

MINUTES
Town Council
Town of East Greenwich
Regular Meeting
July 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM
Town Hall, 125 Main Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

(1) Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Town Staff: Joseph Duarte, Director of Public Works/Acting Town Manager; Leigh Carney, Town Clerk; Andrew Teitz, Esq., Town Solicitor; Wendy Schmidle, Director of Information Technology; Patricia Sunderland, Finance Director; Bernard Patenaude, Chief of Police; Col. Stephen Brown, Chief of Police; Capt. Stanley Cirella, Deputy Chief of Police;

President Schwager called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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

Amiee Heru, 24 Exchange Street, voiced her concerns about the poor soil condition located at a planned development on Exchange Street. She requested a Phase II soil test and appealed to Council for serious consideration about contamination. Councilor Donegan addressed her concerns and recommended she follow up with the Planning Board or Zoning Board for appeals. Solicitor Teitz address her concerns about the site being an old scrapyard and encouraged her to provide proof at the next public hearing before the Planning Board.

(3) Consent Calendar

- (a) Minutes from June 26, 2019 (Special Meeting - Open Session)
- (b) Minutes from July 1, 2019 (Special Meeting - Open Session)
- (c) Minutes from July 10, 2019 (Special Meeting - Open Session)

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Michael Donegan

Ayes: Corenthal, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

(4) Reports and Communications

- (a) Discussion of current Municipal Fire Alarm system and proposed improvements to adopt state-of-the-art technology

Director Schmidle provided details on the existing Gamewell (hard wired) system and radio box system (radio transmissions). The installation of additional radio boxes by Kingfisher Company beginning in 2016 has proven to be unreliable. A bid was posted in late 2018 which resulted in two bids but was not awarded due to changes in administration. Chief Patenaude addressed Council's concerns about mandates and State requirements. All businesses have been contacted and have expressed interest in upgrading. Bond money (capital) is already earmarked for the initial phase at Station One. Discussion ensued. Next steps would be to adopt the new ordinance, provide bid results and award the bid.

(5) New Business (Discussion/Action)

- (a) ORDINANCE to amend the Code of the Town of East Greenwich, Chapter 100 thereof, entitled "Fire prevention, inspection and investigation", adding Article II "Connection of fire alarms to municipal systems", Section 100-2 "Connection of fire alarms to municipal systems (FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION).

Chief Patenaude introduced the proposed ordinance and recommended passage. Council needs to decide on the date to complete transfers from the old system to the new system. Brief discussion followed on the context of the draft ordinance and its intent.

Motion to insert the year 2025 and pass on first reading made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Renu Englehart

Additional information on installation costs will be presented at a future meeting.

Ayes: Corenthall, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

- (b) RESOLUTION supporting the assessment and collection of taxes.

President Schwager read an excerpt from the resolution. Solicitor Teitz addressed the authority of resolutions and timing.

Motion to approve made by Michael Donegan, seconded by Michael Zarrella

Ayes: Corenthall, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

(6) Public Comments (30 minute time limit)

None

(7) Council Comments

Councilor Englehart announced the CJ Buckley Regatta is taking place on July 29-30.

Councilor Corenthal thanked the Police for increased patrols at the waterfront.

Councilor Zarrella thanked Mr. Duarte and Ms. Carney for their work.

Motion to convene into Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (1) and (2) for approval Executive Session minutes from June 26, July 1 and July 10, 2019, and remain in Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) pertaining to litigation as listed on the agenda, and remain in Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (1), to discuss the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons, with regard to selecting a Town Manager (notice provided) made by Michael Donegan, seconded by Michael Zarrella

Ayes: Corenthal, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

(8) Executive Session

(a) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (1) and (2) for approval of Executive Session minutes from June 26, July 1 and July 10, 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
Perry v. East Greenwich, KC-2017-1274
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)
AAA Case 01-18-0000-6528 (L. Perry recall)

(c) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (1), to discuss the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons, with regard to selecting a Town Manager (notice provided).

Following the Executive Session, Council reconvened into Open Session.

Action was taken on item (a) to approve the Executive Session minutes. Action was taken on items (b) and (c) which will remain under seal.

Motion to seal the Executive Session minutes made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Michael Donegan

Ayes: Corenthal, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

(9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Michael Donegan

Ayes: Corenthal, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

Submitted By:



Leigh A. Carney, CMC
Town Clerk

Approved By Town Council:
(PENDING)