

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 15, 2024
5:30 P.M.

I. ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on April 15, 2024. Town Council Members present were as follows: Nancy A. Beye, Mary Meagher, Michael G. White, and Randy White (arrived at 5:32 p.m.). Erik Brine was absent.

Also, in attendance: Town Administrator Edward A. Mello, Solicitor Peter Ruggiero, Finance Director Christina Collins, Chief Jamie Campbell, Public Works Director Michael Gray, Town Planner Lisa Bryer, Water & Sewer Clerk Denise Jennings, Stenographer Brenda Hanna, 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 5:30 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 M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

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

A) 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.

Nick Robertson, 109 Carr Lane. The water treatment plant should be funded by all taxpayers, not just by the users. Mr. Robertson, a past Town Council member, toured the facility in the past and was surprised that the facility had a staff of only three. He also stated that staff are required to obtain a license to operate the facility, creating obstacles for new candidates to enter the industry. Mr. Robertson expressed concern about current and future challenges at the water treatment plant. He suggested forming a committee to look at possibilities for extensions as well as to prepare a 20-year long-range plan to address water supply issues.

Charlotte Zarlengo, Seaside Drive. Mrs. Zarlengo made statements regarding the Seaview Avenue extension applications, which are outside the urban water district. She quoted the February 13, 2024 memorandum from Public Works Director Michael Gray to the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners, and the recent update to the WSSMP which included an updated water district

build-out analysis. “The (Town’s) current water supply does not produce enough water for maximum day demands presently. And forecasted data indicate that average day demand at build-out within the existing district exceeds the available capacity of our reservoir and well. Extension of water mains outside of the district boundaries will place additional demand stress on the limited supply not factored into the build-out analysis.” Mrs. Zarlengo had petitioned a previous Town Council/Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners, to provide water connections to the residences in the Jamestown Shores due to water issues. The Jamestown Shores residents were told their water issues needed to be resolved independently; the Jamestown Shores geographically remain outside the urban water district. Ms. Zarlengo asked the Commission to consider the Jamestown Shores residents in the discussion that evening.

Public Works Director Michael Gray reported on ongoing staffing issues. A prospective candidate did not work out. He stated that Mr. Robertson’s concerns are appreciated. Staffing issues are industry-wide. The Town strives to solve staffing issues locally, but challenges remain. Licensed operators are required at the water treatment plant(s) and municipalities request waivers from the State Water Resources Board because there are not enough licensed operators to meet the requirements. Efforts to recruit interns are ongoing, but to date, there are no applicants.

The Town Council/Water and Sewer Commissioners commended town staff for their dedication and extraordinary service.

B) Report of Town Officials: Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote:

1) Pumping Report

Public Works Director Michael Gray reported the following:

PARE finalized the Water System Supply Management Plan (WSSMP) which was submitted on Friday, April 12th.

PFAS notifications were mailed out in the quarterly billing; one response has been received.

Distribution system annual water flushing continues. Ratepayers may experience decreased water pressure.

Staff are reading Ft. Getty which will be opening the second week in May.

Average flows for the month are very high, and staff are working around the clock manning pumps to ensure there are no overflows from the system to the bay.

See the attached Project Update Report dated March 2024.

2) Town Project Reports

a) Town Wells

JR-I is in service.

b) Water Treatment Plant

- A licensed operator from Veolia has been assisting the staff at the water treatment plant two days a week.

- Staff from Pare Corporation has finalized the WSSMP and submitted it to the RI Water Resources Board for review and approval. Director Gray will be attending a future meeting with staff from Pare to present the plan to the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting. Pare will now focus on completing a draft of the rules and regulations for the Commission.

