhode Island General Laws regulating open meetings.

10. REGULAR MEETINGS. A regular meeting of the Board shall be held ~~once a month on the last Tuesday of every month~~ ^{*in the morning of the Center's regular monthly membership meeting} unless otherwise designated by the Board in advance. The Board may hold additional or fewer meetings if it deems it appropriate. All regular, special and annual meetings shall be open to the public, and comply with all provisions of the Rhode Island General Laws regulating open meetings. The annual report on the Board's activities for submission to the Council shall be prepared and presented no later than the November meeting

11. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings of the Board, for any purpose or purposes, unless otherwise prohibited by statute, may be called by the Chairperson, or by the Chairperson at the request of not fewer than five (5) members of the Board. Written notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting, and the purpose or purposes of the meeting shall, unless otherwise prescribed by statute or these By-Laws, be delivered by the secretary not less than five (5) days before the date of the meeting, either personally, or by mail, to each member entitled to vote at such meeting. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the member at the address which appears on the records of the Board, with postage paid thereon.

* AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - March 22, 1993

** AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - March 7, 1994.

*** AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - October 21, 1996

12. PLACE OF MEETING. The Board shall meet at the Middletown Senior Citizens' Center unless another place is designated by the Board.

13. QUORUM. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any Board meeting. No vote may be taken unless a quorum is present. All actions taken by the Board shall be by majority vote unless otherwise set forth in these By-Laws.

14. VOTING. Each member entitled to vote shall be entitled to vote upon each matter submitted at a meeting of the Board.

15. PRESUMPTION OF ASSENT. Any member of the Board who is present at a meeting of the Board at which action on any matter is taken, shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless his or her dissent shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting. Such right to dissent shall not apply to a member who voted in favor of such action.

16. PROHIBITION OF COMPENSATION. Directors may not be paid compensation for performance of their duties as Directors or Officers of the Board, except that Directors may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses spent in the performance of their duties as Directors or Officers.

17. CONTRACTS. The Board may spend any moneys appropriated by the Town Council in its annual budget subject to the provisions of the Middletown Town Charter and the Middletown Town Code. Contracts of a value in excess of Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) Dollars shall be entered into only upon approval by the Town Council.

18. LOANS. No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the Board unless authorized by a resolution of the Board and the Town Council. Such authority shall be confined to specific instances. No loan shall be made by the Board to any Director.

19. FISCAL YEAR. The Fiscal year of the Board shall begin on the first day of July and end on the last day of June.

ARTICLE III
Officers of the Board

1. NUMBER. The Officers of the Board shall use a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary, as well as other officers as may be deemed necessary by the Board.

2. ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE. The Officers of the Board shall be elected annually by the members of the Board at the annual meeting. * If the election of the Officers shall not be held at the annual meeting of the Board, such election shall be held as soon thereafter as is practicable. Each officer shall hold office until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified or until such officer's death, resignation or removal in the manner hereinafter provided.

3. CHAIRPERSON. The Chairperson of the Board shall prepare the agenda and preside at all meetings. The meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. The Chairperson may call special meetings of the Board as necessary provided all members of the Board are notified in writing at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. The Chairperson may act only on matters authorized by the Board.

4. VICE-CHAIRPERSON. The Vice-Chairperson, in the absence of the Chairperson, will perform the duties of the Chairperson.

* To be eligible as a candidate for Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or Secretary of the Board, a candidate, if unable to attend the Board meeting on the last Tuesday of February, should submit his or her acceptance in writing to the Executive Director prior to 2:00 P.M. on the preceding Friday. - AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - March 22, 1993
the annual meeting in April

5. SECRETARY. The Secretary shall (a) keep the minutes of the proceedings of the Board and distribute a copy of the minutes of the previous meeting to each Board member; (b) keep a record of the post office address of each Board member; and (c) perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may be assigned by the Chairperson or the Board. A copy of the minutes and tapes, if a recorder is used, shall be kept on file in the office of the Executive Director and made available to any member of the Center upon request.

6. REMOVAL. An officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board whenever in their judgment the best interests of the Board will be served.

7. RESIGNATION. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Chairperson or Secretary. The resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice, or upon the giving of the notice if such time is not so specified, and unless otherwise specified in such notice, the acceptance of the resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

8. VACANCIES. A vacancy in any office of the Board because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, ~~by another Board member~~ * or otherwise, may be filled ~~by a vote of a majority of~~ by a vote of the majority of the Board. Such vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the predecessor officer's term.

ARTICLE IV The Executive Director

1. The Senior Citizens' Center shall have an Executive Director whose primary responsibilities will be to develop and administer all Senior Citizens' Center programs, prepare necessary budgets for Center operations and institute broad based programs to serve the needs of the total senior community.

2. Among the duties to be performed by the Executive Director will be:

a. To administer Senior Center operating budget and prepare monthly financial reports for the Board of Directors.

b. To prepare public information programs to involve the community in the total needs of senior citizens.

c. To attend necessary meetings related to the operation of the Center.

d. To establish Center volunteer committees, e.g., social, travel, hospitality, etc., and other volunteer committees deemed necessary as approved by the Board.

e. To coordinate Senior Center services such as transportation, health care, recreation and other services.

f. To mobilize an active volunteer program of senior citizen involvement and services within the community.

g. To promote the Center as a resource for all seniors and the general community.

h. To prepare a monthly newsletter to be distributed throughout the community.

i. To prepare a long-range plan for the Center to be presented to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.

j. To implement the policies and procedures relating to senior services programs and to the operation of the Middletown Senior Citizens' Center as may be established by the Board of Directors.

3. The Executive Director shall give a report to the Board of Directors at their regular meeting which will include the activities that have taken place at the Center since the last meeting, plans for activities to take place in the immediate future, activities of Center volunteer committees, and also maintain an up-to-date record of membership of the Center, and report to the Board of Directors each month the size of the membership reflecting any increase or decrease.

4. The working conditions of the Executive Director, i.e., number of days per week, hours, etc., will be recommended by the Board to the Town Administrator and/or Town Council. Should the Executive Director be required to be in the Center above and beyond normal working hours to accommodate an organization, it shall compensate the Executive Director at the applicable hourly rate being paid by the Town at the time. and determined by the Town Administrator.

5. Emergency Fund. The Executive Director is empowered to spend up to Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars for senior related activities, or the needs of the Center, without Board approval.

6. Removal. The Board of Directors upon a two-thirds vote may recommend removal of the Executive Director. The Town Administrator may remove the Director upon such recommendation or on his/her own motion when, in the opinion of the Town Administrator, such removal is necessary for the proper functioning of the Board.

7. Resignation. The Executive Director may resign by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the Chairperson of the Board and to the Town Administrator. The resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice and unless otherwise specified in the notice, the acceptance of the resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

ARTICLE V
Miscellaneous

1. Parliamentary Authority. The parliamentary authority shall be Roberts Rules of Order to the extent they are applicable, and to the extent that they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

2. Interpretation. Whenever the context of these By-Laws so dictate, the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular and the masculine, feminine and neuter shall be deemed to have been used interchangeably.

3. Severability. If any provision of these By-Laws is held to be invalid or unenforceable, all other provisions shall remain valid and remain in full force and effect.

4. Books and Records. The Executive Director shall keep correct and complete books and records at the Middletown Senior Citizens' Center office. Such books and records shall be open to any member at reasonable times and available for public inspection during regular business hours.

5. These By-Laws may be altered, amended or repealed and *** new By-Laws may be adopted by the Board ~~subject to the assent of the Town Council at any regular or special meeting of the Board~~ provided that written notice of such meeting be forwarded by the Secretary to each Board member at least five (5) days in advance stating the proposed change in the By-Laws. * Prior to implementation of new by-law, the Town Council, in regular session, shall approve and adopt said by-law.

SEE TEXT NEXT PAGE.

