

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 3, 2023

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

David Dolce and Robert Raymond were interviewed for the Tax Relief Working Group.

The interviews were concluded at 6:20 p.m. and the Town Council took a short recess.

II. ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on April 3, 2023. Town Council Members present were as follows: Nancy A. Beye, Mary Meagher, Michael G. White, and Randy White. Erik Brine was absent.

Also, in attendance: Interim Town Administrator Edward A. Mello, Solicitor Peter Ruggiero, Finance Director Christina Collins, Public Works Director Michael Gray, Tax Assessor Christine Brochu, 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 6:30 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 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

Jane Bentley addressed the Town Council concerning updating the Zone Ordinance. She read the letter to the Town Council dated March 9, 2023.

President Beye recused herself and left the dais.

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

- A) Acknowledgements:
 - 1) Jamestown Police Life Saving Medal Awards presentation
 - a) Jamestown Police Department Dispatcher David Bento

Interim Town Administrator Mello made a presentation regarding the recently purchased drone. On February 9, 2023, thanks in great part to Dispatcher Bento, the life of an individual in distress was saved after being discovered on the rocks of Beavertail. The deployment and operation of the heat-seeking drone by Dispatcher Bento directly assisted first responders in quickly locating and

safely evacuating the individual. Interim Town Administrator Mello presented Dispatcher Bento with the Jamestown Police Saving Medal as attendees expressed their gratitude with applause.

President Beye returned to the dais.

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

A) Public Hearing: Town Council Sitting as the Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Board.

Notice is hereby given by the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown, being the Licensing Board in said Town as provided under Title 3, Chapters 1-12 of the General Laws of Rhode Island 1956, and as amended that the following has been received:

- 1) Transfer Application has been received for Class B-V – Victualer Liquor License as advertised in the Jamestown Press.

FROM:

CLASS B-V – VICTUALER

Jamestown Locals, LLC (J. Colon/C. Verta)
dba: Narragansett Café
25 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

TO:

CLASS B-V- VICTUALER

Jamestown Locals, LLC (M. D'Arezzo/E. D'Arezzo)
dba: Narragansett Café
25 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

- a) Review, Discussion, and or Action: At the request of the applicant, permission to postpone the Public Hearing for the Jamestown Locals, LLC, dba: Narragansett Café Class B-V Victualer Liquor License Transfer application.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to acknowledge and accept the request to withdraw the liquor license transfer request. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

- 2) Notice is hereby given by the Town Council of the Town of Jamestown, being the Licensing Board in said Town as provided under Title 3, Chapters 1-12 of the General Laws of Rhode Island 1956, and as amended: Pursuant to RIGL§ 3-7-15(b), that the following request for consent under said Act, Class G. Liquor License (State License) by Conanicut Marine Services, Inc., for service of liquor while at dockside at East Ferry for the 2023 season no more than 30 minutes prior to scheduled departure for the following

~~motor~~ marine vessels:

- a) The Jamestown, MV Katherine, The Coastal Queen
- b) Review, Discussion, and/or Take Action and/or Vote to grant their consent to the request of the CLASS G LIQUOR LICENSE.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor R. White to approve to grant consent to the request for the Class G Liquor License for the following marine vessels Jamestown, MV Katherine, The Coastal Queen. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

- 3) Pursuant to RIGL §3-7-14, the following license application has been received under said Act for a one-day license on May 13, 2023(*rain date May 20, 2023):

CLASS F (NON-PROFIT)

Jamestown Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 35, 2023
Jamestown, RI 02835

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

Vice President Meagher requested the applicant to avoid vendors setting up on or near the monument and grassy memorial area. Tom McNiff assured Vice President Meagher they would be mindful of the memorial area.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor R. White to approve the Class F (NON-PROFIT) one-day liquor license on May 13, 2023 (rain date May 20, 2023) for the Jamestown Chamber of Commerce. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

The Town Council adjourns from sitting as the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Board.

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

B) License: Licenses and Permits

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

- a) Applicant: Jamestown Chamber of Commerce
- Event: Crossing Day
- Date: May 13, 2023(*rain date May 20, 2023)
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Location: East Ferry/Narragansett Avenue

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the one-day event license for Crossing Day, on May 13, 2023 (rain date May 20, 2023) for the Jamestown Chamber of Commerce, vendors to avoid setting up on or near the monument and grassy memorial area. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

- b) Applicant: Gray Matter Marketing & RITB Foundation
- Event: Pell Bridge Run
- Date: October 15, 2023, 5:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
- Location: Rhode Island Transit and Bridge Authority offices and East Shore Road

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the one-day event license for the Pell Bridge Run taking place on October 15, 2023, located at Rhode Island Transit and Bridge Authority offices and East Shore Road. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and 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:

A) Interim Town Administrator's Report: Edward A. Mello

- 1) Appointment of the Acting Jamestown Police Chief/Acting Director of Emergency Management (consent agenda)

Lt. Angela Deneault will be appointed Acting Police Chief and Acting Director of Emergency Management, effective April 17, 2023. (consent agenda)

- 2) Jamestown Harbor Commission Executive Director update

The position has been advertised with a deadline of April 17. This will be a full-time seasonal position with off-season part-time work as necessary. Chairman Banks has agreed to assist in the process.

- 3) Opioid Settlement Authorization (consent agenda)

Authorization to execute the National Opioid Litigation Settlement Agreement upon review by Solicitor-due date April 18. (consent agenda)

- 4) Rhode Island Interlocal Trust Awards/Grants

The Town has received two grant awards from the RI Interlocal Trust. The Highway Division has been awarded \$1,000 for the purchase of Bluetooth headsets to be used for safer communications while operating heavy equipment.