- Informational Notices have been sent with the quarterly billing to all of the water customers with PFAS sampling results and information. To date, only one call from a resident with questions about the notice has been received.

c) Transfer Pumping/Reservoir

The water department is not transferring water from south pond to north pond.

d) Distribution System

South Pond@ 6 MG

Usable Storage, 6 Million Gallons

North Pond@60 MG

Usable Storage 60 Million Gallons

- Water department staff has conducted annual hydrant flushing throughout the system. Presently, about 40% of the hydrant flushing has been completed.
- Staff will be preparing the water distribution system at Fort Getty with annual flushing and testing for the May opening of the park.

e) Wastewater Treatment Facility

The monthly average daily flow at the treatment plant for March was 0.95 million gallons per day. The monthly average allowed by the town's discharge permit is 0.73 million gallons per day. The peak daily flow was 2.03 million gallons.

- Weston and Sampson have been working on the assessment of the wastewater facility and pump stations. A meeting took place on March 15th with the team regarding the wastewater collection system. They completed an updated map of the town's collection system showing pipe sizes and materials including segments that have been lined. Town wastewater staff will be completing a markup of the new plan showing segments that are known to need replacing or lining and manholes that require maintenance or replacement. Staff will then determine a plan for closed-circuit TV inspection and flow monitoring of the system. Inflow and infiltration continue to be an issue for the system. As can be seen in the wastewater report the Town has exceeded the average flow of 0.73 mgd for the month due to excessive rainfall. An auxiliary pump must be deployed to Pump Station #3 at west ferry to handle peak flow conditions during the heavy rainfall.

C) Letters and Communication: No items at this time.

President Beye described the process for conducting the review of water-line extensions.

D) Unfinished Business:

- 1) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote on the application of Jeffrey and Deborah Saletin (Plat 7 Lot 135, 14 Seaview Avenue) for utility service connection (water) and as amended on March 29, 2024, to an application for a water line extension:
 - a) Application for utility service connection (water) received January 2, 2024.
 - b) Memorandum dated February 13, 2024, from Michael Gray, Public Works Director to the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.
 - c) Memorandum dated February 16, 2024, from Robert F. Ferrari, PE

to the Town of Jamestown.

d) Application for water line extension received March 29, 2024.

Atty. Christian Infantolino, representing Jeffrey and Deborah Saletin (Plat 7 Lot 135, 14 Seaview Avenue) proceeded to report on the basis for the water extension application.

Brian Thalmann, Senior Project Manager for DiPrete Engineering and registered professional engineer in the State of Rhode Island, was sworn in by stenographer Brenda Hanna.

The Town Council sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners accepted Mr. Thalmann as an expert to offer opinions on matters related to civil engineering of which anything associated with utility extension would fall under that purview. He described the physical restraints for relocating the existing well due to setbacks, neighboring wells, and proximity to the on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS) as required by the State RIDEM and EPA. Mr. Thalmann determined there was no other reasonable location to re-site the well.

Robert Ferrari, Northeast Water Solutions and registered professional engineer and licensed general contractor was sworn in by stenographer Brenda Hanna. The Town Council sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners accepted Mr. Ferrari as an expert in wastewater, water treatment, water supply development, and wells.

A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Ferrari testified that the Saletin's well does not meet the State of Rhode Island's quality standards. He put on record that given the flow capacity, potable water, and current yield at 1.1 gallons per minute, which was tested, does not meet the water quality requirements and, therefore not potable. When the water was first evaluated five/six years ago, it was brackish. Moving forward it has degraded, with the expectation that (1) greater seawater fee component and (2) because of the reject stream. Mr. Ferrari stated there are multiple factors contributing to the ongoing degradation of the water quality. There are three possible alternatives for removing the reverse osmosis reject water from the property: (1) put it into a dry well/or back in the ground, (2) store it in a large (holding) tank and truck it off periodically, or (3) get CRMC/DEM approval and permits for an outfall or a discharge outfall into the bay. In conclusion, Mr. Ferrari would advise the best option, from the standpoint of protection of public health and minimization of other risks was to connect to the municipal system if a connection was possible to be made.

