

MINUTES  
Town Council  
Town of East Greenwich  
Regular Session  
June 24, 2019 at 6:00 PM  
Town Hall, 125 Main Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

(1) 6:00 PM ~ Call to Order

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

Town Staff: Joseph Duarte, Acting Town Manager/Director of Public Works; Dianne Potter, Deputy Town Clerk

President Schwager called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

(2) Interviews for Boards and Commissions

(a) 6:05 PM - Mary Ellen Winters for Board of Canvassers

Ms. Winters was interviewed.

(b) 6:25 PM - Christopher Mulhearn for Zoning Board of Review

Mr. Mulhearn was interviewed.

(c) 6:40 PM - Dave Collier for Zoning Board of Review

Mr. Collier was interviewed.

(3) Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Town Staff: Joseph Duarte, Acting Town Manager/Director of Public Works; Dianne Potter, Deputy Town Clerk; Andrew Teitz, Esq., Town Solicitor; Wendy Schmidle, Director of Information Technology; Col. Stephen Brown, Chief of Police

Others: Michael D'Amico, Financial Consultant

At 7:06 pm, President Schwager introduced the Council and Town Staff and 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) Reports and Communications

- (a) Presentation by NuGen Capital regarding possible solar power purchase.

David Milner, CEO and Laura Frasier, Director of Operations provided an overview of their current project installing solar panels and equipment on the Stanley Bostitch roof with the intention of selling power credits to the Town in addition to other entities. Brochures were distributed to the Council and a lengthy discussion ensued regarding the process of purchasing credits, whether the School Department should be included in this process, and the appropriateness of the Council to accept a proposal before proceeding with a RFP. Solicitor Teitz disclosed that his firm is doing business w/ NuGen in Bristol and Barrington.

Motion to accept / receive a proposal from NuGen made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Renu Englehart

Discussion continued. Councilor Donegan stated that receiving a proposal from them does not create a fair process for the Town or NuGen, or, preclude the Town from proceeding with a RFP. Mr. Duarte recommended hiring a consultant, possibly piggybacking Barrington. Solicitor Teitz suggested postponing receiving their proposal while attempting to have access to the Barrington info, possibly hiring the same consultant.

Motion withdrawn by Michael Zarrella

(6) Consent Calendar

- (a) Minutes from June 10, 2019 (Regular Meeting - Open Session)
- (b) Minutes from June 18, 2019 (Special Meeting - Open Session)
- (c) Application for RENEWAL of Holiday Sales License for Therapy Boutique, 235 Main Street

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

Ayes: Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella (Corenthal stepped out of chambers)

Motion carried 4 – 0

(7) New Business (Discussion/Action)

- (a) Presentation and discussion of the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and IBPO Local 472 (Police) for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

Michael D'Amico provided a detailed overview of financial and non-financial changes to the 2019 – 2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement (Police) and an analysis of present and potential OPEB savings to Town.

There were no public comments. Councilor Donegan asked Solicitor Teitz and Michael D'Amico if the language reflected in the contract is consistent with the fiscal notes provided, to which they replied yes.

- (b) Ratification of the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and IBPO Local 472 (Police) dated July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

Motion to approve the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and IBPO Local 472 (Police) dated July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022 made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthall

Ayes: Corenthall, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

- (c) Presentation and discussion of the proposed Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and the East Greenwich Municipal Employee's Association (NEARI) for the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019 and the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

Joe Duarte explained the need for and the specifics of the MOA. Michael D'Amico provided a detailed overview of financial and non-financial changes to the 2019 – 2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement (NEARI) and an analysis of present and potential OPEB savings to the Town.

There were no public comments. Councilor Donegan asked Solicitor Teitz and Michael D'Amico if the language reflected in the contract is consistent with the fiscal notes provided, to which they replied yes.

- (d) Ratification of the proposed Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and the East Greenwich Municipal Employee's Association (NEARI) for the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019 and the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

Motion to approve the proposed Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and the East Greenwich Municipal Employee's Association (NEARI) for the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019 and the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022 made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthall

Ayes: Corenthall, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

- (e) Presentation and discussion of the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and Laborers Local 1322 (DPW) for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

Michael D'Amico provided a detailed overview of financial and non-financial changes to the 2019 – 2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement (Laborers/DPW) and an analysis of present and potential OPEB savings to the Town.