** ARTICLE VI. Misconduct of Members. (See text, next page.) Adopted by the Middletown Senior Citizens' Center Board of Directors on the 14th day of January, 1992.

* AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - January 21, 1992

** APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY COUNCIL - June 5, 1995

*** AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - October 21, 1996

Assented to by the Middletown Town Council on the 21st day of January, 1992.

[Signature]
Michael P. Keher
[Signature]
George Florkin, President
Walter O. Kiley
Robert Fulworn, Vice-Chairman
Alicia F. Kaul

**

ARTICLE VI

Misconduct of Members

Any person who exhibits behavior that: (1) interferes with the rights, ~~AND~~ ^{OR HEALTH} safety of Senior Center volunteers, staff members and members, or (2) interferes with the performance of participants in a center program, or (3) harasses any member or staff of the Center or (4) who does not adhere to the by-laws or the rules and regulations of the Center, shall be given a warning verbally and in writing by the Executive Director that continued behavior described above could result in temporary removal from the Center and the Center's programs and activities.

A written report shall be prepared by the Executive Director notifying the person of the date of the incident, a complete description of the incident, the names of staff and members who witness the incident and the recommendation of the Executive Director to the Board of Directors as to what action should be taken. Copies of the report shall be sent to the Board of Directors and the Town Administrator. The Board of Directors will meet no later than 10 days from the date of the written report. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to (1) take no action, or (2) to limit the persons participation in the Center programs and activities or (3) to suspend the person from participation in Center programs and activities for a period of time not to exceed 90 days. Such hearing shall be open to the public unless the person involved requests a hearing in executive session.

A final appeal may be arranged with representatives of the Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs.

** APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY COUNCIL - June 5, 1995

*** ARTICLE V, NO. 5

These By-Laws may be altered, amended or repealed and new By-Laws may be adopted by the Board at any two consecutive regular or special meetings of the Board, subject to the assent of the Town Council. The second meeting shall not be less than ten days following the first meeting. Written notice of such meetings shall be forwarded by the Secretary to each Board member at least five (5) days in advance stating the proposed change in the By-Laws. Prior to the implementation of new by-law, the Town Council, in regular session, shall approve and adopt said By-Law.

*** AMENDED BY VOTE OF COUNCIL - October 21, 1996

Suggested Options for recruitment of a Town Administrator: New Business agenda; My recommendation is the Council pursue one of the following options for a replacement.

1. The short path is to place an ad for 10 days in the appropriate sources (RILCT/ICMA/ProJo/Jamestown Press). The Council could then meet to review all applications and narrow the interview list to three or four applicants, then pick from that list. This path could be completed by the end of January.
2. The longer path is to do a more wide-ranging search, have a larger interview pool (up to 8 - 10 applicants), then have interviews and make a selection. I expect this process will take 6 to 8 weeks.

I suggest “option 1”, if you agree then the Council would meet on or soon after the return date to decide if they are satisfied with the interested applicants, if so, decide on who to interview. Set a date to conduct those interviews.

Recommended add and venues suggested to advertise “Option 1”.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Advertisement - Draft for Review

The Town of Jamestown, RI (5,400 pop.), is seeking an experienced, professional, local government leader to serve as its next Town Administrator. This highly desirable island community (9 sq. mi.) is located in the lower Narragansett Bay and on Block Island Sound. Its many assets include a vibrant village center, active waterfront, scenic coastal features as well as pastoral agricultural landscapes, and an energetic and involved citizenry. The island lies across the Bay from the world-renowned Newport, RI and just 30 miles south of Providence. Jamestown is fiscally sound, has an excellent K-8 school system, and offers a high quality of life. The Home Rule Charter (available on the Town website) stipulates the duties and responsibilities of the elected five-member Town Council and the appointed Town Administrator. The annual budget is approximately \$28.2 M (Town \$12.3 M; school \$15.9M). The town employs 57 FT; 23 PT; and 35 seasonal employees. The successful candidate will have demonstrated experience and/or knowledge in local government operations, budgeting and finance, labor relations, and creative community-based public process problem solving. Strong interpersonal, written, and verbal skills are essential. Qualifications include: Minimum of a BA/BS in a public administration or related field. Advanced degree preferred. At least 5 years of progressive municipal management and leadership experience. Starting salary is \$120,000 or commensurate with qualifications and experience. Jamestown is an equal opportunity employer. Additional information available at: www.jamestownri.gov.

How to Apply:

Please mail resume to Town Administrator Search, Town of Jamestown, 93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown, RI 02835 by noon on January 23, 2023 or email resume to aflath@Jamestownri.net. NOTE: All applications received by the Town shall be forwarded to the Jamestown Town Council for review and action, subject to and in accordance with the relevant requirements of the RI Open Meetings Act. In addition, all applications and supporting documents received by the Town shall be subject to the relevant requirements of the RI Access to Public Records Act.

Proposed Advertisement Outlets

Jamestown Press	Providence Journal
ICMA	RI League of Cities and Towns

Roberta Fagan

From: Erik Brine <ebrine@gmail.com>
it: Wednesday, December 21, 2022 9:15 AM
To: Jamie Hainsworth; Duva, Ken.; Chief Edward Mello; Roberta Fagan; Nancy Beye; Michael Glier
Subject: Internet Access in Jamestown

Good morning all,

Could you please help to get the word out in town regarding Commerce RI's efforts to improve broadband capability around the state? They are using the link below to make determinations on where internet service is least effective and unaffordable. The link takes you to a speedtest and then has a very short survey about what type of internet you have access to. It would be very helpful to have as many data points in Jamestown as possible to make the case that we should be a priority in the state's plan to upgrade fiber.

Here is the link.

<https://commerceri.com/broadband/speedtest/>

Ken,

Can you put this out in the Howl?

Roberta,

Can we highlight this as an announcement at the next Council meeting?

Thanks all. Happy Holidays!

V/r,

Erik Brine
(843) 469-0234



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF FOREST ENVIRONMENT
 235 Promenade Street, Suite 394
 Providence, RI 02908

Office: 401.222.2445
 Fax: 401.222.2444

DEC 1 7 2022

December 1, 2022

Greetings!

It is that time of year where each Rhode Island community must begin the process of appointing its Tree Warden.

As you may be aware, one of the responsibilities of my office is to oversee the Tree Warden appointments throughout the state.

I wanted to send out this reminder that to be in accordance with RIGL Sect. 2-14-1 et seq. each city and town must appoint a licensed arborist to serve as a tree warden each year during their **January council meeting**.

** Compliance with the Tree Warden Act is required as a matter of law and is necessary for approval of funding urban forestry tree planting grants.*

In 1901, Rhode Island was one of the first states to enact a tree warden statute. This law has served to protect and enhance some of our state's greatest assets for over a century. Healthy trees improve the quality of the air we breathe, produce shade and moderate local temperatures, reduce storm water runoff management costs, increase property values, and reduce energy use for heating and cooling. Tree wardens play an essential role in sustaining healthy urban and community forests by overseeing the custody of public trees as well as contributing to the development of municipal forestry programs and tree planting initiatives. As we carry forward into the future, the role of the Tree Warden will continue to remain crucial – likely even more so than in the past with the arrival of new insects and diseases and the advent of climactic changes that may significantly affect our urban forest resource.

Enclosed you will find the Tree Warden Appointment Form for 2023. The appointed tree warden must be a licensed arborist or must become a licensed arborist within six (6) months of assuming the office of Tree Warden. If your community needs help finding a licensed arborist to serve as Tree Warden, please call the Division of Forest Environment to request a list of licensees.

Please complete the form and return the original to my office by February 1, 2023. Once I have received your selection of the Tree Warden, it will be submitted for approval and the signed original appointment form will be returned to you for your records.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 222-2445 x2772056 if you have any questions or require additional information.