Councilor R. White questioned whether there were other options, other than connecting to the municipal system, such as hydrofracking again, tanks for both holding treated water and tanks for wastewater,

Jeffrey Saletin, 14 Seaview Avenue, was sworn in by stenographer Brenda Hanna. Mr. Saletin stated this situation has been very painful. It has been a struggle to get clean, quality, and healthy water. He respectfully requested the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners allow them the extension to Town water.

Vice President Meagher clarified that Saletin's average daily usage is approximately 80 gallons and not 240 gallons as written on the application.

Mr. Saletin stated the 240 gallons was the annualized amount that Atty. Infantolino had calculated. He and his wife are the only occupants and estimate more accurately at 80 gallons of daily usage.

- 2) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: on the Letter dated 01/02/24 from Attorney Joelle C. Rocha and the application of Glenn and Marjorie

Andreoni (Plat 7 Lot 34, 10 Seaview Avenue) for water line extension:

- a) Letter dated January 2, 2024, from Attorney Joelle C. Rocha and the application for water line extension received on January 2, 2024.
- b) Memorandum dated February 13, 2024, from Michael Gray, Public Works Director to the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.
- c) Letter dated February 19, 2024, from Attorney Joelle C. Rocha and an exhibit showing existing OWTS & Well.

Atty. Joelle Rocha, representing Glenn and Marjorie Andreoni (Plat 7 Lot 34, 10 Seaview Avenue) for water line extension, addressed the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners. Her clients meet the State statute standard requirements for municipal water connection applications:

- (1) The application must not be prohibited by the specific language of the water supply management plan.
- (2) The application must comply with the design and construction standards and specifications established by the public water supply system for the sizing and location for the infrastructure.
- (3) The extension shall not reduce the necessary level of fire protection for the community.
- (4) All water main and service connection materials, construction, and inspection required shall be at the sole cost and expense of the applicant.
- (5) The public water supply system shall be granted an easement in the form acceptable for the maintenance, repair, and replacement that is routinely done.
- (6) Applications for single-family residential lots the applicant must show that, one, the existing or proposed well for the property does not meet the well industry standard as described in the Department of Environmental regulations for the yield per depth of the well channel, which is required by the Department of Health for a dwelling unit. And two, due to the unique characteristics of the property, the drilling of a new well is not feasible.

A direct examination by Attorney Rocha of Mr. Thalmann was conducted regarding the property owned by applicants Glenn and Marjorie Andreoni (Plat 7 Lot 34, 10 Seaview Avenue).

Mr. Thalmann testified that there is a confluence of on-site wastewater treatment systems in and around the subject parcel as well as a collection of private wells. When you factor in the flood zones and the overlapping radiuses of those various appurtenances, you are left with essentially no area of which to resite a well to replace the one that exists. He confirmed that due to the unique characteristics of 10 Seaview Avenue the drilling of the well location-wise was not feasible.

A direct examination by Attorney Rocha of Mr. Ferrari was conducted regarding the property owned by applicants Glenn and Marjorie Andreoni (Plat 7 Lot 34, 10 Seaview Avenue).

Mr. Ferrari testified the effective yield for the 10 Seaview Avenue well was determined to be 0.6 gallons per minute, even though there is a pump in the well that is pumping at a higher rate on the outcome.

Glen Andreoni was called as a witness and having been first duly sworn testified. Mr. Andreoni respectfully requested for 10 Seaview Avenue to be allowed a water main extension and connection. The Andreoni's would like to live in Jamestown full time but are unable to due to inadequate water supply. Initially, when they bought the property, the Andreoni's did not have water supply issues. He stated it has gotten progressively worse with every year. Mr.

Ferrari/Northeast Water Solutions was hired to install a reverse osmosis system (RO). The well only produces 0.6 gallons per minute at a high peak time, which is not adequate for a RO to work properly. Mr. Andreoni stated they cannot take a shower without running out of water, and the water doesn't come close to meeting U.S. EPA and Rhode Island Department of Health drinking water standards. He emphasized there are no other feasible options.