The Recreation Department has been awarded \$630 for the purchase of high-visibility all-weather gear. Additionally, the School Department also received a scholarship award of \$1600 that will allow for cyber security training of staff members.

- 5) Recognition of Sgt. Joel Pinocci for 25 years of service on March 24th

- 6) Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Pump-Out Grant

The Harbor Division has received a \$27,000 grant from RIDEM. The funds will be used to enhance public pump-out access at East Ferry and to maintain other existing pump-outs. Jamestown received 27% of all grant funds awarded.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote to approve the draft Tax Relief Ad Hoc Committee Charge:
- 1) The Town Council has determined that it is necessary to encourage year-round residency for both property owners and renters alike. To pursue this initiative, the Council may appoint a Tax Relief Ad Hoc Committee whose charge shall be: Review current commercial and residential properties, including owner-occupied, short-term, and long-term rental properties; identify strategies employed by other local governments to incentivize year-round residency such as tax incentives; present recommendations to the Town Council including new or amended ordinances; investigate qualifying exemptions and opportunities; develop tax relief tiers; defined qualification requirements; and develop public education and outreach. The Committee shall consist of five (5) to seven (7) members including five (5) members of the general public, the Tax Assessor, and a Town Council Liaison.

Vice President Meagher read the draft Tax Relief Ad Hoc Committee Charge. She made the recommendation to amend the charge to reflect (7) members of the general public as voting members. Town Staff would assist the committee as needed.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the Tax Relief Ad Hoc Committee Charge as amended. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote to approve the draft Senior Services Committee Charge:
- 1) The Town Council has determined that it is necessary to provide a mechanism to prioritize the needs of the senior population and bring further awareness to the community. To pursue this initiative, the Council may appoint a Senior Services Committee whose charge shall be: Assist the Senior Services Director and the Friends of Jamestown Seniors Organization in the matters of the senior center, and to guide with the implementation of future projects that will help maintain the independence of our senior population. The Committee shall consist of five (5) to seven (7) members including five (5) members of the general public, the Senior Services Director, and a Town Council Liaison.

President Beye read the draft Senior Services Committee Charge. Vice President Meagher made the recommendation to amend the charge to reflect (7) members of the general public as voting members. Town Staff would assist the committee as needed.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the Senior Services Committee Charge as amended. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and possible action on the FY2023-2024: Town Administrator's Proposed Budget; Possible action to adopt and recommend proposed FY2023-2024 Town Budget of \$28,719,156 for consideration at the Annual Financial Town Meeting on June 5, 2023:
 - 1) Town Administrator's Proposed Town General Fund Budget of \$12,601,897
 - 2) Town Administrator's Proposed School Budget of \$16,177,259

Finance Director Tina Collins reviewed the proposed Town General Fund and School budgets.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the Town Administrator's Proposed Town General Fund Budget of \$12,601,897 and School Budget of \$16,177,259 as presented. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, 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) Tax Relief Working Group Ad Hoc Committee, Five (5) to Seven (7) Member vacancy(s), with a term ending date unspecified; review discussion and/or potential action and/or vote:
 - a) Letter of interest:
 - i) Connie Slick
 - ii) Linda J. Jamison
 - iii) E. Edward Ross
 - iv) Michelle Estaphan Owen
 - v) Beth Smith
 - vi) David Dolce
 - vii) Dan West
 - viii) Robert Raymond

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to postpone appointments until Councilor Brine is present. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye.

- 2) Committee, Board, and Commission Vacancies and Expiring Terms have been duly advertised in the March 30th and April 6th editions of the Jamestown Press. The application deadline has been set for April 12, 2023, for current vacancies and expiring terms.

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 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 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) February 28, 2023 (Special Meeting)
 - 2) March 6, 2023 (Regular Meeting)

- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
 - 1) Jamestown Housing Authority (January 19, 2023)
 - 2) Planning Commission (February 15, 2023)
 - 3) Zoning Board of Review (February 28, 2023)

- C) Approval of the Appointment of Lt. Angela Deneault as the Acting Jamestown Police Chief and Acting Director of Emergency Management, effective April 17, 2023, and approval of the compensation of \$98,268.00.

- D) Permission to authorize Interim Town Administrator Edward A. Mello to sign the National Opioid Settlement offer, Second Amendment upon review by Solicitor Ruggiero.

- E) Acceptance and Receipt of the Lawn Avenue Upper Tennis Court Resurfacing Bid: to Joyce Construction, in the amount not to exceed \$66,689.00, as recommended by Parks and Recreation Director Ray DeFalco.
 - 1) Memorandum from Parks and Recreation Director Ray DeFalco to the Town Council.

- F) Ratification of Administrative Event Approvals: JAC talk with Jean-Marc Superville Sovak and Peter Fay- March 30, 2023. Previously approved event rescheduled due to inclement weather.

Communications were acknowledged.

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) Proclamations and Resolutions from other Rhode Island Cities and Towns:
 - 1) Town of Warren Resolutions:
 - a) Resolution in Support of Validating and Ratifying an amendment to the Home Rule Charter.
 - b) Resolution in Support of Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns

- 2023 Legislative Priorities.
- c) Resolution in Support of Housing Development & Land Use.
 - d) Resolution in Support of Enabling Legislation for a Tax Amnesty Program for Motor Vehicles and Tangible Taxes.
 - e) Resolution in Support of Periodic Review of the BWRSD Enabling Legislation.
- 2) Town of Tiverton, Resolution in Support of Housing Development & Land Use.
 - 3) Town of Hopkinton; Resolution in Support of H 6119 An Act Relating to Human Services – Medical Assistance.
 - 4) Town of Burrillville, Resolution in Support of Environmental, Social, and Governance Investing.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to adjourn at 7:01 p.m. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

Attest:


Roberta J. Fagan, Town Clerk