Robert Allard

RI DEM Division of Forest Environment
 Coordinator, Urban and Community Forestry Program

December 15, 2022

Jamie Hainsworth
Town Administrator
93 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown RI, 02835

RE: TREE WARDEN REAPPOINTMENT

Dear Mr. Hainsworth,

At this time, I would like to respectfully request to be reappointed as Tree Warden for the Town of Jamestown, Rhode Island for 2023. I have enjoyed my tenure in the position working in the community and look forward to having the opportunity to continue.

During my time as Tree Warden, and with assistance from the Tree Preservation and Protection Committee, and Jamestown's Department of Public Works, we continue to identify and complete important projects that have benefited the Town of Jamestown and its residents.

We have also been successful in receiving grant assistance that have helped fund many of our completed projects to date, and continue to be recognized as a Tree City USA Community.

New projects identified for 2023 and the continuation and completion of others from 2022 are the following:

- 1) Design and implementation of new plantings at Fort Getty and areas along Town Bike Path and Town Reservoir.
- 2) Continuation of upgrades with our Town Sustainable Tree Nursery.

- 3) Town-wide tree planting projects and relevant tree management educational seminars/lectures for community members to participate in.
- 4) Completion of grant funded Town Tree Inventory and specimen tree brochure and walking tour map highlighting Town Specimen Trees. Completion of new projects still to be determined, funded by grant assistance in 2023/2024.

In closing, I would welcome the opportunity to be re-appointed as Jamestown's Tree Warden for 2023, and continue to meet the Town of Jamestown and its resident's high expectations.

Sincerely,

Steven Saracino
Tree Warden
Jamestown, RI 02835

Jamestown Tree Preservation and Protection Committee
Town of Jamestown
93 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

Jaime Hansworth
Town Administrator
Town of Jamestown
93 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

December 29, 2022

Re: Tree Warden Reappointment

Dear Mr. Hainsworth,

The Jamestown Tree Preservation and Protection Committee would like to recommend the reappointment of Steve Saracino as Tree Warden for the Town of Jamestown for 2023.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter Bopp
Chairman

Jamestown Tree Preservation and Protection Committee
917-974-9728
wsbopp@gmail.com

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES December 5, 2022

I. TOWN COUNCIL INTERVIEWS: The Jamestown Town Council will conduct interviews of applicants for the committee vacancies as follows:

The following individuals were interviewed for the Library Board of Trustees: Ted Baldwin

The following individuals were interviewed for the Juvenile Hearing Board: Agnes Filkins

The following individuals were interviewed for the Harbor Commission: Michael Junge and Graham Jamison.

William Harsch and Nancy Ventrone did not appear for their interviews.

The interviews concluded at 6:29 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on December 5, 2022. Town Council Members present were as follows: Nancy A. Beye, Mary Meagher, Michael G. White, Randy White, and Erik Brine

Also, in attendance: Town Administrator Jamie Hainsworth, Solicitor Peter Ruggiero, Police, Town Planner Lisa Bryer, Parks and Recreation Director Ray DeFalco, and Town Clerk Roberta Fagan.

III. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Council President Beye called the meeting of the Jamestown Town Council to order at 6:34 p.m. in the Jamestown Town Hall Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers at 93 Narragansett Avenue and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. 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 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
- B) Non-scheduled request to address

V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote regarding a Resolution To Delay The Licensing Requirement For The Short-Term Rental Ordinance, Jamestown Code Of Ordinances Chapter 14 – Buildings And Building Regulations Article V – Short-Term Rentals From January 1, 2023 To January 1, 2024 . No. 2022-17.

Councilor M. White read Resolution 2022-17.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilor M. White with a second by Vice President Meagher to approve the Resolution To Delay The Licensing Requirement For The Short-Term Rental Ordinance, Jamestown Code Of Ordinances Chapter 14 – Buildings And Building Regulations Article V – Short-Term Rentals From January 1, 2023 To January 1, 2024 . No. 2022-17. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

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

- A) Licenses and Permits
- 1) One-Day Event Application: All Event/Entertainment license application approvals are subject to any and all COVID-19 protocols in affect at the time of the event; Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote on the following:
 - a) Applicant: Jamestown Rhode Race
Event: Rhode Races & Events, Inc.
Date: Saturday, September 30, 2023, 7:00 am – 10:30 am
Location: Fort Getty, various town/state roads in Jamestown
 - b) Memorandum from Jamestown Recreation Director Ray DeFalco.

Discussion ensued.

Parks and Recreation Director Ray DeFalco addressed the Town Council. He reported that the 2022 event went very smoothly. The only thing that would change significantly for the 2023 event would be the rental fee for the Fort Getty pavilion.

Race Director Susan Randall thanked the Town Council for their consideration.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the Jamestown Rhode Race One-Day Event Application, taking place on September 30, 2023, at Fort Getty and various town/state roads in Jamestown. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- 2) Fort Getty Pavilion request to waive the rental fee. Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote on the following:
 - a) Applicant: Lt. Col Jeff Cameron
Event: Air Force Welcome Party
Date: July 28, 2023
Location Fort Getty Pavilion
 - b) Letter to the Town Council from Lt. Col Jeff Cameron.

Discussion ensued.

Councilor Brine described the annual welcoming event and would be in favor of approving the application and waiving the Fort Getty Pavilion rental fee.

A motion was made by Councilor Brine with a second by Vice President Meagher to approve the one-day Air Force Welcome Party taking place on July 28, 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 Councilor R. White with a second by Vice President Meagher to approve the request to waive the Fort Getty Pavilion rental fee for the Air Force Welcome Party taking place on July 28, 2023. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

VII. COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATOR, 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)

A) Town Administrator's Report: Jamie A. Hainsworth

- 1) **Jamestown Library Temporary Relocation Completed FYI.**

The Library reopened on November 7th after the successful move to the temporary location on the 2nd floor of the Jamestown Golf Clubhouse building. The groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, December 8th at 1:00 pm on the front lawn of the Library.

- 2) Jamestown Housing Authority (JHA) Request to use funds (agenda item).

On June 21, 2022, the Town Council authorized the funding of \$75,000.00 to the Jamestown Housing Authority for the dire need of upgrading the Heating System. They used a portion of those funds for the engineering study which enabled them to successfully obtain a grant of \$1.4 million dollars to complete the project. Recently JHA has also successfully obtained a CDBG grant to renovate bathrooms in many of the apartments. Executive Director Nikki Vazquez has made the request to use \$21,850.00 from the fund for the engineering and oversight of the renovation project.

- 3) Covid 19 Testing update.

From October 28th to November 30th there have been Fourteen (14) new positive COVID-19 cases reported with a total of 1353 for Jamestown, according to the RI Department of Health.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Short-Term Rental Ordinance (STR) Working Group:
- 1) Potential announcement of the STR working group meeting schedule.

Discussion ensued.

Vice President Meagher and Councilor R. White volunteered for the STR working group and set the meeting date for Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 2 p.m. No other meetings will be scheduled at this time.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Request of the Jamestown Housing Authority (JHA) to reallocate previously awarded funds by the Town Council. The funding, in the amount of \$21,850.00, will be utilized towards the Bathroom Renovation Project.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the request of the Jamestown Housing Authority (JHA) to reallocate previously awarded funds by the Town Council in the amount of \$21,850.00, which will be utilized towards the Bathroom Renovation Project. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

X. ORDINANCES, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES AND EXPIRING TERMS

- A) Appointments, Vacancies, and Expiring Terms; Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote:
- 1) Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee Two [2] member vacancies with an unexpired term ending May 31, 2023:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Antonia Baum
 - ii) Wayne D. Moore
 - b) Permission to advertise vacancies.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to re-advertise the Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee vacancies. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- 2) Beavertail State Park Advisory Committee One (1) member; three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Lisa Primiano (seeking reappointment)
 - ii) Barbara Scanlon
- 2) Charter-Review Committee (Ad hoc) Seven (7) member committee:
 - a) Letter of Interest

- iii) Lucia Marshall
- iv) James Rugh
- v) Job Toll
- vi) Sav Rebecchi (new applicant)
- b) Permission to re-advertise vacancies.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to re-advertise the Charter-Review Committee vacancies. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- 3) Conservation Commission: Three (3) members, three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of resignation
 - i) Anne Kuhn-Hines (term limit)
 - b) Letter of interest
 - i) Joyce Antonello (seeking reappointment)
 - ii) Gary Post
 - iii) Robert Laman
 - iv) William Harsch

Councilor R. White asked that we reach out to William Harsh and Nancy Ventrone about the interview scheduling issue.

