

**MINUTES**  
**Town Council**  
**Town of East Greenwich**  
**Joint Meetings with School Committee and Regular Meeting**  
**March 14, 2016 @ 6:00pm**  
**Swift Community Center, 121 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818**

6:00pm ~ Work Session on Affordable Housing

Town Council Present: M. Isaacs, S. Cienki, M. Schwager, W. Stone, S. Todd

Town Staff Present: T. Coyle, III, L. Botello, P. Clarkin, L. Bourbonnais

Others: W. Daly, S. Aitcheson, R. Feder, D. Iannuccilli, C. Overton, J. Gomez, M. Sullivan, M. Donegan, D. Tagliatela, S. Brusini

Ms. Bourbonnais gave a comprehensive presentation which identified many aspects of affordable housing as it relates to East Greenwich. She spoke about how the State began to identify the needs in the 1990's and what the current needs are in East Greenwich. Statistics were provided that compared housing costs versus income levels which explain why ownership is out of reach for so many. The term "affordable" was defined and discussed as well as how long-term affordable housing is defined in RI laws 45-53-1 and 45-53-4. Four suggestions were given on how to get to the 10% requirement; rezoning land, scattered site unit development, acquisition of existing housing and inclusionary zoning. Inclusionary zoning was discussed at length including some acceptable alternative methods such as off-site construction or rehab, donations of land for future development and payment of a fee in lieu of construction. Density bonuses and tax values were noted. Ms. Bourbonnais put forth some questions on behalf of the Planning Board related to incentives, effective subsidies, what tools should be used, off-site options and developer bonuses, fees in lieu, etc. Discussion followed on ideas such as changing Section 8 to Affordable Housing, entering new legislation, rehabilitation as opposed to new construction and the need for family housing.

7:00pm ~ Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Town Council Present: M. Isaacs, S. Cienki, M. Schwager, W. Stone, S. Todd

Town Staff Present: T. Coyle, III, L. Botello, P. Clarkin, E. McAndrew, J. Duarte, K. Benoit,

School Committee Present: C. Mark, M. Fain, Y. Sun, D. Osborne, M. Plain, S. Peterson

Others: V. Mercurio, G. Wilcox

At 7:12pm, President Isaacs called the Town Council to order, followed by Chairwoman Mark who called the School Committee to order. President Isaacs led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

JOINT MEETING WITH THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

- Swearing In of Stuart Peterson

Ms. Botello administered the oath of office to Stuart Peterson as a member of the School Committee.

- Audit Report FY 2015

Bill Baxter and Paul Dansereau provided a general overview of the audit for the year ending June 30, 2015 and answered several questions posed by Town Council and School Committee members.

The following topics were discussed as a result of the presentation: fund balances for both Town and School, deficits, surpluses, OPEB trust, MUNIS upgrades, anticipated reporting changes, restatement of accrued expenses, internal audit controls, variances in budget to actual, terminology and the Town's overall performance.

- Discussion relating to FY 2017 budget

The School Committee will vote on their budget at their next meeting. Councilor Todd wants to focus on IT consolidation.

Mr. Osborne moved for the School Committee to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Fain. Voted 6-0 all in favor, motion carried.

#### REGULAR MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL

##### 1) Town Council Minutes

- a) December 1, 2015 (Special Financial Town Meeting)
- b) February 22, 2016 (Regular and Executive Sessions)
- c) March 2, 2016 (Regular and Executive Sessions)

Councilor Stone moved to approve, seconded by VP Cienki. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

##### 2) Reports and Communications

- a) Public Comment (15-minute time limit for items NOT on the agenda)

None

##### 3) Public Hearing

None

##### 4) Consent Calendar

- a) RENEWAL of Private Detective License for Benjamin Lupovitz
- b) NEW Holiday Sales License for Catherine Gorham d/b/a Seaside Style, 75 Main Street

VP Cienki moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Moved to Item 6c and 6d

5) Unfinished Business

- a) Update on Debt Service by Adam Krea of FirstSouthwest

Mr. Krea answered two questions posed at the last Council meeting related to the Town's debt service net of RIDE reimbursements and how the Town's bond rating compares to other communities in and out of the State. Detailed information was reviewed as was a summary of previous reports from Moody's and Standard & Poor's. How to improve the Town's rating to the highest level of AAA was also discussed.

Moved to Item 6e

- b) Ordinance adopting a codification and revision of the ordinances of the Town of East Greenwich, County of Kent, State of Rhode Island; repealing certain ordinances not included therein; and making certain changes in previously adopted ordinances, including amendments to Chapter A263, Development and Subdivision Review Regulations, made in conjunction with the 2015 update of the Town's Code (THIRD READING).

VP Cienki moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

6) New Business

- a) Ordinance in amendment of the Code of the Town of East Greenwich, Chapter 260 Zoning, Section 260-6 Terms Defined and ATTACHMENT A (Section 260A), Table I, Table of Permitted Uses (FIRST READING).