- 3) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: On the application of Paul Frechette (Plat 7 Lot 101, 19 Seaview Avenue) for utility service connection (water) and as amended on March 29, 2024, to an application for a water line extension:
 - a) Application for utility service connection (water) received January 2, 2024.
 - b) Memorandum dated February 13, 2024, from Michael Gray, Public Works Director to the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.
 - c) Addendum (3 pages) submitted February 20, 2024 re: well.
 - d) Addendum with note (5 pages) submitted March 21, 2024, re: well.
 - e) Application for water line extension received April 1, 2024.

Atty. Infantolino representing Paul and Gail Frechette (Plat 7 Lot 101, 19 Seaview Avenue) for utility service connection (water) and as amended on March 29, 2024, to an application for a water line extension. Atty. Infantolino testified on behalf of the applicants. The property has been experiencing water-related issues since 2016. The Frechettes retained licensed professionals to assist with the problem, eventually needing to drill a new well. In 2017, Precision Well drilled a new well at 300 feet, which provided approximately 1 gallon per minute of yield. On numerous occasions, the new well had run out of water. The most recent flow test done by Precision Well on the second well came out at .075 gallons per minute. A significant reduction from the 1 gallon-a-minute test in 2017.

Vice President Meagher and Councilor R. White were concerned that neither the applicant nor the well expert were in attendance to answer their questions.

Atty. Infantolino respectfully requested a continuance on the Frechette application (Plat 7 Lot 101, 19 Seaview Avenue) for utility service connection (water) and as amended on March 29, 2024, to an application for a water line extension.

- 4) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: on the application of Stephen Zimmiski and Suzanne Gagnon (Plat 7 Lot 94, 7 Seaview Avenue) for water line extension:
 - a) Application for water line extension received January 2, 2024.
 - b) Memorandum dated February 13, 2024, from Michael Gray, Public Works Director to the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.

Susan Gagnon and Stephen Zimmiski were called as witnesses, duly sworn, and testified on their application (Plat 7 Lot 94, 7 Seaview Avenue) for a water line extension. Their house was built in 1953 and they purchased it in 2019. The water has always been inadequate. (The referenced report provided to Public Works Director Michael Gray from Well Works was missing from the application packet.)

Councilor R. White stated for the Commission to evaluate the Gagnon/Zimniski application, the Well Works report would need to be resubmitted.

For the record, Atty. Rocha objected to the continuation of the Andreoni's water extension application.

For the record, Atty. Infantolino objected to the continuation of the Saletin's water extension application.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor R. White to continue the four (4) water line extension applications for Jeffrey and Deborah Saletin (Plat 7 Lot 135, 14 Seaview Avenue), Glenn and Marjorie Andreoni (Plat 7 Lot 34, 10 Seaview Avenue), Paul Frechette (Plat 7 Lot 101, 19 Seaview Avenue) and Stephen Zimniski and Suzanne Gagnon (Plat 7 Lot 94, 7 Seaview Avenue) until May 6, 2024. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye; and Councilor M. White, Aye.

- E) New Business:
 - 1) No items at this time.

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; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

- F) Consent Agenda
 - 1) Finance Director's Report: Comparison Budget to Actuals as of March 31, 2024.

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

IV. OPEN FORUM

- A) Scheduled request to address: Mary Elizabeth Titmas, request to consider naming the Jamestown Bike Path in honor of her father, Retired Police Chief James G. Pemantell.

Mary Elizabeth "Beth" Titmas addressed the Town Council and requested the Jamestown Bike Path be named in honor of her father, Retired Police Chief James G. Pemantell. He visited the bike path daily; and loved the beauty of the bike path, even before it was known.

Vice President Meagher shared her sentiments about Retired Police Chief James G. Pemantell and spoke of his character as a wonderful, and fair man. She agreed that naming the Jamestown Bike Path in his name would be a great idea.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor R. White to add the Proclamation/Resolution at the Town Council meeting.