- 4) Harbor Management Commission, Two (2) members, three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Michael Junge (seeking reappointment)
 - ii) Antonia Baum
 - iii) Graham Jamison
 - iv) Gary Post
 - v) Susan Romano (new applicant)
- 5) Juvenile Hearing Board, One (1) full member, three-year term ending 12/31/2025, and One (1) alternate member, two-year term ending 12/31/2024:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Agnes Filkins (seeking reappointment)
 - ii) Nancy Ventrone (seeking reappointment)
- 6) Library Board of Trustees, Two (2) members, three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of interest
 - i) Ted Baldwin
 - ii) Antonia Baum
 - iii) William Harsch

- 7) Quonset Development, One (1) member, three-year term ending 12/31/2025:
 - a) Letter of Interest
 - i) Jim Rugh
 - ii) William Harsch
 - iii) Joseph Cannon
- 8) Tree Committee, Two (2) unexpired terms ending 12/31/2024
 - a) Permission to re-advertise vacancies.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to re-advertise the Tree Preservation and Protection Committee vacancies. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

- 9) Zoning Board of Review, three (3) alternate members, one year-term ending 12/31/2023:
 - a) Point of clarification on 1st alternate and 2nd alternate
 - i) John Shekarchi (2 terms as 2nd alternate)
 - ii) Judy Bell (3 terms as 1st alternate)
 - b) Permission to re-advertise vacancies.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor Brine to appoint Judy Bell as the 1st alternate and John Shekarchi as the 2nd alternate. 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 a second by Councilor M. White to re-advertise the Zoning Board of Review alternate member vacancy. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye

B) Tentative December 12th Interview schedule:

TIME	NAME	COMMITTEE
6:00		
6:10	Gary Post	Conservation Commission, Harbor Commission & Tree Committee
6:20	Dana Prestgiacomo	Planning Commission
6:30	Lucia Marshall	Charter Review Committee
6:40	James Rugh	Charter Review Committee
6:50	Job Toll	Charter Review Committee
7:00	Robert Laman	Conservation Committee
7:10	Barbara Scanlon	Beavertail State Park Advisory Committee

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

XI. 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) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
 - 1) Jamestown Planning Commission (November 2, 2022)

- B) Abutter Notification: Notice is hereby given that the Jamestown Zoning Board of Review will hold a public hearing on December 20, 2022, at the Jamestown Town Hall 93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown, Rhode Island at 7:00 p.m. upon the following:
 - 1) Application of William Tracey whose property is located at 15 Fowler Street, and further identified as Tax Assessor’s Plat 8, Lot 467 for a dimensional relief granted under Article 6, Section 82-600, 605, 606, and 607 for relief from section 82-302, Table 3-2, District Dimensional Regulations for the CL Zoning District of the zoning ordinance. The Applicant seeks to preserve the existing structure and maintain the side-yard setback of 4.9 feet where 6 feet is required as the existing structure is currently located at 4.9 feet from the setback. Said property is located in a CL zone and contains 10,000 square feet.

C) Tax Assessor’s Abatements and Addenda of Taxes

ABATEMENTS TO 2022 TAX ROLL		
13-1997-60M	REGISTERED IN DIFF STATE	\$ 48.67
ADDENDA TO 2022 TAX ROLL		
12-0901-85	C/O ISSUED 09/13/22	\$1,183.25
03-0197-63	C/O ISSUED 02/14/22	\$ 994.71
01-0005-37	C/O ISSUED 03/15/22	\$5,553.34
TOTAL ABATEMENTS TO 2022 TAX ROLL		\$ 48.67
TOTAL ADDENDA TO 2021 TAX ROLL		\$7,731.30
GRAND TOTAL		\$7,682.63

Communications were acknowledged

Councilor R. White made a point of clarification that the communication received from Spencer Alexander was actually an email exchange. Town Administrator Hainsworth stated that Mr. Alexander would be interested in applying if the Town Council were to open the ferry service to an RFP or an RFQ.

XII. 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: Gwendolyn Sorrell
Received: November 23, 2022
Re: Steamboat Street potholes
 - 2) Copy of Letter to: Town Administrator Jamie Hainsworth
From: Spencer Alexander
Date: November 28, 2022
Re: Jamestown-Newport ferry
- B) Proclamations and Resolutions from Other Rhode Island Cities and Towns
 - 1) Resolution of the Town of Little Compton Urging the Rhode Island General Assembly to Recognize June 19, Juneteenth National Independence Day, As An Official Rhode Island State Holiday

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher to move into Executive Session at 6:51 p.m. with a second by Councilor M. White. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Council may seek to enter into Executive Session for review, discussion, and/or potential action and/or vote on the following:

- A) Pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-5(a)(2)&(5) East Ferry Use: Potential Lease Agreement with Conanicut Marine Services, Inc.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilor R. White to seal the minutes and adjourn from Executive Session with a second by Councilor M. White. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

It was announced that no votes were taken.

The Town Council reconvenes the regular meeting.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

Attest:

Roberta J. Fagan, Town Clerk

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING December 19, 2022

I. ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on December 19, 2022. Town Council Members present were as follows: Nancy A. Beye, Michael G. White, Randy White, and Erik Brine. Mary Meagher was absent.

Also, in attendance: Town Administrator Jamie Hainsworth, Solicitor Peter Ruggiero, Police Chief Edward Mello, 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 6:31 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 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

1) Kathy Fisher

Kathy Fisher, Pemberton Apartments, gave thanks to the Town Council for helping improve the conditions at Pemberton Apartments. She gave particular praise to Executive Director Nikki Vazquez and the Jamestown Housing Authority Board with the newly appointed members which included Resident Commissioner Gerald Precious. Ms. Fisher stated that the rules and/or budget only allow Executive Director Vazquez to work part-time for a position that demands full-time. She asked the Town Council for support and commitment to help find the funds to enable Executive Director Vazquez to a full-time position at the Jamestown Housing Authority.

B) Non-scheduled request to address

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

A) None

Town Administrator Hainsworth announced his resignation at the end of February 2023. He thanked the Town Council and Town staff for their support and dedication over the past three years of his tenure. Town Administrator Hainsworth has been offered a position as the Administrator and Chief of Staff for the Rhode District Court, a position that he stated is the capstone of his career in law enforcement. He will work with the staff over the next 2 ½ months to help with the transition of his replacement.

President Beye stated that she is happy for Town Administrator Hainsworth on the career opportunity but sad that he will be leaving. She gave thanks and praised Jamie for his 3 years of service to the Town of Jamestown, and wished him well.

Councilor M. White reflected on the hiring of Town Administrator Hainsworth in 2019. The selection process was long and difficult, but it was an easy choice to appoint Jamie as the Town Administrator. Councilor M. White stated that Jamie was well-suited to meet the obligations and requirements of the job and was a perfect fit.

Councilor Brine commented that Jamie was the only Town Administrator he worked with and found him always available, especially after hours and or on weekends. Councilor Brine stated his appreciation and gratitude to Town Administrator Hainsworth.

