

MINUTES
Town Council
Town of East Greenwich
Joint Meeting with School Committee/Regular Meeting
December 14, 2016 @ 7:00pm
Swift Community Center, 121 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

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

Town Council Present: S. Cienki, S. Todd, A. Deutsch, N. Granatiero, M. Schwager

Town Staff Present: T. Coyle, III, L. Carney, K. Benoit, P. Clarkin, E. McAndrew, W. Schmidle, C. Bradley, R. McGillivray, S. Brown, S. Cirella, J. Duarte

School Committee Present: C. Mark, M. Winters, Y. Sun, J. Dronzek, L. McEwen, M. Plain,

Others: V. Mercurio, G. Wilcox, C. Malaga

President Cienki called the Town Council meeting to order.

Chairwoman Mark called the School Committee to order.

The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Acknowledgments

- Debra McMullen for her 30 year career and contributions to EG sports
- Jason Beaumier for serving three years on the Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission

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

Ms. McMullen was congratulated for her accomplishments. Mr. Beaumier was not able to attend.

JOINT MEETING WITH SCHOOL COMMITTEE PER RIGL 16-2-21.2 (d) to review the revenue and expenditure projections and to discuss issues affecting the preparation of the school budget.

On behalf of the School Committee, Dr. Mercurio gave an overview of how they are preparing for the new budget cycle. They are already experiencing unexpected increases for out of district special services and additional staff for kindergarten (contractual). Transportation and food service bids are being reviewed. Enrollment is increasing significantly Town-wide. Funding sources from the State, Federal grants and local tax dollars are being looked at as well.

Several sections of the School Committee's Strategic Plan were discussed including the restorative justice model, multi-year planning for anticipated budget needs and a variety of reserve funds. A presentation on Capital Improvements is being planned for January. RIDE requirements and reimbursements for capital projects were explained. The academic achievement scoring test are constantly evolving to provide students with skills for the future.

The components of the projected deficit for FY2017 were identified such as unexpected costs associated with student services, two new personnel and out of district placements, which were explained in detail. Withdrawals from both the Educational Program and West Bay Community Health fund balances are budgeted to offset the deficit. Federal dollars are also used to cover special needs and services. Out of district placements were explained again.

Projected deficit and surplus numbers as presented have changed month to month. FY2016 numbers are unavailable until the audit is complete but the anticipated surplus is \$227,000 including a re-appropriation to fund balance of \$234,000, netting a \$7,000 deficit.

President Cienki stated that the Town is planning to level fund and cut expenses. Revenues are not as expected and she expects the schools to hold the line on their budget.

At 7:48pm, the School Committee adjourned as moved by Dr. McEwen, seconded by Dr. Sun. Voted 6-0 all in favor, motion carried.

1) Town Council Minutes

- a) November 14, 2016 (Regular Session)
- b) December 5, 2016 (Special Session)

VP Todd moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Deutsch. 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)

There were no public comments.

Moved to Item 3a

- b) Presentation on Open Meetings, Access to Public Records, Ethics, Town Code, etc.
- c) Presentation on Planning Department

Item to be rescheduled

3) Public Hearing

- a) An ORDINANCE in amendment of Chapter 248 Vehicles and Traffic, Article II Operation, Section 248-19 Multi-way Stop Intersections to create a three-way stop intersection at Middle Road and Tillinghast Road (SECOND READING).

Mr. Duarte explained that due to past issues at this intersection and recent requests, an additional stop sign shall be erected at this intersection.

There were no public comments.

VP Todd moved to approve on second reading, close the public hearing and schedule for third reading on January 9, 2016; seconded by Councilor Granatiero. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

4) Consent Calendar

5) Unfinished Business

- a) RENEWAL of Class A, Class B, Class C and Class D Alcoholic Beverage Licenses including Victualing, Entertainment, Outdoor Sidewalk and New Year's Eve (as applicable) for the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2017 (CONTINUED FROM NOVEMBER 14, 2016).

Councilor Granatiero recused himself.

Councilor Deutsch moved to approve the renewals Savory Grape, Cobblestone's, Dante's Kitchen, Di Mare Seafood, Fat Belly's, Greenwich Bay Oyster Bar, Natale's, Pal's and Frank and John's; seconded by VP Todd. Voted 4-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Scott Buontempo, Grille on Main, requested a two week extension due to issues with their POS system.