Ms. Bourbonnais explained the amendment was to address brewpubs and self-storage units.

VP Cienki moved to introduce on First Reading and set for Public Hearing on April 25<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Councilor Todd. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- b) An ordinance in amendment of the Code of the Town of East Greenwich, Chapter 34, "Boards, Committees and Commissions" by deleting and repealing Article I, "Building Code Board of Appeals". (FIRST READING).

Councilor Stone moved to introduce on First Reading and set for Public Hearing on March 28<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Councilor Todd. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Moved to 6f

- c) An EMERGENCY ordinance in amendment of the Code of the Town of East Greenwich, Chapter 248, “Vehicles and Traffic”, Article II “Operation”, Section 248-16 “Throughways designated” to amend as noted and Section 248-19 “Multiway stop intersections” to add new subsections.

This amendment was created to address new stop signs at the intersections of Liberty Street, Union Street and Somerset Street as a result of a recent traffic study.

VP Cienki moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- d) An ordinance in amendment of the Code of the Town of East Greenwich, Chapter 248, “Vehicles and Traffic”, Article II “Operation”, Section 248-16 “Throughways designated” to amend as noted and Section 248-19 “Multiway stop intersections” to add new subsections (FIRST READING).

VP Cienki moved to introduce on First Reading and set for Public Hearing on March 28<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Moved to Item 5a

- e) Resolution memorializing the General Assembly to enact legislation authorizing the Town of East Greenwich to finance the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, repair, improvement and landscaping of roads, sidewalks and drainage facilities, and all costs incidental or related thereto including, but not limited to, engineering costs and approving the issuance of bonds and notes therefor in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.

Mr. Duarte explained that this amount would put a big dent in the list of roads that need attention and repairs usually last about 20 years, depending on soil types.

VP Cienki moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Stone.

The term of the bond could go out as far as 20 years but the Town can choose to make it less. A discussion followed on how the amount was decided upon and how to create a prioritized list of projects to allocate funds to.

Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Moved to Item 5b

- f) Award of bid for bulk materials and road striping to lowest bidders for the net prices indicated on bid tabulation sheets:

- P.J. Keating Company
- Richmond Sand and Stone
- Hi-Way Safety Systems Incorporated
- Material Sand and Stone
- Narragansett Improvement Company
- Cumberland Quarry
- Johnston Asphalt
- Safety Markings Incorporated
- D'Ambra Construction Company
- Dry Bridge Sand and Stone Incorporated
- J.R. Vinagro Corporation

Councilor Stone moved to approve, seconded by VP Cienki. Dissemination of the bid package was discussed. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

g) Appointments to Boards and Commissions

- Regular member to fill a vacancy on the Affordable Housing Commission for a 2-year term to expire March 14, 2018.

Councilor Stone moved to appoint Hilary Levey Friedman as a regular member to fill a vacancy on the Affordable Housing Commission for a 2-year term to expire March 14, 2018, seconded by VP Cienki. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- Alternate member to fill a vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review for a 1-year term to expire July 1, 2016.

VP Cienki moved to appoint Sean O'Leary as an alternate member to fill a vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review for a 1-year term to expire July 1, 2016, seconded by Councilor Todd. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- Regular member to fill a vacancy on the Cove Management Commission for a 3-year term to expire July 1, 2017.

VP Cienki moved to appoint Mark Shapiro as a regular member to fill a vacancy on the Cove Management Commission for a 3-year term to expire July 1, 2017, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

h) Reappointments to Boards and Commissions

- Norrene McGeary to the Board of Canvassers for a 6-year term to expire March 1, 2022.

VP Cienki moved to reappoint Norrene McGeary to the Board of Canvassers for a 6-year term to expire March 1, 2022, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- Cynthia Overton to the Housing Authority for a 5-year term to expire March 31, 2021.

VP Cienki moved to reappoint Cynthia Overton to the Housing Authority for a 5-year term to expire March 31, 2021, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- Deepak Vishnu to the Personnel Board for a 3-year term to expire March 31, 2019.

VP Cienki moved to reappoint Deepak Vishnu to the Personnel Board for a 3-year term to expire March 31, 2019, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

7) Town Manager's Report

Mr. Coyle reported that he is working on the budget and is involved in union negotiations.

8) Council Comments

Councilor Todd stated he is hosting an event for the EG Education Foundation called the Beach Ball in Narragansett on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

President Isaacs spoke about the Leadership Rhode Island breakfast he recently attended.

9) Public Comment (15-minute time limit)

None

10) Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining/Litigation and (5) related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes.

- a) Union negotiations
- b) Update on any pending or previously settled litigation cases
- c) Harris Marina
- d) 333 Main Street

Following the Executive Session, Councilor Stone moved to return to Open Session, seconded by VP Cienki. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Councilor Schwager moved to seal the Executive Session minutes, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

VP Cienki moved to adjourn at 9:35pm, seconded by Councilor Stone. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Leigh A. Botello, CMC, Town Clerk **APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL MARCH 28, 2016**