



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Jamestown Town Hall
Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers
93 Narragansett Avenue
Monday, February 5, 2024
5:30 P.M.

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PERSON ONLY.

THIS MEETING WILL BE LIVE STREAMED: To view the meeting with no interaction:
<https://jamestownri.gov/how-do-i/watch-live-streamed-town-meetings>

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/2024-meetings-minutes>

I. 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) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote in Executive Session and/or open session pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-5(a) Subsection (5) Acquisition or lease of real property.

The Town Council's Open Meeting will begin at 6:00 pm

II. ROLL CALL

III. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

- A) Presentations:
- 1) Senator Dawn Euer and Representative Alex Finkelman: 2024 General Assembly Legislative Priorities.
 - 2) Jamestown Community Farm letter, report, and presentation on the Jamestown Community Farm Financial Terms for Purchase of the Ceppi Property.

- B) Resolutions and Proclamations: Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote:
 - 1) Resolution 2024-05, A Resolution in Support of Amendments to Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns 2024 Legislative Priorities
 - 2) Resolution 2024-06: Formation of the Jamestown 250th Commission.

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 prohibit the Town Council from discussing, considering, or acting on any topic, statement, or question presented. The Town Council may, if warranted, refer such matters to an appropriate committee, to another body or official, or post the matter for consideration at a properly-noticed, future meeting.

- A) Scheduled request to address: None.
- B) Non-scheduled request to address.

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) No items at this time.

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) Town Administrator’s Report: Edward A. Mello
 - 1) Library reopening update.
 - 2) Municipal Resilience Grant Program application for South Pond Dam.
 - 3) Tax Abatement (Credits) Proposed Ordinance Amendment and Public Hearing (new business).
 - 4) Broadband Project update.
 - 5) Ft. Getty Seasonal Camper Renewal February 1st deadline.
 - 6) Hazard Mitigation Plan update and report.
 - 7) PBS- “Our Town” featuring the Town of Jamestown.
 - 8) Equipment purchase for the Harbor Division (consent agenda).
 - 9) Water Tower Lease: additional cell phone provider.
 - 10) CRMC plans to brief the Town Council and Harbor Commission in March regarding Aqua Farms.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Review and/or Discussion of the Jamestown Tax Relief Ad Hoc Committee report and implementation recommendations:
 - 1) Town of Jamestown Tax Relief Ad Hoc Committee Report to the Town Council.

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Review and/or Discussion of the Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee (JAH) recommendations:
- 1) At the request and recommendation of the Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee, Town Council support of the Jamestown Affordable Housing Preservation Program and permission to develop an enabling ordinance by the Town staff with final review by the Town Solicitor.
- C) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Vice President Meagher and the Jamestown Charter Review Committee recommended amendments, additions, and/or deletions for Charter revisions:
- 1) At the request and recommendation of the Jamestown Charter Review Committee permission to develop an enabling ordinance by the Town staff with final review by the Town Solicitor for proposed Amendments to the Jamestown Charter.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: At the request of Vice President Meagher a recommendation to members of the various Jamestown Boards, Commissions, and Committees to review the Open Meetings Act (OMA) compliance requirements and review of the ACLU report regarding public comment at public body meetings:
- 1) When the OMA applies whenever a quorum of a public body convenes for a meeting. The OMA applies when the three elements are present:
 - a public body: means any department, agency, commission, committee, board, council, bureau, or authority, or any subdivision thereof, of state or municipal government or the board of directors of any library that funded at least twenty-five percent (25%) of its operational budget in the prior budget year with public funds, and shall include all authorities defined in § 42-35-1. For purposes of this section, any political party, organization, or unit thereof meeting or convening is not and should not be considered to be a public body; provided, however, that no such meeting shall be used to circumvent the requirements of this chapter.
 - a meeting: means the convening of a public body to discuss and/or act upon a matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power. As used herein, the term “meeting” expressly includes, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, so-called “workshop,” “working,” or “work” sessions.
 - A quorum: unless otherwise defined by applicable law, means a simple majority of the membership of a public body (RIGL§ 42-46-2).
 - 2) Notice Requirements: Annual notice (RIGL§ 42-46-6(a)) and Supplemental Notice/Agenda of meetings (RIGL§ 42-46-6(b)) includes the date the notice was published; the date(s), time(s), and locations(s) of the meetings; and a statement specifying the nature of the business for each matter to be discussed