- B) Non-scheduled request to address

Christian Infantolino, 28 Reservoir Circle, spoke recently with Chief Campbell regarding a parking issue on Reservoir Circle. A neighbor on East Shore Road does not allow for landscaping

equipment to park on his property, resulting in vehicles parking on East Shore Road, Reservoir Circle, and across from the Community Farm. He requested to place the Reservoir Circle parking issue on a future agenda for further review and discussion.

Thomas Lafazia, Stern Street, also requested the Town Council to address parking issues on the corner of Stern Street and Bow Street due to parked cars on the street.

Vice President Meagher agreed to place Mr. Infantolino and Mr. Lafazia's parking issue concerns on a future agenda.

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

A) Resolutions and Proclamations

- 1) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Proclamation 2024-11, Jamestown Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6-10, 2024.

Councilor M. White read Proclamation 2024-11, Jamestown Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6-10, 2024.

A motion was made by Councilor M. White with a second by Vice President Meagher to approve Proclamation 2024-11, Jamestown Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6-10, 2024. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

- 2) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Resolution 2024-12, Keep Rhody Litter Free.

Vice President Meagher read a portion of Resolution 2024-12, Keep Rhody Litter Free.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve Resolution 2024-12, Keep Rhody Litter Free. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

- 3) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Resolution 2024-13, In Support of Fully Funding State Aid to Libraries to the Full Twenty-Five (25) Percent.

Vice President Meagher read a portion of Resolution 2024-13, In Support of Fully Funding State Aid to Libraries to the Full Twenty-Five (25) Percent.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to Resolution 2024-13, In Support of Fully Funding State Aid to Libraries to the Full Twenty-Five (25) Percent. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

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

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS, LICENSES, AND PERMITS

A) Town Council Sitting as the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Board

Notice is hereby given by the Town Council 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, the following has been received: for a NEW BV-VICTUALER LIQUOR LICENSE under said Act, for the period April 15, 2024, to November 30, 2024:

- 1) Application for a New Class BV-Victualer Liquor License as advertised in the *Jamestown Press* editions of March 21st and April 4th and noticed to abutters as follows:

FROM: CLASS BV-Victualer Limited Liquor License
VHBC, LLC
dba: Village Hearth Bakery & Cafe
2 Watson Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

TO: CLASS BV- Victualer Liquor License
VHBC, LLC
dba: Village Hearth Bakery & Cafe
2 Watson Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

- a) Request for Town Council Review, Discussion and/or Action and/or Vote to approve the New Class BV – Victualer Liquor License
- b) Request for Town Council Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote to Set the Class BV – Victualer Liquor License Cap at Eight (8)

Stephanie and Lindsay Haigh, 9 Bow Street, proprietors of VHBC, LLC addressed the Town Council. After moving to Jamestown 3 years ago after acquiring Village Hearth Bakery, they have grown to love the community and have become involved in initiatives to give back to the community. They expressed gratitude and asked the Town Council to consider their Class BV – Victualer Liquor License.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to Set the Class BV – Victualer Liquor License Cap at Eight (8) Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the VHBC, LLC, dba: Village Hearth Bakery & Café New BV-VICTUALER LIQUOR LICENSE application, Hours of Operation Monday through Sunday, 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher 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 M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

VII. COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATOR, SOLICITOR, COMMISSION/COMMITTEE COMMENTS & REPORTS

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

- 1) Pole 164 – North Main Road, request to install a street light. (Consent Agenda).

Pole 164 – North Main Road, sits at the “driveway” to seven (7) homes. The residents have requested a street light to be installed. The cost of the installation is \$780. The annual cost would be added to the Town’s street light expense through RI Energy. Town Administrator Mello recommends approval of the installation.

- 2) Job Fair on May 11th at the Recreation Center.

Parks and Recreation Director DeFalco and Recreation Department staff are planning a Town job fair which will include Chamber Members. The event is scheduled for May 11th. Any business may request a table through the Recreation Department.

- 3) Open Meetings Act (OMA) Training Scheduled for April 24th at 1 pm.

