

**MINUTES**  
**Town Council**  
**Town of East Greenwich**  
**Regular Session**  
**October 2, 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 (4/5): S. Cienki, S. Todd, A. Deutsch (absent), N. Granatiero, M. Schwager

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

Others: C. Malaga

President Cienki called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. A moment of silence followed for the massacre in Las Vegas.

(2) Acknowledgements

- (a) Kathleen Healey for serving over one year on the Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission.

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

**Ayes: Cienki, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd**

**Motion Carried**

(3) Town Council Minutes

- (a) June 26, 2017 Regular and Executive Sessions
- (b) July 24, 2017 Regular and Executive Session REVISED

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

**Ayes: Cienki, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd**

**Motion Carried**

(4) Unfinished Business (Discussion and Action)

- (a) Review of Town Council Rules and Guidelines

Councilor Granatiero requested changes to Rule 1 (b) to conform to the Charter, Rule 2 (a) should be second and fourth Mondays, Rule 4 (b) residents should have first priority to speak during public comments.

Councilor Schwager requested changes to Rule 1 (a) to address the senior member in point of service presiding, Rule 1 (b) to conform to the Charter, Rule 4 (a) new language added, change the

'and' to 'or' in last sentence, Rule 4 (b) to clarify whether or not the Council can respond to public comments and this location on the agenda. Solicitor D'Agostino addressed his concerns.

Discussion ensued and President Cienki suggested that any suggestions and/or changes be sent to Solicitor D'Agostino for further review.

The item was tabled.

(5) New Business (Discussion and Action)

- (a) Extension of time for completion of Fry Brook Condominium Project Performance Bond Improvements.

**Motion to give a 30 day extension with an increase to the cash bond with the exact number to be reviewed by the Finance Director and the bond to be posted by Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at noon made by Sean Todd, seconded by Mark Schwager.**

Thomas Primeau explained that after testing was done by Kent County Water Authority, more work is needed to protect water main lines that are too close to the improvements. He offered to add another \$27,000 to the bond and requested another 30 day extension to appease the Town and make the recommended improvements. The culvert is built and ready for delivery and workers are ready to go. Mr. Duarte was agreeable to increasing the bond but suggested it be posted by Wednesday at noon so it was in place before the Planning Board meeting on Wednesday night. A lengthy discussion ensued on the timeline, the history of the project and the bond.

**Ayes: Cienki, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd**

**Motion Carried**

- (b) Search for Town Manager

**Motion to add for discussion purposes only Search for Town Manager made by Sean Todd, seconded by Nino Granatiero.**

Gayle Corrigan was hired to implement the One Town initiative. There will be a search. Councilor Schwager said the Personnel Board was willing to help and he wanted a Project Manager Appointed. Councilor Granatiero will be spearheading the search and the item will on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Ayes: Cienki, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd**

**Motion Carried**

(6) Council Comments

VP Todd continues to work to resolve issues with valet parking. He announced a ribbon cutting at Ocean State Primary Care.

President Cienki addressed the issue of answering questions in a timely fashion on the website. She

will continue to focus on efficiently managing the Town and controlling costs. Pension numbers come from State. She explained the difference between the tax rate and the tax cap.

Councilor Schwager stated the community is facing many financial challenges. He asked for cooperation to address these liabilities in a public forum.

President Cienki will work on scheduling a pension workshop.

(7) Public Comments (15 minute time limit)

Caryn Corenthel, 5 Brookfield Court, spoke about the last audit being favorable and that the same company was rehired. Councilors engaged in a discussion about pension liabilities and other post employment benefits. She advocated for public comments to be on the agenda twice and that not responding to questions is unacceptable.

Tracie Truesdell closed out ten years running the Farmer's Market. She requested monthly financial reports. Public comment should be open to everyone, not just residents. She asked to have the 30/60/90 day report on the next agenda and for Council to consider having a Town Hall meeting to discuss it. She questioned why the Town Manager's report was not on the agenda.

Robert Vespia asked if Council will allow Q & A during the agenda. He favored monthly in-depth financial reporting and a strong commitment from a new Town Manager.

Mike Zarrella, 40 River Farm Drive, received clarification that two members of Council will be allowed to add items to the agenda.

(8) Executive Session

- (a) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2), sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, specifically to discuss the matter, Gendron v. Peixinho, KC-2016-0027, including, but not limited to the ratification of a settlement agreement reached in said matter.
- (b) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2), sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, specifically to discuss the matter, IAFF Local 3328 and James Perry v. East Greenwich, KC-2017-0898.
- (c) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2), sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, specifically to discuss on going labor relations matters concerning East Greenwich Firefighters Local 3328, IAFF.
- (d) Closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (1), discussions concerning the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person in the employ of the Town of East Greenwich, provided that such person affected shall have been notified in advance in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

**Motion to go into Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) made by Sean Todd, seconded by Nino Granatiero.**

**Ayes: Cienki, Granatiero, Schwager, Todd**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion to return to Open Session made by Sean Todd, seconded by Mark Schwager.**

**Ayes: Cienki, Schwager, Todd**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion to seal the Executive Session minutes made by Sean Todd, seconded by Mark Schwager.**

**Ayes: Cienki, Schwager, Todd**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion to adjourn made by Sean Todd, seconded by Mark Schwager.**

**Ayes: Cienki, Schwager, Todd**

**Motion Carried**

Submitted By:

Leigh A. Carney, CMC  
Town Clerk

Approved By Town Council:

(pending)

AUDIO FILE AVAILABLE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE