

MINUTES
Town Council
Town of East Greenwich
Special Session
May 31, 2016 @ 6:30pm
Swift Community Room, 121 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

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

Town Staff: T. Coyle, III, J. Duarte, L. Bourbonnais, L. Byrne

Residents: Bill Greene, Kristie Stark, Jody Stone, Caroline Cure, Tracie Truesdell, Fred Griffith, Sandra Saunders, John Thomas

The meeting was called to order and introductions were made.

Council met with the Hill and Harbor residents to discuss six particular concerns neighbors had presented:

- 1) Status between the Town and future tenants in the warehouse building
 - Discussed the status of the existing building, which is not currently being used. Council can address this once a specific tenant and proposed use is received from the owner. The building is currently zoned CD-1. Landscaping and the potential new uses are dependent on the proposal as is any zone change.
- 2) Ongoing conversations with KCWA
 - Discussed what specific issues need to be addressed with KCWA to assure residents that before any paving is done, the old underground water main pipes are adequate and the quality of water is safe. Also discussed testing that was done at Ms. Stone's home and which homes to test going forward and why.
- 3) Utility Poles
 - Mr. Coyle coordinated a site visit with the RI PUC next week.
- 4) Storm water management
 - Mr. Duarte explained that the Hill and Harbor district is consistently monitored and areas of concern are managed on an on-going basis. Repaving could alleviate some concerns neighbors are experiencing. An annual report is submitted to DEM, which is available for neighbors to review. No serious issue exists in the Hill and Harbor district.
- 5) Notification of rerouting traffic through residential streets
 - Residents requested to be notified when their neighborhood will be affected by rerouted traffic due to parades or events on Main Street.

6) General plans for the neighborhood

- Sidewalks: Caroline Cure gave several examples of residents she has seen who have difficulty using Spring Street due to the lack of sidewalks and the poor condition of existing ones. Mr. Duarte explained the plan to install sidewalks on both sides of Spring Street up to the driveway to Academy Field and potentially as far as Mawney Street. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the creation of a district-wide plan versus a street by street plan and how the Town currently addresses issues in the district. The role of the Historic District Commission was discussed. More discussion was had on the cost of planning and preparing for large projects. The schedule is subject to change annually based on immediate needs and safety concerns. Residents say they are looking for a Town-wide plan, not just for their district. The Comprehensive Plan and the Main Street Scape project were explained by Ms. Bourbonnais. It was reiterated that the Town has many plans in place but they are fluid in nature based on the direction and decisions given by Council and the approved budget and unanticipated and emergency situations that arise. Mr. Duarte will prioritize the list of roads to be paved and information will be posted on the website. The current goal is to complete Spring Street and Somerset Street by Labor Day. Future plans will require a strategic review by Council and there are several plans in the works per Ms. Bourbonnais which extend 10 years or more. Council understands what is being requested and will address issues accordingly.

VP Cienki moved to go into Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining/Litigation to discuss pending litigation, seconded by Councilor Todd. Roll call vote 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

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

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

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

Leigh A. Botello, CMC
Town Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 19, 2016