A motion was made by Councilor Brine with a second by Councilor M. White to convene as the Town Council sitting as the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Board. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, 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. Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Council May Review, Discuss and/or Take Action and/or Vote on the following items:

A) Town Council Sitting as the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Board

- 1) The Town Council of the Town of Jamestown, being the Licensing Board in said Town as provided under Title 3, Pursuant to Title 3 Chapter 7 of the General Laws of Rhode Island 1956, and as amended, the following license application has been received under said Act for a one-day license(s) on December 29, 2022, and January 12, 2023, at the Out of the Box Gallery:

CLASS F (NON-PROFIT)
 Out of the Box Studio/Gallery
 11 Clinton Avenue
 Jamestown, RI 02835

- a) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote for Approval of the **CLASS F (NON-PROFIT) LIQUOR LICENSE.**

A motion was made by Councilor R. White with a second by Councilor Brine to approve the Class F (Non-Profit) one-day liquor licenses on December 29, 2022 and January 12, 2023, at the Out of the Box Gallery. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

A motion was made by Councilor Brine with a second by Councilor R. White to adjourn the Town Council sitting as the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Board. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

The Town Council Adjourn from Sitting as the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Board

- B) Licenses and Permits
- 1) One-Day Event Application: 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 Action and/or Vote on the following:
 - a) Applicant: Out of the Box Studio/Gallery
Event: Irish Eyes Artist Talk
Date: December 29, 2022; 5-7 p.m.
Location: 11 Clinton Avenue

A motion was made by Councilor M. White with a second by Councilor Brine to approve the one-day event license Irish Eyes Artist Talk, on December 29, 2022, at the Out of the Box Gallery. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

- b) Applicant: Out of the Box Studio/Gallery
Event: Mirror, Mirror Art Opening
Date: January 12, 2023; 5-8 p.m.
Location: 11 Clinton Avenue

A motion was made by Councilor M. White with a second by Councilor Brine to approve the one-day event license, Mirror, Mirror Art-Opening, on January 12, 2023, at the Out of the Box Gallery. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) Upcoming Meetings and Sessions – dates and times; Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote:
 - 1) At the request of Councilor Brine amend the Town Council’s second meeting date in January from Tuesday, January 17th to Monday, January 23rd, and/or on another agreed-upon date(s).

A motion was made by Councilor M. White with a second by Councilor R. White to move the Town Council’s second meeting date in January from Tuesday, January 17th to Monday, January 23rd. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or take Action and/or Vote on the Request by Tony and Joe Pinheiro for Sunset Oyster Farms to renew the agreement to place floating upwellers at the Fort Getty Pier:
 - 1) Letter dated November 29, 2022, from Joseph and Antonio Pinheiro to the members of the Jamestown Town Council.
 - 2) Memorandum dated December 15, 2022, from Chief Mello, Executive Director, Jamestown Harbor Commission regarding Sunset Oyster Farms floating upwellers at the Fort Getty Pier.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilor Brine with a second by Councilor R. White to approve the request by Tony and Joe Pinheiro for Sunset Oyster Farms to renew the agreement to place

floating upwellers at the Fort Getty Pier contingent on verification of insurance coverage. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

A motion was made by Councilor Brine with a second by Councilor R. White to accept the Consent Agenda. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; and 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) November 7, 2022 (Regular Meeting)
 - 2) November 21, 2022 (Regular Meeting)
 - 3) November 28, 2022 (Special Meeting)
 - 4) December 12, 2022 (Special Meeting)
- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
 - 1) Jamestown Planning Commission (November 16, 2022)

- C) Tax Assessor's Abatements and Addenda of Taxes

ABATEMENTS TO 2022 TAX ROLL		
04-0539-90	UPDATED PROP. INFORMATION	\$ 51.61
08-0140-01	TABOR DECISION	\$ 126.29
16-0680-05	UPDATED PROP. INFORMATION	\$ 238.33
03-0370-50	UPDATED PROP. INFORMATION	\$ 638.26
01-0697-55	UPDATED PROP INFORMATION	\$ 179.25
TOTAL ABATEMENTS TO 2022 TAX ROLL		\$1233.74
TOTAL ADDENDA TO 2022 TAX ROLL		\$0.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$1233.74

- D) Memorandum from Finance Director Tina Collins regarding Uncommitting of Compensated Absences on Town General Fund Balance Sheet.
- E) Approval of request authorizing Chief Mello/Town of Jamestown Police Department to contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a five-year period in the amount of \$78,172.80 to equip each Jamestown police officer with a body-worn camera, as well as necessary storage and administration software.

Communications were acknowledged

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 Email to: Town Council
From: Anne Kuhn-Hines
Dated: December 1, 2022
Re: Rescinding Resignation from Jamestown Conservation Commission
- 2) Copy of Letter to: Town Council
From: Sarah Baines
Dated: December 2, 2022
Re: Transfer Station Work Hut
- 3) Copy of Email to: Vice President Meagher and Councilor R. White
From: Denise Rounds
Dated: December 6, 2022
Re: STR Working Group
- 4) Copy of Email and attachments to: Town Council
From: Marian Falla
Dated: December 13, 2022
Re: Tax Exemption Supporting Article
- 5) Copy of Email and attachments to: Town Council
From: Marian Falla
Dated: December 14, 2022
Re: AirBnB article

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor M. White with a second by Councilor Brine to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

Attest:

Roberta J. Fagan, Town Clerk

JAMESTOWN ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW

Minutes of the November 15, 2022 Meeting

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Zoning Board of Review was held at the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Avenue. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The clerk called the roll and noted the following members present:

Richard Boren, Chair
Dean Wagner, Vice-chair
James King, Member
Jane Bentley, Member
Judith Bell, 1st Alternate
John Shekarchi, 2nd Alternate

Also present: Peter Medeiros, Zoning Officer
Peter Ruggiero, Counsel
Brenda Hanna, Stenographer
Pat Westall, Zoning Clerk

MINUTES

Minutes of October 25, 2022

A motion was made by James King and seconded by Dean Wagner to accept the minutes of the Oct. 25, 2022 meeting as presented.

The motion carried by a vote of 5 -0.

Richard Boren, Dean Wagner, James King, Jane Bentley and Judith Bell voted in favor of the motion.

John Shekarchi was not seated and Terence Livingston was absent.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence received was in reference to agenda items.

OLD BUSINESS

Ross

There was discussion with the Board and Christian Infantolino, attorney for the applicant, and Peter Ruggiero, Esq.

A motion was made by Dean Wagner and seconded by James King to continue the request of Randy Ross and Jill D. Smith to the January 24, 2023 meeting.

The motion carried by a vote of 5 -0.

Richard Boren, Dean Wagner, James King, Jane Bentley and Judith Bell voted in favor of the motion.

John Shekarchi was not seated and Terence Livingston was absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Connors

A motion was made by James King and seconded by Dean Wagner to grant the request of John and Pamela Connors whose property is located at 222 Beacon Avenue and is further identified as Tax Assessor's Plat 16, Lot 73 for a Special Use Permit under Article 3, Section 82-314 entitled "High Groundwater and Impervious Layer Overlay District" for development in Subdistrict A and Article 6, Section 82-601 et seq. entitled "Special Use Permits Authorized by this Ordinance". Applicants seek to construct a two- bedroom home. The seasonal high groundwater table is equal to 18 inches which places this parcel in Subdistrict A of Section 82-314.

This Board has determined that this application does satisfy the requirements of Article 6, Sections 600 and 602.

This Special Use Permit is granted with the following conditions:

This project must be constructed in strict accordance with the site and building plans duly approved by this Board.

All findings of fact and conditions of approval in the October 11, 2022 Planning Commission Memorandum are incorporated in this decision and are set forth in full.

This motion is based on the following findings of fact:

1. Said property is located in an R-40 zone and contains 14,400 square feet.
2. The property is in overlay sub district "A".
3. Soil evaluation was done by Richard Pastore who is a class IV soil evaluator with D.E.M. present.
4. The property has an approved OWTS D.E.M. permit.
5. The owners have received approvals from the Town Engineer and the town Planning Board.
6. No variances are required for this project.
7. The Zoning Board does not recognize the preliminary plans and will consider these plans as a final.

