

MINUTES
Town Council
Town of East Greenwich
Regular Meeting
August 7, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Swift Community Center, 121 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

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

Town Council Present (5/5): S. Cienki, S. Todd, A. Deutsch, N. Granatiero, M. Schwager

Town Staff Present: L. Carney, G. Corrigan, D. D'Agostino, L. Dykeman, C. Bradley, S. Hughes, E. McAndrew, S. Brown, S. Cirella, R. McGillivray,

President Cienki called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

(2) Town Council Minutes

(a) June 12, 2017 (Regular and Executive Sessions)

Motion to approve made by Sean Todd, seconded by Andrew Deutsch.

Ayes: Cienki, Deutsch, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd

Motion Carried

(3) Reports and Communications

None

(4) Consent Calendar

(a) Abatement of Police Detail Fees for Dogs on Main Stroll, June 22, 2017, in the amount of \$365.28.

Motion to approve made by Sean Todd, seconded by Nino Granatiero.

President Cienki noted that abatements for expenditures must now be approved by the Town Council instead of the Town Manager.

Ayes: Cienki, Deutsch, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd

Motion Carried

(5) Unfinished Business

(a) Review of Town Council Rules and Guidelines

Solicitor D'Agostino explained that the revisions previously requested by Council related to Public Comments, releasing media/press releases and monthly financial reporting were incorporated; however, additional revisions are forthcoming after meeting with the Town Manager and Chief of Staff.

Councilor Schwager asked Solicitor D'Agostino to add language that addresses the issue of an individual Councilor posting comments on the Town's website which should be channeled through the Town Manager. The definition of an emergency situation and the inclusion of Town-wide mailings as part of Correspondence were discussed.

(6) New Business

- (a) Appointment to the Affordable Housing Commission for a three-year term to expire August 7, 2010.

Motion to appoint Dr. Daisy Bassen to the Affordable Housing Commission for a three-year term to expire August 7, 2020. made by Mark Schwager, seconded by Andrew Deutsch.

Ayes: Cienki, Deutsch, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd

Motion Carried

- (b) Resolution authorizing the transfer of the unexpended balance of Capital Appropriations made in prior FY 2017 to be applied in the current FY 2018.

Motion to approve made by Sean Todd, seconded by Nino Granatiero.

Ms. Corrigan explained that \$96,175 was being reassigned from Capital Appropriations to FY 2018 for projects that were not completed or monies that were not spent in FY 2017. An explanation was provided on the projects. Discussion followed on the Impact Fee Study.

Ayes: Cienki, Deutsch, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd

Motion Carried

- (c) An ordinance to amend the Code of the Town of East Greenwich, Chapter 15 Alcoholic Beverages, Section 15-4 to extend the time employees shall leave the licensed premises after the legal closing hour and to add the requirement for filing a certificate of insurance and maintaining general liability insurance (FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION).

Motion to approve on First Reading and schedule for Public Hearing on August 28th made by Sean Todd, seconded by Andrew Deutsch.

Ayes: Cienki, Deutsch, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd

Motion Carried

- (d) Discussion regarding valet services

VP Todd stated that during an earlier meeting with the valet companies and restaurant owners, a color coded map was requested to show where restaurants and valets were parking cars. Lisa Verducci with Valet Services stated that at this point all she has is pictures of the lots. She provided some details on which restaurants use which lots or streets and the volume of traffic typically seen. Councilor Deutsch expected a color coded map and Ms. Verducci noted that some issues have been addressed. Discussion followed on obtaining badges/name tags for all employees and signage with a phone number. Ms. Verducci added that she uses GPS to monitor the location of employees at all

times. A map will be provided to Ms. Verducci.

(e) Discussion regarding claims processing policy

Solicitor D'Agostino was tasked with coming up with a policy to address the issue of processing any legal claims that are made against the Town which should be reviewed by the Town Council.

(f) Discussion regarding Social Media Policy

Solicitor D'Agostino was tasked with creating a Town-wide policy.

(7) Town Manager's Report

(a) Capital Outlay FY 2018

Details on the variances from the original capital budget proposal and the prioritization of projects were reported by Ms. Corrigan. A lengthy discussion ensued. Revenue sources, rescue billing and grants for the Fire Department were also discussed. The Waterfront Study was re-appropriated to 2018. After performance reviews for non-union members are completed, she will be making recommendations to the Council. The CDBG Consortium Program was discussed.

(8) Council Comments

Councilor Schwager questioned the validity and payment of invoices from Providence Analytics. He requested that those issues be revisited in open or closed session to clarify his questions.

VP Todd asked Ms. Corrigan to send another email to business owners asking them not to park on Main Street. He asked that the Council's priority list be kept current. He attended the One Town fundraiser.

Councilor Granatiero commented that he appreciates the comprehensive nature of the Town Manager's reports on the CDBG program and for digging deeper on issues than has been done in the past.

Councilor Deutsch spoke in support of an upcoming event presented by Bob Houghtaling called "Tell Me a Story".

President Cienki asked each Councilor to recommend a person to serve on the Search Committee for the new Town Manager by the next meeting on August 28. It was also noted that the Personnel Board shall provide recommendations.

(9) Public Comments (15 minute time limit)

Caren Corenthal, 5 Brookfield Court, commented on the parking problem she has observed and volunteered to help remedy the situation.

Karen Boegemann, 50 Partridge Run, was concerned about the process of awarding the bid to Providence Analytics and the invoice approval process. She inquired about salary and tax information.

on the Town Manager.

Elizabeth Wiens, 43 Fifth Street, voiced her concerns about transparency, the hiring of the Fire Department's Clerk and the availability of minutes.

Eugene Quinn reported that he met with the Tax Assessor and provided some details related to the actual tax rate increase between 2011 and 2016 and property valuations.

Tracie Truesdell recruited Ms. Corrigan and Councilor Deutsch to get in the dunk tank at the Farmer's Market. Waiving fees for police details should be submitted to Council for consideration. Public Comments will stay on the agenda. Lea Anthony-Hitchen was successful in securing a \$150K grant towards the slate roof repair. She reiterated that she wants to be part of the search committee for the new Town Manager. Ms. Truesdell asked for clarification on the Town's financial stability based on conflicting comments to which President Cienki replied that there is an emerging structural deficit on the school's side.

(10) Executive Session

Motion to adjourn at 8:40pm made by Sean Todd, seconded by Nino Granatiero.

Ayes: Cienki, Deutsch, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd

Motion Carried

Submitted By:
Leigh A. Carney, CMC
Town Clerk

Approved By Town Council:

(Pending)

AUDIO AVAILABLE IN TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE