

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on November 3, 2022

I. Call to Order

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:30 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Members present: William E. Reichert , President; Walter M. O. Steere, III, Vice President; William A. Worthy, Jr.; Stephen W. Arnold

Member absent: David Laplante

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliazzi, Town Solicitor; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; K. Johnson, Building/Zoning Official; G. Mosca, EMA Director; Chief Delprete; Gary Treml, Director Public Works

III. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

Councilor Reichert and several residents (primarily, Laurie Gaddis & Brian Kelly) exchanged conversation regarding the use of a political sign on a private resident's property. K. Johnson, Building Official, gave the background as to the political sign and its use.

V. Consent Items - Discussion and/or Action

- A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Special Meeting of October 4, 2022 and Regular Meeting of October 20, 2022

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of October 4<sup>th</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VI. Unfinished Business

- A. Boards and Commissions

- 1. Appointments- Discussion and/or Action

- a. Tax Assessor Board of Review - Position #1, One unexpired 6 year term to expire 12/31/26

Councilor Reichert stated that the Clerk has not received a recommendation at this time and unless Council has a recommendation this item can be tabled.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Tax Assessor's Board

of Review; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VII. New Business

A. Board and Commissions - Discussion and/or Action

1. Appointments

a. Historic District Commission

1. Position # 7 - One 3-year term to expire 11/30/25

Councilor Reichert stated that this position is for the expired term of David J Colantonio, Jr and that the Chair and Mr. Colantonio have asked for reappointment.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to REAPPOINT David J. Colantonio Jr. to the Historic District Commission, Position #7, for the 3 year term to expire 11/30/2025; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Zoning Board

1. Position # 2 - One 5-year term to expire 11/30/27

Councilor Reichert stated that this position is for the expired term of Christopher Harkness and that both the Chair and Mr. Harkness are requesting the reappointment.

MOTION to REAPPOINT Christopher Harkness to the Zoning Board, Position #2, for a five year term to expire 11/30/2027; seconded by

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Litter- Sand Dam area - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that this item was placed on the agenda to discuss possible solutions to the litter problem in that area.

Discussion: Councilor Reichert stated that Council has a recommendation in the packet received from Judy Colaluca. Councilor Reichert asked J. Colaluca if she wished to speak and she stated not

at this time. Councilor Worthy asked Chief Delprete for his input regarding violations for uncovered trash. Chief Delprete stated that over time a variety of measures have been tried including ones such as signs, a police presence, and warnings. Chief Delprete stated that no recent citations have been given out but rather the resident is usually spoken to by the police. Councilor Arnold stated that he does not have a solution but feels it is an important matter so is hoping there would be a something that could be done. Chief Delprete stated that the fine for uncovered trash in vehicles is \$350 and that the police would probably not cite a resident for that amount unless it were a flagrant and intentional episode. J. Colaluca stated that she does not want fines being paid but just wants people to know that they need to cover their trash.

J. Colaluca suggested that warnings would help. A. Vasellia (sp?) resident, stated that the trash issue is not just at the dump but on her road too and that she picks up trash in her neighborhood. A. Vasellia suggested the idea of paper warnings being handed out. Councilor Worthy suggested the Department of Public Works hand out citations. Councilor Steere stated his opinion that DPW employees handing out citations would put the employees in a confrontational situation and did not recommend it.

P. Henry, resident, challenged the Council to fix the trash problem and suggested the Council see what other communities are doing about trash. Councilor Arnold stated that he applauds all that J. Colaluca has done and stated his opinion that looking into other communities and how they have handled the problem is a good idea. Councilor Arnold suggested a CodeRed message to remind residents to cover their trash.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to institute a CodeRed message to residents to address the trash and litter issue by asking residents to secure trash properly, said CodeRed to be sent out after the election and consideration for approval of the narrative can be reviewed by Council on November 17, 2022; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: Councilor Reichert asked about the number of times for the message. Councilor Arnold suggested the one time and the Council could revisit as needed.

VOTE:           AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
                  NAYS- 0

MOTION PASSED

Discussion:

P. Henry suggested the Council increase the number of CodeReds. L. Gaddis Barrett asked what was the cost of Code Reds. Councilor Steere stated it was a contract.

J. Colaluca thanked the Council and stated that the Conservation Commission would be running Earth Day in the future. Councilors thanked J. Colaluca.

C.           Bid Extension - IFB 2022-01 Full Depth Pavement Reclamation - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has received the following request which he read as follows:

October 18, 2022

To: Honorable Town Council  
From: Gary Trembl  
Public Works Director  
Re: Bid Extension

Bid extension was requested from the vendor on the following bid:

IFB 2022-01 Full Depth Pavement Reclamation

The vendor has agreed to extend the bid at original pricing and conditions. (See attached bid extension agreement).

I am requesting that this bid extension be approved.

Thank you  
Gary Trembl  
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to Extend IFB #2022 Full Depth Pavement Reclamation to Murray Paving & Reclamation for the original price of \$1.89/sq. yd. and \$ .65/sq. yd for calcium, if applied, to December 31, 2023, seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

#### D. Political Sign Ordinance - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that Council discussed at their last meeting putting together guidelines or an ordinance for political signs, prior to the next election, that could be handed out to all candidates. Councilor Reichert stated that Councilor Steere mentioned that Burrillville had some good information. Councilor Reichert stated that the Clerk has obtained the text the Burrillville Manager wrote to be given out to candidates explaining what is allowed for the placement and timing of political signs.

Councilor Reichert stated that if Council members chose, they can review and record their suggestions to be discussed at a future meeting.

Discussion: Councilor Steere stated he requested this item because of his concern as to the location of political signs. Councilor Steere stated he thought that Burrillville had a good ordinance as to political signs and suggested the Council look at it and come back the first meeting of December to discuss.

L. Gaddes-Barrett, resident, asked what the Burrillville ordinance stated. Councilor Steere described the Burrillville ordinance in general terms as to where and when political signs could be placed. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated the information for Burrillville was not in their Code of Ordinance but

rather a letter the town manager put out in the local paper. Councilor Steere described the issues regarding political signs that he feels has occurred and hopes that guideline(s) could be reached so candidates know what can and cannot be done. L. Gaddis Barrett asked about the violation aspect. Councilor Steere stated he did not know as no guidelines have been drafted yet but he was not envisioning a punitive one. P. Henry stated her opinion that ordinance could not be enforced anyway. K. Lamontagne stated that guidelines for political signs were a good idea because sometimes it was people the candidates know putting up the signs and not necessarily the candidates themselves.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to continue the Political Sign ordinance to the first meeting in December 2022; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

E Candlelight Shopping - Support Request - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: Charlie Wilson , resident and Historic District Commission Chair, stated that the Candlelight shopping will be over four (4) nights starting December 1<sup>st</sup> and is asking if the Council would consider sponsoring a police detail for one of the nights as they have done in the past. Councilor Steere asked as to the cost. Chief Delprete stated the cost is approximately \$250.00.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to AUTHORIZE an expenditure of no more than \$300.00, from the Town Council Contingency Account, to fund a police detail for 2022 Candlelight Shopping; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

F. Authorization for signature - Discussion and/or Action

1. Engagement Agreement between Sansoucy Associates & Town of Gloucester

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has received a request from the Finance Director regarding an agreement between Sansoucy Associates and the Town of Gloucester outlining the scope of work that will occur for the appraisal of F.M. Global which he read as follows:

To: Honorable Gloucester Town Council; William Reichert, President  
From: Adam Muccino, Finance Director  
Re: Authorization for Signature – Sansoucy Engagement Agreement  
Date: 11/02/2022

After the Council’s decision on September 21, 2022 to award IFB 2022-05, Industrial Commercial

Appraisal to Sansoucy Associates of Lancaster, New Hampshire we received an engagement agreement from Sansoucy Associates, that, once signed by the Council President, the Town and Sansoucy will be officially engaged and work can begin on the assessment of the FM Global campus. Town Solicitor David Igliazzi has reviewed the agreement and his comments informed the final revision. We have had multiple calls with Sansoucy to review the scope, dates and deliverables contained in the agreement, and after some minor revisions to the original document, the final revision attached here is ready for Council to authorize the Council President to sign.

Sansoucy will be invoicing the Town monthly for expenses covered under the agreement. I have notified leadership at FM Global of the Town's decision to retain Sansoucy Associates for a full assessment of the land, buildings and tangible equipment at the Gloucester campus. The team from Sansoucy Associates is looking to be onsite for a tour of the campus as early as November 30th, 2022. We will certainly keep the Council well-informed as to Sansoucy's status and where they are in the assessment process.

Respectfully,

Adam Muccino, Finance Director  
(End of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the Engagement Agreement document noted as "*Town of Gloucester, RI - FM Global Research Campus Sansoucy Associates, Prepared: 10/3/2022; Revised: 10/28/2022*"; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

G. Vehicle Damage Claim Appeal - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that this request is from a resident that reached out to Council after a denial of payment by the Town for alleged motor vehicle rim damage.

