

MINUTES  
Town Council  
Town of East Greenwich  
Regular Meeting  
May 28, 2019 at 6:15 PM  
Swift Community Center, 121 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

(1) Call to Order

Town Council (3/5): Mark Schwager, President; Caryn Corenthal and Renu Englehart (Michael Zarrella – absent) (Michael Donegan, Vice President – absent)

Town Staff: Joseph Duarte, Acting Town Manager/Director of Public Works; Leigh Carney, Town Clerk

Others: Norrene McGeary, Chair - Board of Canvassers

President Schwager called the meeting to order at 6:38pm.

(2) 6:15 PM ~ Interviews for Boards and Commissions

(a) 6:15PM Jerry Zarrella Jr. for Planning Board

Mr. Zarrella was delayed due to travel and unable to attend.

(b) 6:30PM William Hangan for Board of Canvassers (alternate to regular member)

Mr. Hangan was interviewed. Ms. McGeary spoke about the census, redistricting and gave Mr. Hangan a favorable recommendation.

(3) 7:00 PM ~ Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Town Council (4/5): Mark Schwager, President; Caryn Corenthal, Renu Englehart and Michael Zarrella (Michael Donegan, Vice President – absent)

Town Staff: Joseph Duarte, Acting Town Manager/Director of Public Works; Leigh Carney, Town Clerk; Wendy Schmidle, Director of Information Technology; Catherine Bradley, Director of Community Services and Parks; Bernard Patenaude, Fire Chief; Patricia Sunderland, Finance Director; Col. Stephen Brown, Chief of Police; Capt. Stanley Cirella, Deputy Chief of Police

Others: Michael D'Amico, Financial Consultant; Carole Malaga, Stenographer

Following introductions, President Schwager led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

(4) Public Comments (15 minute time limit for items NOT on the agenda)

None

(5) Acknowledgements

- (a) Commendation for John Laliberty for serving over 12 years on the Board of Canvassers

Motion to approve made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

Mr. Laliberty was presented with his commendation and a tercentenary coin. Ms. McGeary expressed her appreciation of his service and friendship.

(6) Public Hearing

- (a) An ORDINANCE to amend the Code of the Town of East Greenwich, Chapter 227 thereof, entitled "TAXATION", adding Article XVI "TIERED TAX CLASSIFICATION PLAN" and Article XVII "Small Business Tangible Property Tax Exemption". [SECOND READING]

President Schwager explained the item.

There were no Council comments or public comments.

Motion to approve at second reading, close the Public Hearing and move to Third Reading made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Renu Englehart

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

- (b) An ORDINANCE authorizing the Town of East Greenwich to issue general obligations bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness to finance the acquisition, improvement, renovation and repair of facilities, vehicles and equipment for the Police, Fire, Public Works and Parks Departments, including reconstruction of municipal tennis courts, the acquisition of information technology, and all attendant expenses, including but not limited to engineering costs not to exceed \$2,700,000 (referendum not required). [SECOND READING].

President Schwager explained the item.

There were no Council comments or public comments.

Motion to approve at second reading, close the Public Hearing and move to Third Reading made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Michael Zarrella

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

- (c) An ORDINANCE authorizing the Town of East Greenwich to issue general obligation bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness to finance the renovation, rehabilitation, repair, replacement, improvement, furnishing, equipping and installation of schools, school facilities and infrastructure, including but not limited to safety and fire-code related improvements, roofs, heating, ventilation, electrical systems, landscaping, grounds, athletic fields, information technology, vehicles and food service facilities not to exceed \$5,000,000 (referendum required). [SECOND READING].

President Schwager explained the item.

Michael D'Amico addressed concerns about RIDE certification/reimbursement and project management. The question will be included on the ballot in November. It was noted that the School Committee's Facilities Committee approved bonding language.

Eugene Dumas, 50 Montrose Street, questioned the availability of information on individual projects and timelines for both Town and School. Mr. D'Amico and Ms. Sunderland addressed those concerns. It was noted that the School Department should have a list available.

Motion to approve at second reading, close the Public Hearing and move to Third Reading made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

- (d) An ORDINANCE authorizing the Town of East Greenwich to issue general obligation bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness to finance the construction, equipping, extension, replacement, repair and rehabilitation of the Town's sewer lines, sewage collection, and sewage treatment system and all attendant expenses, including but not limited to engineering costs not to exceed \$4,500,000 (referendum required). [SECOND READING].

President Schwager explained the item.

Mr. Duarte addressed concerns about the scope of the project, financing and construction timeline. The question will be included on the ballot in November.

There were no public comments.

Motion to approve at second reading, close the Public Hearing and move to Third Reading made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Renu Englehart

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

- (e) PUBLIC HEARING on Operating Budget FY 20 (continued from May 13th).

President Schwager explained that the Town is in the process of advertising.