The motion carried by a vote of 5 -0.

Richard Boren, Dean Wagner, James King, Jane Bentley and Judith Bell voted in favor of the motion.

John Shekarchi was not seated and Terence Livingston was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.
The motion carried unanimously.

Approved as written
BIKE COMMITTEE MINUTES
August 17, 2022
11:00 AM
Jamestown Town Hall
93 Narragansett Ave.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:03am

In attendance: Jeremy Collie, Steve Engberg, Samira Hakki, John Hammel, Julie Kallfelz, Rip Smith, Lisa Bryer – Town Planner, Jean Lambert – Public Works and Carrie Kolb – Planning Assistant

Not present: Joyce Antoniello

II. Introductions

- Lisa Bryer, Town Planner in Jamestown, She will lead the meetings until a chair is appointed.
- Carrie Kolb, Planning Assistant, send emails to her and she will distribute to the group due to open meetings laws.
- Julie Kallfelz, is a Jamestown resident who lives on Green Lane. She has been a member of a couple of different Bike Path Committees over the years. She is a member of Rolling Agenda, which is a community biking advocacy group. She has lived in town for almost 30 years.
- Jean Lambert, Town Engineer. She has lived in Town for almost 30 years.
- Richard “Rip” Smith, Jamestown resident. Excited to be a part of this group. This is his first-time being part of the Bike Path Committee.
- Samira Hakki, she is a member of Rolling Agenda. She works for the schools. She rides her bike a lot and rode it to the meeting.
- Jeremy Collie, used to ride bike to work for 30 years, until he moved to Jamestown and can’t ride his bike to work at the Bay Campus. One of the reasons he’d like to advocate for bike paths.
- Steve Engberg, he has been a Jamestown resident for 5 years. This is the first committee he’s serving on.
- John Hammel, he has been a Jamestown resident for 5 years. He moved from a town outside Boston that had a fantastic bike path, and he would like to see the same thing here. Used to be an avid bike rider and part of the reason he is not anymore is that it is not really fun to ride your bike in Jamestown.

Bike Path Committee
August 17, 2022
Page 2 of 3

III. Review of Purpose

Bryer reviews the charge of the Bike Path Committee, and states that this committee is focused on planning. The first plan is really old and is only a map. The next committee focused on North Road. What she has found in the past, the more complete plans that the committee has, the more competitive they will be for grants. Safe Roads to school is an example and they received \$450,000 over two grant cycles because they had the land use plan.

The members confirmed that they have each been sworn in.

IV. Election of Officers

Discussion ensued regarding electing officers. Bryer stated that the Chair and committee will set the agenda for each meeting and she will help. Bryer stated that the committee can get used to each other and electing a chair can wait. The agenda can be created by the committee without a Chair. It was determined by the group that they will get to know each other and decide at a later date if a Chair is needed, and then elect or not.

Discussion ensued regarding expectations of the committee. Bryer noted the charge of the committee which is to come up with a plan that addresses on-street and off-street and all kinds of paths through the island so that we are poised to receive funding. It's good to have planning talks with the Town Council to keep them informed and on-board. This way when funding is available, they already know what the committee has been working on.

Kallfelz asked for an update on the 2010 report to Town Council. North Road Committee.

Bryer answered that the previous plan was just for North Road. She would like to have this committee look at the whole island, and come up with priorities. The previous bike committee switched gears from connecting the North to the South via North Road and connected the North to the South through the reservoir property.

Hakki inquired about the North Road project. We need to advocate for bike path there.

Hakki and Kallfelz did a survey. They will share the data. They did a student survey and a general population survey. The survey's were mentioned in the Press and on the school website. They has an in-person workshop with 20 people. There were 4 maps and people worked in teams to put what they would like to see on the maps. The map currently at Town Hall is the compiled map from the workshop and it has been around town at the library, rec center and senior center.

Discussion ensued regarding the Safe Roads to School which is a program that promotes walking and biking to school through infrastructure improvements. Jamestown had funding and the state let the funding lapsed due to Covid. It has taken 1.5 years to get the funding back. Once the funding is re-instated, they will get started. They are in that process now.

Bike Path Committee
August 17, 2022
Page 3 of 3

Discussion ensued regarding walking and biking, as they usually go together. The paths near the reservoir are both. Bike paths throughout the State are open to both. The group liked the idea of being multi-modal.

V. Future Meetings

What to talk about at the next meeting?

- Bryer/Kolb get information on North Road
- Hakki will share the survey results in advance of the next meeting
- Lambert will get a copy of the plan for North Road
- Bryer/Lambert will get an updated TIP list for Jamestown
- Start to brainstorm an outline of what this committee would like to accomplish

The next meeting is schedule for: September 30th at 9:00am

VI. Adjournment

Adjourned approximately 12:05pm

Attest:

Lisa Bryer
Town Planner

Carrie Kolb
Planning Assistant

BIKE PATH COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 21, 2022

9:00 AM

Jamestown Town Hall

93 Narragansett Ave.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am and the following members were present:

In attendance: Samira Hakki, John Hammel, Julie Kallfelz, Rip Smith, Lisa Bryer – Town Planner, Jean Lambert – Public Works and Carrie Kolb – Planning Assistant

Not present: Jeremy Collie, Steve Engberg, Joyce Antoniello and Erik Brine

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was moved by Lambert and seconded by Kallfelz to approve the minutes from August 17, 2022, as written. All in favor.

III. Review of North Road

Lambert gave an update on North Road that from the Reservoir up to Carr Lane still needs to be paved, and that public works is waiting for Cardi Construction. The path is prepped and ready to go. The stretch of road from Carr Lane to America Way, will need to get easements from home owners to work around trees. There will be a lot of public out-reach needed.

In general, the Town hired a consultant to come up with a plan for striping of the roads. Lambert will share the plans with the committee.

IV. TIP List updates

There have been a couple of meetings with DOT and projects will not start until 2025. At the last meeting there was a big brainstorming section and site visit at Zeek's creek. At the RIDOT meeting, Town Councilor Erik Brine noted that a bike lane has to be included. An idea is to get the paving projects that have been put into one lump sum, split up so projects can get completed. There are things that are easier to do that can get completed first.

DOT has federal money for a permeable pavement project. Discussion on the project ensued. The question was raised how 3 inches of permeable pavement on top of the existing road will actually work? Bryer suggested that this committee should send a letter to the Town Council. Discussion ensued if members of the committee and Rolling Agenda should send letters to legislators? There is more impact when the Bike Path Committee writes a letter.

Bike Path Committee
 October 21, 2022
 Page 2 of 3

Chief Mello has proposed some traffic safety improvements to both the Town Council and RIDOT. This will be presented at the next meeting.

V. Rolling Agenda survey and presentation review

Rolling agenda did a survey in 2021. The results showed the big mix of where people live, in Town and the Shores. The people living in each area feel the separation. A large percentage of people have felt threatened while biking on the island.

When questioned about biking to school, majority say they will not bike to school. Kids would like to ride to school, but it's not safe.

When questioned about infrastructure – students said overwhelmingly that they would ride their bikes more.

The focus is riding from shores to downtown and vice versa, but the complication is most of the ride is state roads.

There is a lot of interest about riding over bridges.

The question was raised if it was possible to get easements from the farms to be on the other side? Bryer questioned the need and answered that she doesn't know if you can get an easement because it's all protected by conservation easements. Kallfelz said that a few people could do research into the farms.

There was also a workshop held with 20 people participating. There were 4 tables with maps and each table drew on the maps. One map was consolidated with all the data, and that map moved around town to the school, library and Town Hall.