Solicitor David Petrarca and Town Clerk Roberta Fagan have worked to develop a training program to cover the Open Meetings Act and meeting agenda management. The training has been scheduled for April 24 at 1 2-PM, via Zoom and will be recorded. The recording will be shared with all committee members. Members and staff are encouraged to participate and/or view the training recording.

- 4) Fort Getty Pier storm damage assessment and repair update.

Foth Engineering has not yet completed its damage assessment report of the Fort Getty Pier. Town staff have asked them to further examine the condition of the vertical piles. As previously indicated the condition of those piles was unknown. A preliminary report on the Marine bore came back negative, providing a more optimistic view about the condition of the vertical piles FEMA did not declare Newport County as a federal disaster and offer public (property) assistance for response or repair. Town Administrator Mello stated he misunderstood that position and has since learned that FEMA is still assessing the total damages to public properties within Newport County.

- 5) 6 West Street/Union Studios cost proposal update.

Town Administrator Mello has requested Union Studios to provide a proposal to further develop the conceptual plans for the Senior Center project. The process will include further public input. This next step will allow the Town to further refine the budget level estimates to a more definitive cost. The cost for this next step is \$65,000. Town staff are not asking for approval until we determine a funding source.

Town Administrator Mello stated the Federal FY 24 budget did not include funding for the project as previously requested. As an alternative, the Town has re-applied for funding of the project under the Federal Appropriation FY25.

- 6) ARPA Funds reallocation recommendation.

The Town was awarded ARRA funds in the amount of \$1,643,390. The Town Council previously authorized three projects: 1) the purchase of a new rescue ambulance, 2) the renovation and purchase of public safety dispatch center equipment, and 3) funding a portion of the water main replacement project on Narragansett Avenue between North Road and West Ferry. The first two projects are completed. The water line project has moved through the majority of design work.

Town staff have become increasingly concerned about the probability of continuing the water main project due to expected significant delays related to the historical review process. Town staff are working on a reallocation recommendation.

7) Low-Speed Vehicles New Law Effective July 1, 2024.

Chief Campbell has prepared an advisory memorandum of an expected change in the law that will allow registered low-speed vehicles to be operated on the roadways.

President Beye asked for a description of a low-speed vehicle which she understands is not golf carts. Chief Campbell describes the vehicles as being electric powered, gross vehicle weight not to exceed 3000lbs, top speed not to exceed 25 mpg, and multi-seat vehicles (6, 8 to 10 people), that are seen in beach communities. They need to adhere to State registration and inspection requirements. They would be prohibited from traveling on State Roads such as portions of North Road and East Shore Road, Beavertail Road, and Rt. 138.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: No items at this time.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: Approval of the Final Charter Amendment Questions for submission to the voters at the Next Regular Election as follows:

- 1) Question 1- Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Preamble): Shall the Charter be amended to list the official name of the state of Rhode Island?
- 2) Question 2 – Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Article II – The Town Council - §212- Vacancies): Shall the Charter be amended to modify the procedure to fill a vacancy on the Town Council by authorizing the membership of the Town Council to select a qualified person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term?
- 3) Question 3 - Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Article II – The Town Council § 216-Procedure For Adopting All Ordinance): Shall the Charter be amended to provide that only a digest or description of a proposed ordinance or amendment of an ordinance need be published in a newspaper of general circulation?
- 4) Question 4 - Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Article III - The Town Administrator - § 301 -Appointment and Qualifications): “Shall the Charter be amended to allow a person appointed as Town Administrator up to twelve (12) months to become a resident of the Town?”

Vice President Meagher made a recommendation to amend the question as follows:

Question 4 - Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Article III - The Town Administrator - § 301 -Appointment and Qualifications): Shall the Charter be amended to allow a person appointed as Town Administrator up to twelve (12) months to become a resident of the ~~Town~~ State?”