Motion to continue the Public Hearing to June 10<sup>th</sup> made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Michael Zarrella

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

(7) Consent Calendar

- (a) Minutes from April 29, 2019 (Special Meeting - Open Session)
- (b) Approval of an agreement between RI Resource Recovery Corporation and The Town of East Greenwich for solid waste disposal for FY 20-21.
- (c) Minutes from May 13, 2019 (Joint Meeting w/School Committee and Regular Meeting - Open Session)
- (d) Application for Class F Alcoholic Beverage License for East Greenwich Soccer Association to hold a World Cup Viewing Party at the Varnum Armory, 6 Main Street on June 16, 2019.

Item (b) and (c) were pulled from the Consent Calendar.

Motion to approve Items (a) and (d) on the Consent Calendar made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

[There was a discrepancy on the Council's view of the agenda and both pulled the same item regarding the RI Resource Recovery Corporation.]

Mr. Duarte spoke about the RI Resource Recovery agreement which is for two years. He addressed concerns about recycling rates.

Motion to approve Items (b) and (c) on the Consent Calendar made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Renu Englehart

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

(8) Unfinished Business (Discussion/Action)

- (a) An ORDINANCE in amendment of the Code of the Town of East Greenwich; Chapter 260 Zoning, Article II Zoning Definitions, Section 260-6 Terms Defined addressing DISTILLERIES; and amending Attachment 1: Table 1, Table of Permitted Uses By Zone, to address industrial uses; and to amend Article VI, Off-Street Parking Regulations, Section 260-20, Required off-street parking spaces to address industrial uses. [THIRD READING].

Motion to approve an ORDINANCE in amendment of the Code of the Town of East Greenwich; Chapter 260 Zoning, Article II Zoning Definitions, Section 260-6 Terms Defined addressing DISTILLERIES; and amending Attachment 1: Table 1, Table of Permitted Uses By Zone, to address industrial uses; and to amend Article VI, Off-Street Parking Regulations, Section 260-20, Required off-street parking spaces to address industrial uses made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

(9) New Business (Discussion/Action)

- (a) Approval of proposals from RISE engineering for LED lighting upgrades at Fire Stations 1 and 2 per enclosed documentation.

Chief Patenaude provided details about the project and highlighted the benefits and savings to be achieved. Discussion ensued.

Motion to approve made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

- (b) Approval of a Yard Waste Services Agreement between the City of Warwick and the Town of East Greenwich for FY20.

Mr. Duarte explained the context of the agreement which has been in place for several years.

Motion to approve made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Renu Englehart

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

- (c) Award of State MPA 509 - Electric Vehicle Charging Stations to RISE Engineering

Mr. Duarte explained that three stations would be installed at the municipal lot on Peirce Street which could service six vehicles. National Grid offers grants/incentives and if successful, the net cost to the Town is zero. He addressed concerns with the grant application period, station locations, optional purchase of one Town vehicle, public access and public costs, other local stations and maintenance.

Motion to approve made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

- (d) Approval of RI Office of Energy Office Incentives to Install Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and Purchase/Lease Electric Vehicle(s)

Mr. Duarte explained that the grant will also provide for additional funds for the purchase of one electric vehicle. Discussion ensued on vehicle types.

Motion to approve made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Renu Englehart

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

- (10) Public Comments (30 minute time limit)

None

- (11) Council Comments

Councilor Englehart commented on the Town's Memorial Day parade.

- (12) Executive Session

- (a) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) for sessions pertaining to litigation and collective bargaining to approve Executive Session minutes from April 29, 2019 and May 13, 2019.
- (b) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) pertaining to litigation regarding:
- Perry, et. al., v. East Greenwich, 1:18-cv-00134-W ES-LDA (FLSA litigation);
  - Gorman v. East Greenwich, KC-2017-1160;
  - Aveyard v. East Greenwich, KC-2017-1304;
  - East Greenwich v. IAFF Local 3328, KC-2017-1276;
  - Grady v. Dykeman, KC-2018-0991;
  - Perry v. East Greenwich, KC-2018-1214;
  - Benoit v. Corrigan, KC-2017-1302;

- Perry v. East Greenwich, KC-2017-1274;
- Kitchin v. Corrigan, KC-2018-0176;
- Perry v. East Greenwich, KC-2018-0830;
- Unfair Labor Practice Complaint ULP-6217;
- Unfair Labor Practice Complaint ULP-6220;
- Unfair Labor Practice Complaint ULP-6226;
- AAA Case 01-18-0002-6263 (arbitration re: failure to fill Chief Clerk position);
- AAA Case 01-18-0003-9032 (arbitration re: Robert Warner termination);
- AAA Case 01-17-0005-5708 (L. Perry discipline);
- AAA Case 01-17-0006-7696 (L. Perry layoff); and
- AAA Case 01-18-0000-6528 (L. Perry recall).

Solicitor Teitz suggested that the Executive Session items be tabled.

Motion to table both items made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager

Motion carried 3 – 0 with Councilor Zarrella abstained

(13) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 4 – 0

Submitted By:



Leigh A. Carney, CMC  
Town Clerk

Approved By Town Council:  
(PENDING)

**AUDIO FILE AVAILABLE AT TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**