VI. Review of Committee Charge – where to go from here

Bryer suggested that the committee conduct a study similar to a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis to look at the entire island. Looking at the island through that lens will hopefully help prioritize roads on the island where improvements can be easily made and others where more work would be necessary. The final result should be a plan (that can include multiple phases) and a map. Part of the plan is to identify funding sources. Grants need to be approved by the Town Council. Some things to look at are scenic routes and straight-line routes for fast riders. It has to be a public process that includes education, for example the law states that you can ride 2 abreast and when a car passes they are supposed to leave enough room for the bicyclist to fall over.

As an aside – For the Safe Roads to School program, Bryer keeps updating and submitting information to Federal Highway. The applied for grant is for all the improvements and is more than the \$451,000 received by RIDOT. It covers everything on the school campus, in front of the library, striping, improvements in front of Lawn Ave school, and fixing by the tennis courts. Once the grant gets re-instated it will go out for bid.

VII. Future Meetings

Lambert will get an update from Gray on paving from Reservoir to Carr Lane.
 Bryer will look for a template of what an outline of the plan will look like.

Bike Path Committee
October 21, 2022
Page 3 of 3

Lambert will print out a large map, with a layer of town vs. residential owned land if possible, as a visual for the next meeting.

Bryer, we can also look at innovation around the country/world look at research? What are best practices?

The next meeting will be on Friday, November 18 at 9:00am.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 10:30am was moved by Kallfelz and seconded by Lambert. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Lisa Bryer and Carrie Kolb
Town Planner Planning Assistant

Approved as amended
BIKE COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 18, 2022
9:00 AM
Jamestown Town Hall
93 Narragansett Ave.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 9:09am and the following members were present:

In attendance: Samira Hakki, John Hammel, Julie Kallfelz, Rip Smith, Jeremy Collie, Joyce Antoniello, Lisa Bryer – Town Planner, Jean Lambert – Public Works and Carrie Kolb – Planning Assistant

Not present: Steve Engberg and Erik Brine

II. Approval of Minutes – Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote

A motion was moved by Kallfelz and seconded by Lambert to approve the minutes from October 21, 2022. All in favor.

III. North Road paving update - Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote

Lambert stated that there are no updates for paving on North Road. Hakki noted that the construction materials for the stone wall are in the way of the bike path.

IV. Discuss SWOT as a method of bike path analysis - Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote

Discussion regarding Jamestown Bridge ensued. Is it possible for bike path? Could it be an opportunity?

Opportunities for parking were discussed to include: Dead end of Eldred Avenue, its owned by DOT. Fort Wetherill is an existing decent area to park. There is some parking at Taylor Point.

Discussion regarding existing bike paths ensued. Lambert brought a Jamestown map, that was marked up with following colors:

Green to show the bike bath.

Yellow shows work in progress

Red for unsafe sections

Blue proposed paths that are less hazardous

Blue with dashed line is a secondary option in less dangerous

Discussion regarding North Road ensued. DOT will put in temporary permeable pavement and stripe it for 2,000 feet at North Road and crossing the creek. It's not a bike path but its better than nothing.

Bike Path Committee
November 18, 2022
Page 2 of 2

Discussion regarding the bike path section by the schools for Safe Routes To School ensued. Bryer said that funding is earmarked for sidewalks in Safe Routes To School. A question was raised if the path could cut through Shoreby Hills? It does not hurt to ask the question. The roads are private but the Town plows the roads and there is water & sewer.

Discussion ensued regarding bike paths over drainage ditches. There are roads that have drainage ditches on both sides. Hakki relayed that Bari Freeman at Bike Newport said that ditches can be engineered to have bike paths.

Discussion ensued regarding Southwest Ave out to Beavertail & Fort Wetherill. It would be a loop.

Discussion ensued regarding Walcott Avenue. The Town has applied for TIP funds to improve the sidewalks. There has even been discussion about removing the sidewalks that are in bad areas. The sidewalks get overgrown. Hakki suggested the problem on this street is distracted drivers. Can rumble strips be added or paint the area green?

Hakki looked up the area south of the highway and they have conservation easements. Ethan Brown, a member of the Land Trust, is looking into the easements. Plan A – getting the bike path on State Roads. Plan B – getting the bike path on private property. Both options will be explored.

Lambert brought the proposed East Shore Road bike path plans from Pare for a quick review. It was noted that the plan shows some notes for widths of the roads. This plan from Pare is just for the Town. It has not been shared with DOT.

The map will be shown to Town Council when it's finished. It was reiterated that the plan will be a biking and pedestrian plan.

V. Review of South Kingstown Master Plan - Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote

Not discussed

VI. Future Meetings - Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 15 at 9:00am

The question of "Do we need a chair?" will be on the agenda at next meeting.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

Attest:

Lisa Bryer Carrie Kolb
Town Planner and Planning Assistant



**Town of Jamestown
Tax Assessor**

**93 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835**

**Phone: 401-423-9802
Email: cbrochu@jamestownri.net**

To: COUNCIL PRESIDENT BEYE, JAMESTOWN TOWN COUNCIL

From: CHRISTINE BROCHU, JAMESTOWN TAX ASSESSOR

Subject: ABATEMENTS OF TAXES FOR THE **JANUARY 3, 2023** MEETING

Please see the attached.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Christine Brochu

CHRISTINE BROCHU
TAX ASSESSOR

Conditions:

District:

Reported Type: All

DATE: 12/23/2022

YEAR	NAME/ADDRESS	COC INFO	ACCOUNT #	GROSS OLD	EXEMPT OLD	NET OLD	TAX OLD	SEWER OLD
			UNIQUE ID	GROSS CHANGE	EXEMPT CHANGE	NET CHANGE	TAX CHANGE	SEWER CHANGE
			LIST NUMBER	GROSS NEW	EXEMPT NEW	NET NEW	TAX NEW	SEWER NEW
2022	[REDACTED]	18703R	14-0396-00	786,000	0	786,000	5,336.94	0.00
	[REDACTED]	12/19/2022	8/525	-67,900	0	-67,900	-461.04	0.00
Accept	JAMESTOWN, NJ 08008	UPDATED PROP. INFORMATION	2303	718,100	0	718,100	4,875.90	0.00
2022	[REDACTED]	18704R	13-1954-50	3,699,300	0	3,699,300	25,118.25	0.00
	[REDACTED]	12/19/2022	2/55	-60,600	0	-60,600	-411.48	0.00
Accept	JAMESTOWN, NJ 08008	UPDATED PROP. INFORMATION	2183	3,638,700	0	3,638,700	24,706.77	0.00
2022	[REDACTED]	18705R	04-0253-64	983,200	0	983,200	6,675.93	0.00
	[REDACTED]	12/20/2022	2/62	-67,100	0	-67,100	-455.61	0.00
Accept	[REDACTED]	UPDATED PROP. INFORMATION	767	916,100	0	916,100	6,220.32	0.00
2022	[REDACTED]	18706R	10-0344-65	2,415,200	0	2,415,200	16,399.21	0.00
	[REDACTED]	12/20/2022	12/49	-122,000	0	-122,000	-828.38	0.00
Accept	[REDACTED]	UPDATED PROP. INFORMATION	1613	2,293,200	0	2,293,200	15,570.83	0.00
Totals For -2022 R						-317,600	-2,156.51	
						Total Inc's:	0.00	
						Total Dec's:	-2,156.51	
TOTAL	# Of Accts 4					-317,600	-2,156.51	
						Grand Total Inc's:	0.00	
						Grand Total Dec's:	-2,156.51	

Roberta Fagan

From: marian falla <[REDACTED]>
nt: Friday, December 23, 2022 11:57 AM
To: Roberta Fagan
Subject: additional info ...
Attachments: Middletown to Address Dwelling Units.pdf; Newport Tax Relief Committee Hopes to Continue Work.pdf

Hi Roberta,
Please distribute to stakeholders and TC.
Dwelling units - to STR and planning/zoning stakeholders and TC
Tax exemption - to Tax exempt program review stakeholders and TC
Thank you
mjf

Newport Tax Relief Committee Hopes to Continue Work

By Newport This Week Staff | on December 21, 2022

By Philip Cozzolino

As Newport prepares to roll out changes to its residential property tax structure, the ad hoc committee that first recommended the move is hoping to continue its work.