There were no public comments. Councilor Donegan asked Solicitor Teitz and Michael D'Amico if the language reflected in the contract is consistent with the fiscal notes provided, to which they replied yes.

- (f) Ratification of the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and Laborers Local 1322 (DPW) for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

Motion to approve the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and Laborers Local 1322 (DPW) for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022 made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

- (g) Presentation and discussion of the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and the IBPO Local 472 (Non-police) for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

Michael D'Amico provided a detailed overview of financial and non-financial changes to the 2019 – 2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement (Non-police) and an analysis of present and potential OPEB savings to the Town.

There were no public comments. Councilor Donegan asked Solicitor Teitz and Michael D'Amico if the language reflected in the contract is consistent with the fiscal notes provided, to which they replied yes.

- (h) Ratification of the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and IBPO Local 472 (Non-police) for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

Motion to approve the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of East Greenwich and IBPO Local 472 (Non-police) for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022 made by Renu Englehart, seconded by Caryn Corenthal

Ayes: Corenthal, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

- (i) Discussion on aggregate health care and OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) cost savings.

Michael D'Amico provided a summary of aggregate health care changes and relative OPEB cost savings to the Town. He stated that the Town should be appreciative of all the unions accepting 0% / 2%/ 2% raises, which is not a normal or routine wage increase acceptance.

- (j) Award of bid to RISE Engineering, 1341 Elmwood Avenue, Cranston, RI 02910 for Town Hall LED Lighting Upgrades.

Motion to award a bid to RISE Engineering, 1341 Elmwood Avenue, Cranston, RI 02910 for Town Hall LED Lighting Upgrades for a net cost of \$32,249 (after incentives) made by Michael Donegan, seconded by Caryn Corenthall

Ayes: Corenthall, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 - 0

- (k) Award of bid to Speedcraft Nissan, 885 Quaker Lane, West Warwick, RI 02893 for the purchase of an electric vehicle "Nissan Leaf or Equal" (2019 Nissan Leaf S).

Motion to award a bid to Speedcraft Nissan, 885 Quaker Lane, West Warwick, RI 02893 for the purchase of an electric vehicle "Nissan Leaf or Equal" (2019 Nissan Leaf S) for \$19,500 made by Michael Donegan, seconded by Caryn Corenthall

Ayes: Corenthall, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

(8) Public Comments (30 minute time limit)

None

(9) Council Comments

Councilor Corenthall expressed her appreciation to Mr. Duarte for the informative tour of the Waste Water Treatment Plant, Fire Department and Police Department provided to her and Councilor Englehart.

Councilor Englehart stated her concern over abandoned properties and older homes in disrepair, and would like to see guidelines developed to identify and monitor these properties. President Schwager instructed Joe Duarte to address this issue.

President Schwager remarked that this was the last meeting of the fiscal year, emphasizing that significant milestones have been reached in 2019: adopting 2020 budget with less than 1% tax increase, fully funding schools, returning money to the reserve fund, and completing all five labor contracts. He expressed his appreciation to the Town employees, Department Heads, School Department, fellow councilors, and East Greenwich residents for helping to make these things happen. He thanked Michael D'Amico for his tireless efforts and hard work in reorganizing the Town's finances and helping to reach labor agreements with the unions; and,

wished him the best in his future endeavors. Solicitor Teitz reiterated his comments concerning Mr. D'Amico.

Motion to convene into Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (1) and (2) to approve the Executive Session minutes from June 10 and June 18, 2019; and remain in Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) for sessions pertaining to litigation and (a) (5) for discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes; and remain in Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) pertaining to litigation regarding several individual cases as listed on the agenda made by Michael Zarrella, seconded by Michael Donegan

Ayes: Corenthal, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

(10) Executive Session

- (a) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (1) and (2) for approval of Executive Session minutes from June 10 and June 18, 2019.
- (b) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) for sessions pertaining to litigation and (a) (5) for discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes.
- (c) 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); and
- 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).

Council reconvened into Open Session.

Action was taken on item (a) to approve minutes. Action was taken on item (b) which will remain under seal. No action was taken on item (c).

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

Ayes: Corenthel, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

(11) Adjournment

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

Ayes: Corenthel, Donegan, Englehart, Schwager, Zarrella

Motion carried 5 – 0

Submitted By:

Dianne Potter  
Deputy Town Clerk

Approved by Town Council:  
(PENDING)

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