- 3) Open Meetings: All meetings must be open to the public unless closed in accordance with the OMA. RIGL§ 42-46-3).
 - 4) ACLU report findings on public comment at town meetings
- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: At the request of Town Administrator Mello Discussion and Possible Action to Order to Advertise in the Jamestown Press; Notice of a Public Hearing to take place on March 4, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. for Proposed Amendments to the Code of Ordinances regarding Chapter 66 – Taxation and Finance.
- C) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: At the request of the Town Council information regarding short-term rental (STR) serviced by onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS):
- 1) Memorandum from Town Engineer Jean Lambert re: information request for Short-Term Rentals with Onsite Wastewater Systems

X. ORDINANCES, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES, AND EXPIRING TERMS

- A) Appointments, Vacancies, and Expiring Terms; Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote:
- 1) Elections Training and Advisory Ad hoc Committee, One (1) Jamestown Board of Canvassers Member; Four to Six (4-6) Jamestown Citizen-at-Large Members; and One (1) Jamestown Town Council Ex-Officio Member with a term not to exceed 6 months, duly advertised in the December 14th, 21st, January 11th and 18th editions of the Jamestown Press:
 - a) Interested Citizens-at-Large Applicants:
 - i) Daphne G. Meredith
 - Application received December 19, 2023
 - Interviewed on January 16, 2024.
 - ii) Laura Goldstein
 - Application received December 26, 2023
 - Interviewed on January 16, 2024.
 - iii) Linda Jamison
 - Application received December 28, 2023
 - iv) Marlene B. Murphy
 - Application received January 31, 2024.
 - Interview to be scheduled if the Town Council considers it necessary.
 - b) Board of Canvasser Applicants:
 - i) Kenneth Newman
 - Email expressing interest received December 28, 2023
 - ii) Carol Nelson-Lee
 - Rescinded application (see Board of Canvassers January 19, 2024 draft minutes)

- 2) Library Board of Trustees, One (1) member vacancy, with a three-year term ending December 31, 2026, duly advertised in the December 14th and 21st editions of the Jamestown Press:
 - a) Interested Applicant(s):
 - i) Gordon Rapkin
 - Application received November 6, 2023
 - Interview on December 4, 2023
 - i) Janet Schachtel Baker
 - Application received December 4, 2023
 - Interviewed on January 16, 2024
 - ii) Jean Burditt
 - Application received December 22, 2023
 - Interviewed on January 16, 2024

- 3) Tick Task Force Ad hoc Committee, Five to Seven (5-7) member vacancy, for an unspecified term, duly advertised in the December 14th, 21st, January 11th and 18th editions of the Jamestown Press:
 - a) Interested Applicant(s):
 - i) Taryn Breneman
 - Application received December 22, 2023
 - Interviewed on January 16, 2024
 - ii) Wayne C. Breneman
 - Application received December 22, 2023
 - Interviewed on January 16, 2024
 - iii) Cynthia Leonard
 - Application received January 2, 2024
 - Interview to be scheduled
 - b) Request to Order to re-advertise the vacancy(s)

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) Town Council Minutes
 - 1) January 16, 2024

- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
 - 1) Board of Canvassers (November 7, 2023)
 - 2) Board of Canvassers (November 8, 2023)
 - 3) Harbor Management Commission (December 13, 2023)
 - 4) Planning Commission (January 3, 2024)
 - 5) Police Pension Plan Committee (October 18, 2023)
 - 6) Tree Preservation and Protection (October 18, 2023)
 - 7) Tree Preservation and Protection (November 15, 2023)
 - 8) Tree Preservation and Protection (December 20, 2023)
 - 9) Tree Preservation and Protection 2023 Attendance Log
 - 10) Tax Assessment Board of Review- 2023/2024 Attendance Log
 - 11) Tax Assessment Board of Review (January 23, 2024)

- C) At the recommendation of the Harbor Division Executive Director and the Harbor Management Commission grant approval of the sale of the Harbor Division 21’ Freedom vessel, trailer, and motor via the municipal surplus equipment resale process; and authorization to purchase a new 21.5’ Ribcraft vessel, trailer and motor from Ribcraft Corp., Marblehead MA for an amount not to exceed \$116,431.