"It took some time, and we are happy with what's come out so far," said Penny Billington Hunt, a Newport resident who served on the city's Tax Relief Committee. "There is some follow-up to further refine the program, both in terms of its rollout and the ultimate council decision about setting the two rates through the budget process, and we look forward to being able to work with the city on that."

The committee, made up of citizens and city staff, met previously this year and was charged with researching and proposing tax relief strategies for year-round residents. Its final report to the City Council included dividing Newport's residential tax classification into two categories – those who live in Newport for a majority of the year and those who do not – and taxing them at separate rates.

The goal is that properties that are proven to be owner-occupied for most of the year, or properties that are rented on a yearly basis, will save on annual property taxes, while non-qualifying homes will pay a higher rate to offset the savings.

In November, the City Council adopted the recommendation, and the ad hoc committee, temporary by nature, was dissolved.

The city will begin accepting applications for the program on Jan. 1. The application period runs through March 15.

"I just want to make it very clear that the property owner needs to be proactive in applying for this exemption," said Council Vice Chair Lynn Ceglie at a Dec. 14 council meeting. "They need to come to City Hall to drop off their forms, mail them in or do the application online."

"I would encourage people to apply for and embrace this program," said Mayor Xay Khamsyvovong. "We really want to try to get to properties that are also occupied by renters here yearround. These aren't just owner-occupied, single-family homes; we're also talking about properties that may be rented out to Newport residents. Those are eligible."

Billington Hunt hopes the committee will be reinstated through June 30 to monitor the program's rollout, provide feedback and work with the city on refining details, if needed.

In its work on providing the recommendation to the council, the committee extensively researched methods of property tax relief for qualifying residents, calculating and weighing options like a homestead exemption, and determined how such strategies played out in nearby municipalities.

One of the components of the new program is that savings for qualified properties will be a fixed number, rather than a percentage off the home's assessed value, as with a homestead exemption. Making the savings uniform for all qualifying homes prevents the highest assessed properties from seeing the largest discounts, Billington Hunt said. That lesson came from the town of Narragansett, which rolled out a 10 percent homestead exemption for residents in 2017 and saw the most savings go to property owners with the highest assessed homes.

"The Newport method makes the savings more meaningful to people in a lower income bracket, and I think that's a very important feature of the program," Billington Hunt said. "While many residents are struggling with property tax increases, and rental tenants are certainly struggling with rent increases driven by valuation increases, there are also some residents who say they really don't need the discount, and they don't know why they're eligible for it. We live in a fixed income community, and I think it's helpful for people to know there is some thought put into the way this discount is structured."

While the method has been seemingly worked out, exact figures have not. For example, the actual discount for qualifying properties is currently unknown. Further, the city does not know how many qualifying properties there are, nor how many homeowners will apply. While the city maintains a rental registration database for residential properties in Newport, it does not keep track of how many properties are occupied year-round.

The difficulty around enforcing mandatory participation in the rental registration database, along with the potential for abuse, is one of the reasons Billington Hunt hopes the committee can continue.

"Those were some of the sensitivities around rolling out something like this," she said.

At the council meeting, finance director Laura Sitrin said the city is expecting about 5,000 applications.

"We have been fielding numerous phone calls in the last few days, lots of people walking in, as well, and asking questions," she said. "The word is getting out there."

"That is one of the things we hope to learn as we see this program roll out," said Billington Hunt. "We are excited to see what the ultimate enrollment is. I hope to see the city use this data to also cross-reference our short-term rental database."

Another component of the new program includes an isolation of the commercial tax rate from the changes being made to the residential tax structure.

Newport currently employs the maximum disparity between its commercial and residential tax rates, with the commercial rate at 150 percent of the residential rate. The committee found that other municipalities that tried separate rates for different residential tax classifications ended up increasing the commercial tax rate in order to make up for the intended savings. With that move not a possibility in Newport, the intent is that the savings accrued by qualifying property owners through the new program will be compensated for exclusively by tax increases on non-qualifying homes.

The increase to non-qualifying properties will be a percentage, so that the non-qualifying properties with the highest assessed value will pay the most.

"The only decision to be made is how much to shift the burden," Billington Hunt said. "That is the piece that city staff will talk about in the sense of making the decision during the upcoming budget process when they set the tax rate. There is a policy decision to be made there that has not been determined at this time.

"We don't want the program to be panned as ineffective, but we don't want to shock everybody, either," she said.

In order to qualify for the discount, owners of single-family homes must be Newport residents and live at the subject property for more than seven months of the year. Residential properties of three units or less may also qualify provided that all units are rented to tenants as their principal residence pursuant to a lease of one year or longer.

Applications must be accompanied by acceptable proof of residency, as a registered voter in the city of Newport, or via a valid Rhode Island driver's license/ID that lists the subject property as the applicant's address. Owners applying for residential properties of three units or less must include copies of leases for all units.

Applications can be filed at City Hall, by mail or online through the city website. The application is available in both English and Spanish.

Middletown to Address So-Called Accessory Dwelling Units - Newport This Week

Middletown is looking at whether to allow accessory dwelling units, not just for a family member, but on a wider scale following passage by the Rhode Island General Assembly that modifies provisions of the state zoning enabling act.

On Dec. 14, the Planning Board, prompted by a Dec. 6 memo from town planner Ron Wolanski, discussed the issue surrounding such units, which are structures on the same property as a single-family home, such as apartments over a garage, in a basement or a detached cottage.

The Zoning Board of Review is seeking a recommendation from the Planning Board. "The purpose of this legislation is to provide an option for additional housing," Wolanski said. "You could recommend the Town Council not go that route."

The new state act requires that municipalities adhere to a series of provisions **if choosing to allow accessory dwelling units**, except when proposed for a family member. **Among the changes** are that the units must be allowed in residential zoning districts with minimum lot sizes of 20,000 square feet or larger, within a principal structure or accessory structure, that a special-use permit may be required if the unit is proposed within a nonconforming structure, and in single-family and multi-family structures, and that occupancy cannot be restricted to family members.

Middletown currently is not in compliance with the state changes. Wolanski submitted a draft document identifying proposed amendments to the current zoning ordinance, which would permit units in R-20, R-30, R-40, and R-60 zoning districts, and in principal or accessory structures; and limit the units to two bedrooms, with no more than 35 percent of the floor area of the principal dwelling, and a minimum floor area of 400 square feet.

In addition, a property could only have one unit per parcel, and one additional parking space would be required for each bedroom in a unit.

. Short-term rentals on parcels with an accessory dwelling unit would be limited to what was allowed prior to establishment of the accessory dwelling unit. If proposed as an accessory structure, the unit must meet setbacks required for the principal structure, with the rear setback a minimum of 15 feet.

Finally, accessory dwelling units may be established in a legal pre-existing nonconforming structure with the issuance of a special use permit, and some could be grandfathered, depending on conditions.

The town will decide on Jan. 11.

"State law mandates you have to supply suitable accommodations on small lots," said Wolanski. "We have to comply with state law."

Vice Chair William Nash, Jr. said the new law would allow another single-family dwelling. "That's opening up a can of worms," he said.

Wolanski said that each town "is going to have its own definition," while assistant town solicitor Michael Monti added, "Under this new regime statewide, if someone had a garage, they could put a unit in there and they could rent it out to someone outside of their own family, which would increase housing within the town. It's not going to bring the cost of housing down, but it will create more units, more opportunity."

Asked by Chair Paul Croce if there was a townwide estimate of how many accessory dwelling units exist, Wolanski said, "That's hard to tell at present."

The Planning Board may choose to hold a public workshop to present the proposed amendments and accept public input prior to taking action. If forwarded to the Town Council, the council will then hold the required public hearing before the amendments are considered for adoption.