

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES February 21, 2023 (6:15 P.M.)

III. TOWN COUNCIL INTERVIEW SCHEDULE: The Jamestown Town Council will meet to conduct interviews of applicants for the committee vacancies as follows:

The Town Council interviewed James (Jay) Sisson for the Zoning Board of Review alternate position and the Charter Review Committee. Mr. Sisson indicated he would be agreeable to serving to fill both vacancies.

I. ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on February 21, 2023. 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 Chief Edward Mello, Finance Director Christina Collins, Public Works Director Michael Gray, Town Planner Lisa Bryer, Water and Sewer Clerk Denise Jennings, and Town Clerk Roberta Fagan.

II. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to convene as the Town Council Sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

IV. TOWN COUNCIL SITTING AS THE BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS

- A) Approval of Minutes; Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote:
 - 1) January 23, 2023(regular meeting)

- B) Open Forum – Water & Sewer Matters

Comments are not limited to items on this agenda. However, items not on this agenda will only be heard and not acted upon by the Town Council. Note: Section 42-46-6 of the Open Meetings Act and Department of the Attorney General Advisory Opinions relevant to this item on any public body meeting agenda specifically prohibit the Town Council from discussing, considering, or acting on any topic, statement or question presented. The Town Council may, if warranted, refer such matters to an appropriate committee, to another body or official, or post the matter for consideration at a properly-noticed, future meeting.

- 1) Scheduled request to address - none
 - 2) Non-scheduled request to address
- C) Report of Town Officials: Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote:
- 1) Pumping Report
 - 2) Town Project Reports
 - a) Town Wells
 - b) Water Treatment Plant
 - c) Transfer Pumping/Reservoir
 - d) Distribution System
 - e) Wastewater Treatment Facility
- D) Letters and Communication: Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote:
- 1) None
- E) Unfinished Business: Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote:
- 1) None
- F) New Business: Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote:
- 1) Finance Director's Report: Comparison of the Water Budget to Actuals as of January 31, 2023.
 - 2) Finance Director's Report: Comparison of the Sewer Budget to Actuals as of January 31, 2023.

V. The Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners recess and the Town Council continues the open session.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor R. White to recess from sitting as the Board of Water And Sewer Commissioners. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

VI. OPEN FORUM

Comments are not limited to items on this agenda. However, items not on this agenda will only be heard and not acted upon by the Town Council. Note: Section 42-46-6 of the Open Meetings Act and Department of the Attorney General Advisory Opinions relevant to this item on any public body meeting agenda specifically prohibit the Town Council from discussing, considering, or acting on any topic, statement or question presented. The Town Council may, if warranted, refer such matters to an appropriate committee, to another body or official, or post the matter for consideration at a properly-noticed, future meeting.

- A) Scheduled request to address
- B) Non-scheduled request to address

None.

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

A) Resolution 2023-02: Establishing a Charter Review Committee.
 President Beye requested Councilor M. White to read the Resolution.
 Discussion ensued.

Vice President Meagher stated she would like to be a voting member of the Charter Review Committee. She made the request to amend the Resolution and strike “Ex-Officio”.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor Brine to approve Resolution 2023-02 as amended. 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 convene as the Town Council sitting as the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Board. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

VIII. 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.

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 June 23, 2023, at the Lt. Col John C. Rembijas Memorial Pavilion at Fort Getty:

CLASS F (NON-PROFIT)

Jamestown Ukraine Relief Project
P.O. Box 36
Jamestown, RI 02835

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

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the Jamestown Ukraine Relief Project One-Day Class F (Non-Profit) liquor license scheduled for June 23, 2023, at the Lt. Col John C. Rembijas Memorial Pavilion at Fort Getty. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

The Town Council Adjourns from sitting as the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Board

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

IX. 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:

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

1) Broadband update

Michael Glier and Town Administrator Hainsworth had a meeting with Olivia Read, Broadband GIS Manager at RI Commerce to discuss the RI Broadband planning goals and Jamestown's interests in improving services. RI Commerce wants to continue surveying Jamestown residents about their experiences with internet access and performance. RI Commerce will propose a new Jamestown Internet survey within the next 2 weeks.

2) Federal Grant Application FYI

Town Administrator Hainsworth contacted our three Federal RI Congressional Delegation members asking them to support The Jamestown Fire Department grant applications to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency's Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program. The applications seek funding of \$1.3 million for a new ladder truck and \$300,000 for 30 personal breathing apparatus units. Senator Reed and Whitehouse along with Congressman Cicilline have all written letters in support of these two grant applications.

3) Message to Councilors & Staff

Town Administrator Hainsworth read the following statement: "As this is my last meeting as Town Administrator, I want to take a moment to say how much I have enjoyed working with all of you. It has been my privilege to serve this wonderful community that I also am proud to call "home".

Over the last three years, we have worked through unprecedented times—from the beginning of the pandemic, through outdoor financial town meetings and working with our Chamber of Commerce and businesses to assure our citizens and visitors alike could continue to visit our downtown and recreational spaces. We have addressed many constituent issues and have maintained a sound financial status. It has been a very busy and fast three years.