- 5) Question 5 - Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Article IV - Administrative Departments - § 409 - Building Official): Shall the Charter be revised to allow the building official to also serve as the zoning enforcement officer?
- 6) Question 6 - Amendment to the Jamestown Town Charter (Amends Article V - The School Committee - § 503 - Vacancies): Shall the Charter be amended to modify the procedure to fill a vacancy on the School Committee by authorizing the membership of the Town Council to select a qualified person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term?
- 7) Question 7 Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Article XI- Financial Provisions - § 1104- Public Notice): Shall the Charter be amended to revise internal section references for consistency?
- 8) Question 8 Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Article XII- Amendment of Charter - § 1201 - Charter Revision Committee): Shall the Charter be amended to require a full review of the Charter at no less than six (6) year intervals; and that special reviews can take place as needed?

Vice President Meagher made a recommendation to amend the question as follows:

Question 8 Amendment to the Jamestown Charter (Amends Article XII-Amendment of Charter - § 1201 - Charter Revision Committee): Shall the Charter be amended to require a full review of the Charter in September 2029, at no less than six (6) year intervals thereafter; and that special reviews can take place as needed, as amended.

Solicitor Peter Ruggiero will make the requested amendments and present them at a future Town Council meeting for final approval.

X. ORDINANCES, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES, AND EXPIRING TERMS

- A) No items at this time.

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) Adoption of Town Council Meeting Minutes
 - 1) March 4, 2024 (Regular meeting)
 - 2) March 6, 2024 (Special meeting)
- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
 - 1) Board of Canvassers (March 11, 2024)
 - 2) Board of Canvassers (March 14, 2024)
 - 3) Elections Training & Advisory (March 7, 2024)
 - 4) Elections Training & Advisory (March 27, 2024)
 - 5) Elections Training & Advisory (April 3, 2024)
 - 6) Harbor Management Commission (February 14, 2024)

- C) Abutter Notifications: Notice is hereby given that the Jamestown Zoning Board of Review will hold a public hearing on April 23, 2024, at the Jamestown Town Hall 93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown, Rhode Island at 7:00 p.m. upon the following:
- 1) Application of OUR TABLE, LLC (Marc Alexander and Marla Romash), (Gino DiFante, property owner) operating a restaurant on the first floor of 53 Narragansett Ave., and further identified as Assessor's Plat 9, Lot 207, for a Special Use Permit from Article 3 Section 82-301, Table 3-1, VI, C-1. to obtain the right to sell alcoholic beverages, currently limited to beer and wine, with amendment requested as follows: Monday through Sunday, Noon – 10 pm, with beer and wine served during that time, with no other changes in already permitted operation. The property is located in a CD zone and includes 16,632 square feet.
- D) Finance Director's Report: Comparison Budget to Actuals as of March 31, 2024.
- E) Authorization of the Warrant and Resolutions for the June 3, 2024, Financial Town Meeting (Warrants are routine in matter as they relate to setting the tax rate.)
- 1) Resolution Number 1: Sewer Line Frontage Tax Rate (.68 cents per linear foot, included on the tax bill for homes in the Sewer district)
 - 2) Resolution Number 2: Borrowing in Anticipation of Taxes (Authorizes the Town the ability to borrow funds in anticipation of the 1st quarter's taxes being due.)
 - 3) Resolution Number 3: Disposition of Collected Back Taxes (All back taxes to be placed in the General Fund at time of receipt.)
 - 4) Resolution Number 4: Setting the Tax Rate (Actual rate to be determined within a range at the FTM.)
- F) Approval of the recommendation by Town Administrator Mello to install a street light on Pole 164- North Main Road.
- G) Approval of the recommendation by Parks and Recreation Director DeFalco to award the Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) bid to New England Fire Equipment & Apparatus for an amount not to exceed \$24,260 for a 2024 Polaris Ranger 1000 ESP with Plow Option.
- H) Approval of the recommendation by Town Clerk Roberta Fagan, of the Board/Committee/Commission Appointment Policy.