Discussion: D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated he would like time to review and discuss with Council.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to TABLE the Vehicle Damage Claim appeal to the next meeting on November 17, 2022; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

H. Personnel

1. Tax Assessors Clerk's - Proposed Promotion Clerk I to Clerk II - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has received a request by the Finance Director which he read as follows:

To: Honorable Gloucester Town Council; William Reichert, President  
From: Adam Muccino, Finance Director  
Re: Tax Assessor Clerk – Proposed Promotion from Clerk I to Clerk II  
Date: 11/02/2022

The Clerk in the Tax Assessor's Office, Kimberly Chabot, was hired by the Town on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Kim came to the Town of Gloucester after working in the Assessor's Office in the Town of North Providence. As of October 28<sup>th</sup>, Kim has completed the probationary period as specified in the Clerk's collective bargaining agreement with the Town. We are fortunate to have Kim here in the Town of Gloucester as her experience, skills and personality make her an asset to the Tax Assessor's Office as well as the rest of the Team here in the Town of Gloucester.

In recognition of Kim's effort and her level of experience it is my recommendation that the Council promote Kimberly Chabot from Clerk I to Clerk II, retroactive to July 1, 2022. If approved, Kim's hourly rate will increase from \$22.59 to \$23.59 in accordance with the Clerk's Union collective bargaining agreement. The Clerk's Union is aware and supportive of this promotion. The now approved FY23 budget has the Tax Assessor's Office Clerk budget at the Clerk II rate (as opposed to the Clerk I rate) in anticipation of this promotion occurring sometime during fiscal 2023.

Respectfully,  
Adam Muccino  
Finance Director  
(end of memo)

Discussion: K. Lamontagne spoke on behalf of K. Chabot in asking the Council to consider making the salary increase retroactive to the date of hire in April 2022 and not to the start of the FY on July 2022 as requested by the Finance Director. Councilor Steere stated that the Finance Director was not at the meeting to answer questions. J. Fecteau stated that she has requested a memo from the Human Resources Consultant. D. Iglizzi, Town Solicitor, stated he was not familiar with the contract provision brought up by K. Lamontagne and recommended approving the proposal as it is stated and then putting the additional requested months salary as an agenda item for consideration at a later date.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to PROMOTE Kimberly Chabot, Tax Assessor's Clerk, from Clerk I to Clerk II, retroactive to July 1, 2022 at an hourly rate of \$23.59; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion  
None

IX. Department Head Reports/Discussion

Councilor Reichert asked if any Department Heads wished to speak or if any Councilors had questions for any Department Heads. Councilor Steere asked B. Shields, Recreation Director, about adult volleyball. B. Shields stated that he was hoping to have a final schedule for adult volleyball in the next week or so. B. Shields stated that the schedule would be posted on the Gloucester Recreation Facebook page as well as the town's website for both volleyball and basketball.

G. Mosca, EMA Director, that he received reimbursement from FEMA for the blizzard last winter in the amount of \$ 73,784.00. G. Mosca thanked B. DeCorte of the DPW and B. Beltram of Finance for their help. G. Mosca also stated that two other grants have come in with one being \$ 40, 925 for upgrading to the town's mobile command vehicle and the other being \$6000 for emergency equipment for CERT (certified emergency response team). G. Mosca stated that both of these grants are 100% federally funded. Councilor Worthy asked what the CERT money was to be used for. G. Mosca explained that the money would be used for equipment for the CERT volunteers. Councilors all thanked G. Mosca.

X. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

Councilor Reichert asked if any Board or Commission Chairs wished to address Council or if any Councilors have any questions for Chairs.

C. Wilson, HDC Chair, thanked G. Treml, DPW Director and all the employees for all the signs for the Scarecrow Festival; stated what a great job was done by all and, how appreciative he was of their work.

Councilor Steere thanked everyone involved in the Scarecrow Festival and the trick or treat event and stated how wonderful both events were.

XI. Open Forum  
None

XII. Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to:

- A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Any discussions, considerations, vote or other actions by Town Council related to Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation - Discussion and/or Action
- B. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(5) Any discussions, considerations, vote or other actions by Town Council related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to:



- A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Any discussions , considerations, vote or other actions by Town Council related to Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation - Discussion and/or Action and
- B. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a)(5) Any discussions , considerations, vote or other actions by Town Council related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk to poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye  
Councilor Worthy -Aye  
Councilor Steere -Aye  
Councilor Reichert -Aye

MOTION PASSED

XIII. Reconvene Open Session - Disclosure of votes take in Executive Session & Consideration of the Sealing of Minutes - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to Reconvene Open Session; Disclose one (1) vote was taken in Executive Session and to Seal the Minutes of Closed Session; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XIV. Open Forum

Councilor Reichert stated that this item is a duplicate item and put on in error and to refer to Item XI. Above

XV. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to ADJOURN at 9:35 p.m.; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