VP Todd moved to extend the licenses to January 9, 2016, seconded by Councilor Schwager. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Lalu Fahrudin, Kon Asian Bistro, requested a two week extension to clear up issues with the State Division of Taxation.

VP Todd moved to extend the licenses to January 9, 2016; seconded by Councilor Deutsch. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

David Mastracchio, The Oak's Tavern, requested a two week extension to continue working with the State over lost paperwork and inactive status.

VP Todd moved to extend the licenses to January 9, 2016; seconded by Councilor Schwager. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

6) New Business

- a) TRANSFER of OWNERSHIP for Victualing License at 431 Main Street

FROM: Crosby's Café, Inc. d/b/a Crosby's Cafe

TO: Fire Heard, LLC d/b/a Feast Sandwich Company

John Sepulveda and Mitchell Waterman advised that all inspections and approvals have been completed. They offer a modern concept eatery with vintage flair and are ready to open tomorrow. There is no current plan for alcoholic beverage. They have 4 parking spaces.

VP Todd moved to approve subject to all inspections and current Town taxes; seconded by Councilor Deutsch. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- b) Request for extension of time to meet requirements to issue Class BV Alcoholic Beverage License with Victualing and Entertainment to Foreign Events, LLC d/b/a Kai Bar located at 232 Main Street granted December 7, 2015.

The applicant has met all requirements and no longer needs an extension, just approval of the license renewals as previously presented.

VP Todd moved to approve the renewal of all licenses; seconded by Councilor Schwager. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Council returned to Item 5a to address Rocco's Bistro who was granted a new Class BV license in June 2016 which is valid for one year. New applicants are not subject to clearance from the State Division of Taxation.

VP Todd moved to approve the renewal of licenses for Rocco's Bistro; seconded by Councilor Granatiero. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- c) RESOLUTION supporting an Act to Eliminate the Financial Town Meeting

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

- d) RESOLUTION authorizing the Town of East Greenwich to finance the construction, renovating, rehabilitation, repair, improvement and landscaping of roads, sidewalks and drainage facilities in the Town, and all costs incidental or related hereto 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.

VP Todd moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Granatiero.

It is anticipated that bids will come back mid-January. Once funding is secured, the project could begin around May/June and could last up to three years.

Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

- e) Approval of petition from National Grid for a new pole location on Middle Road.

This new pole will support an old pole.

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

7) Town Manager's Report

Mr. Coyle reported on Christmas on Main, Business after Hours at the Odeum and the forthcoming draft of the capital budget.

8) Council Comments

President Cienki advised that a new IT Governance Committee will be instituted. Members will include Councilor Deutsch, Wendy Schmidle, School Committee member, School Tech Director and member of the public.

VP Todd welcomed new members and thanked the Department Heads and Mr. Coyle for their hard work. Kindergartners from Frenchtown Elementary School enjoyed a ride to school in a Town fire truck which helped raise \$800 for the school.

9) Public Comment (15-minute time limit)

There were no public comments.

10) Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining/Litigation

- a) Pending Litigation
- b) Litigation
 - i) Kane v EG
 - ii) Dubis v EG

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

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

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

Council returned to Item 2b – Presentation on Open Meetings, Access to Public Records, Ethics, Town Code, etc.

Solicitor Clarkin provided an overview on the following:

- Home Rule Charter
- Council Rules and Guidelines

- Organizational chart
- Ordinances
- Board of License Commissioners
- Resolutions
- Open Meetings Act
- Ethics Advisory Board
- Quorums
- Access to Public Records Act
- Municipal contracts
- Competitive bidding process
- Zoning and Planning Boards
- Boards and Commissions
- Unions, collective bargaining agreements and how grievances are filed
- NE Tech Memorandum Of Understanding
- Public Safety
- Solicitors duties and responsibilities

VP Todd moved to adjourn at 9:45pm, seconded by Councilor Deutsch. Voted 5-0 all in favor, motion carried.

Leigh A. Carney, CMC
Town Clerk

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL JANUARY 9, 2017