I want to also publicly thank the Town Staff—all of whom contribute in their way to making Jamestown the great jewel that it is. I will miss their professionalism, great skill, comradery, and friendship but I know I am leaving them in good hands under the steady leadership of Ed Mello. To our dedicated Town Solicitor; Peter Ruggiero, his opinions, guidance and advice have been extremely helpful and I value the relationship we have enjoyed.

In closing— please contact me anytime if I can be of any assistance to you. Thank you again for this great opportunity and I wish all of you and our townspeople: good health and happiness."

President Beye thanked Town Administrator Hainsworth for his service and read the following tribute to the outgoing Town Administrator:

In 2019 the Town Council was tasked with hiring a new Town Administrator. We met with several candidates and asked loads of questions, but we had no idea just how important our final selection was going to be until March 2020.

Our selection Jamie Hainsworth proved to be the type of administrator we needed to get us through the pandemic. We learned through that experience that Jamie's only agenda was to care about and for the residents of Jamestown. I have been fortunate to work with Jamie these past few years. I have learned from him lessons that I will treasure always. One takeaway from me was that Jamie is an incredible judge of character. We've seen that time and time again with the people Jamie has hired during his time here. As much as we will miss him I'm convinced that he will excel in his new role as District Court administrator. I have witnessed firsthand Jamie and his soon-to-be work

colleagues and it was obvious how well-liked and respected he is in that environment. Jamie, thank you for your guidance, trust, leadership, and friendship. Jamestown is a better place because of you. I look forward to seeing you and Charlene enjoying our wonderful town and with that best wishes on your next adventure.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) No items at this time.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A) No Items at this time.

XII. ORDINANCES, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES, AND EXPIRING TERMS

- A) Appointments, Vacancies, and Expiring Terms; Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote:
- 1) Town Charter Review Committee - Seven (7) member vacancies with a term ending date unspecified - maximum of nine months duration:
 - b) Letter of Interest for appointment
 - i) Sav Rebecchi
 - ii) Bill Harsch
 - iii) Lucia Marshall
 - iv) James Rugh
 - v) Job Toll
 - vi) James (Jay) Sisson
 - vii) George Souza

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilor R. White with a second by Vice President Meagher to appoint the following individuals to the Charter Review Committee: Sav Rebecchi, Lucia Marshall, James Rugh, Job Toll, James (Jay) Sisson, and George Souza. 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 accept the Consent Agenda. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Brine, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

XIII. 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 the 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 Meeting Minutes
- 1) January 26, 2023 (special meeting- amended)
 - 2) February 6, 2023 (regular meeting)
- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
- 1) Harbor Commission (January 11, 2023)
 - 2) Bike Committee (December 15, 2022)
 - 3) Bike Committee (January 12, 2023)

- 4) Bike Committee – 2022 Attendance log
- 5) Planning Commission- 2022 Attendance Log

C) Tax Assessor’s Abatements and Addenda of Taxes

REAL ESTATE ABATEMENTS TO THE 2022 TAX ROLL		
03-0370-50	TABOR DECISION	\$ -156.17
11-0404-30	TABOR DECISION	\$ -704.12
TOTAL ABATEMENTS TO 2022 TAX ROLL		\$ -860.29
TOTAL ADDENDA TO 2022 TAX ROLL		\$ 0.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$ -860.29

- D) Acceptance of Town Administrator Jamie Hainsworth’s resignation letter dated December 16, 2022
- E) Finance Director’s Report: Comparison Budget to Actuals as of January 31, 2023

Communications were acknowledged.

XIV. 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 Administrator Hainsworth and Town Council
From: David and Susan Jamison
Dated: January 29, 2023
Re: 2022 Energy Plan
- B) Proclamations and Resolutions from other Rhode Island Cities and Towns
 - 1) Town of Warren: Resolution to the Honorable RI General Assembly in Support of 2023 H5309

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor R. White to reconvene as the Town Council Sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer. 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 to move the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners into 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.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION- BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS

The Town Council Sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners may seek to enter into Executive Session and/or Open Session for review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote on the following:

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote in Executive Session and/or Open Session pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-5(a) Subsection (2) Pending or Potential Litigation: CLP TRUST – 2016, by and through its Trustee, Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., vs. Town of Jamestown, C.A. No. 1:22-cv-00339.

XVI. The Town Council Adjourns from sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners and reconvenes the Open Session.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher to seal the minutes and adjourn the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners 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.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher to move into 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.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote in Executive Session and/or Open Session pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-5(a) Subsection (5) East Ferry Use: Potential Lease Agreement with Conanicut Marine Services, Inc.

Discussion ensued.

Conanicut Marine Services, Inc. was invited into Executive Session at 7:43 p.m.

Conanicut Marine Services, Inc. was asked to leave the Town Council Chambers at 7:50 p.m. so that the Town Council could further confer.

Conanicut Marine Services, Inc. was invited back into Executive Session at 7:57 p.m.

Further discussion ensued.

Conanicut Marine Services, Inc. departed the Town Council Chambers at 8:40 p.m.

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote in Executive Session and/or Open Session pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a) Subsection (2) Collective Bargaining (IBPO Union Contract discussion of issues regarding upcoming negotiations set to expire 6/30/2023).

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher 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.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to adjourn at 9:16 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