- I) Ratification of the Administratively approved Short-Term Rental application for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024:
- 1) Raymond Bazzano,, STR-36, 10 Narragansett Avenue, Apt #4
 - 2) Raymond Bazzano,, STR-117, 10 Narragansett Avenue, Apt #5
 - 3) Raymond Bazzano,, STR-118, 10 Narragansett Avenue, Apt #6
 - 4) Frederic Presbrey, STR-76, 17 Avenue B
 - 5) John Slyman, STR-108, 25 Bay Street
 - 6) Genevieve Dupre, STR-73, 75 North Road (and 73)
 - 7) Mary and John Brittain, STR-125, 14 Clinton Avenue
 - 8) Noreen Drexel, STR-128, 953 Fort Getty Road
- J) Ratification of the Administratively approved Jamestown Yacht Club, One-Day Event/Entertainment License Application: JYC Focus: Newport-Bermuda Race talk and slide presentation, Jamestown Golf Course Clubhouse, on Friday, April 12, 2024.
- K) 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: RITB Foundation & Gray Matter Marketing
Event: Pell Bridge Run
Date: Saturday, October 20, 2024
Location: RITBA Lawn and Bridge
 - 2) Applicant: Conanicut Island Sailing Foundation (CISF)
Event: Great Getty Hunt
Date: Saturday, May 4, 2024
Location: Fort Getty, CISF tent & outside
 - 3) Public Notice of CRMC and RIDEM of application for Assent filed by Salvatore Savastano, 6 Fairview Street, to construct and maintain an additional two jet-ski lifts with one attached to the north side and one attached to the south side of the pilings label number 15 in the plans near the terminus. Written comments/objections are due by April 29, 2024, to CRMC, O.S. Government Center, 4808 Tower Hill Road, Rm 116, Wakefield, RI 02879, or cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov.

Vice President Meagher read aloud each Short-Term Rental host application name and address, asking those in attendance for any objections or comments to be known.

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to approve the Short-Term Rental applications for licensing as listed on the Consent Agenda. Vote: President Beye, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor R. White, Aye; and Councilor M. 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 M. White, Aye; and Councilor R. White, Aye.

Vice President Meagher asked if Town Clerk Roberta Fagan resolved the Communication received from Deputy Town Clerk/Canvassers Clerk Keith Ford.

Town Clerk Roberta Fagan stated the request is made each year, and she will provide the list. There was no action item for the Town Council.

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) Communications Received:

- 1) Copy of memo: Town Council
From: Deputy Town Clerk/Canvassers Clerk Keith Ford
Dated: April 4, 2024
Re: Financial Town Meeting
- 2) Copy of email to: Town Council and Town Staff
From: Steve Munger
Dated: April 10, 2024
Re: Golf course plan modifications
- 3) Copy of letter to: Town Council
From: Thomas LaFazia
Dated: April 4, 2024
Re: Ensuring the Safety of Our Children- Request change the parking ordinance in the shores to Prohibit Street Parking.
- 4) Copy of letter to: Town Council
From: Quaker Case
Dated: March 31, 2024
Re: Affordable Housing Bond and budget
- 5) Copy of articles to: Town Council and Town Staff
From: Marian Falla
Dated: April 10, 2024
Re: Grants for RI Shoreline projects
- 6) Copy of articles to: Town Council and Town Staff
From: Marian Falla
Dated: April 4, 2024
Re: Middletown Tax System is Broken

- 7) Copy of articles to: Town Council and Town Staff
From: Marian Falla
Dated: March 21, 2024
Re: Newport Mansion Tax discussed with Newport TC.
 - 8) Copy of email to: Town Council
From: Denise Panichas, Samaritans RI
Dated: April 3, 2024
Re: Request for Resolution in Support of Suicide Prevention Barriers on Bridges over Narragansett Bay.
- B) Communications and Resolutions from other Rhode Island Cities and Towns:
- 1) Town of Richmond, Proclamation 2024-5, National Small Business Week.
 - 2) Town of Richmond, Proclamation 2024-6, In Opposition to any Revival of the Old Saybrook to Kenyon Bypass.
 - 3) Town of Richmond, Proclamation 2024-7, Funding Formula

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with a second by Councilor M. White to adjourn at 8:23 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