D) Tax Assessor’s Abatements and Addenda of Taxes

ADDENDA TO THE TAX ROLL			
ACCT	TAX YEAR	ACCOUNT INFORMATION	AMOUNT
01-0002-28	2023	TOWN SOLD-NOW TAXABLE	\$ 2,215.45
01-0002-28	2023	SW/ISDS CHANGE	\$ 20.00
TOTAL ABATEMENTS TO TAX ROLL			-\$ 0.00
TOTAL ADDENDA TO TAX ROLL			\$ 2,235.45
GRAND TOTAL TO THE TAX ROLL			\$ 2,235.45

- E) Ratification of the Administratively approved Short-Term Rental application for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024:
 - 1) Norma Walsh, STR-97, 33 Hawthorne Road
 - 2) Mary Ann Smith-Janias, STR-105, 8 Clinton Avenue
 - 3) David Crompton, STR-41, 18 Neptune Street
 - 4) Leopold Martini, STR-13, 11 Nun Avenue
 - 5) Cheryl Levesque, STR-107, 6 Coronado Street
 - 6) Pamela Storey, STR-64, 32 Pemberton Avenue
 - 7) Justine Maciel, STR-49, 144 Narragansett Avenue
 - 8) Adam Wright, STR-28, 46 Carr Lane

- F) Trash Collector License 2024 Renewal Application(s):
- 1) Island Rubbish Service, Inc. dba: Island Rubbish, 8 Swinburne Street, Jamestown, RI 02835
 - 2) Allied Waste Services, LLC. dba: Republic Services, Airport Road, Fall River, MA 02720
- G) One-Day Event/Entertainment License Applications: All One-Day Event/Entertainment license application approvals are subject to any COVID-19 protocols in effect at the time of the event:
- 1) Applicant: Conanicut Island Sailing Foundation (CISF)
 Event: Bay Day
 Date: June 9, 2024
 Location: Ft. Getty/CISF area

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 report to: Town Council
 From: Bram Gallagher/AIRDNA
 Dated: January 2024
 Re: US and Rhode Island STR Markets,
 - 2) Copy of memo to Town Council, Jamestown Zoning Board, Jamestown Town Planner, Lisa Bryer
 From: Jamestown Conservation Commission (JCC)
 Dated: January 22, 2024
 Re: JCC Advisory Review and Objection to Proposed Ordinance Section 82-12-6- Communication Towers and Open Space
 - 3) Copy of email to: Town Council
 From: Frank Meyer
 Dated: January 14, 2024
 Re: Mackerel Cove and the storms
 - 4) Copy of email to: Town Council
 From: Marian Falla
 Dated: January 16, 2024
 Re: Easton Beach Storms/JT beach impacted by storm
 - 5) Copy of letter to: Town Council
 From: Alma Davenport
 Dated: January 26, 2024
 Re: Proposed zoning ordinance Section 82-1207. Keeping of Chicken Hens

- 6) Copy of letter to: Town Council
From: United Way
Dated: January 2024
Re: 2024 Legislative Agenda
- B) Proclamations and Resolutions from Other Rhode Island Cities and Towns:
 - 1) Town of Hopkinton, Resolution in Support of Full Funding of Categorical Transportation Aid as outlined in RIGL §16-7.2-6
 - 2) At the regular meeting of the Burrillville Town Council held Wednesday, January 24, 2024, for and within the Town of Burrillville, at which time a quorum was present and acting throughout, the Burrillville Town Council voted to support the resolution from the Water and Sewer Commission of the Town of Jamestown (Resolution No.: 2024-01) requesting the Rhode Island General Assembly to amend RIGL §46-15 relative to a public water system's obligation.

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 Police Station. Notice is also posted 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 to rfagan@jamestownri.net not less than three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

Posted on the RI Secretary of State website on February 1, 2024.