

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on September 7, 2023

I. Call to Order

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:30 P.M. by Councilor W. Worthy, Jr. Town Council President.

II. Roll Call

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

Member absent: Jonathan E. Burlingame

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Iglizzi, Town Solicitor ; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Chief Delprete, Police ; Mark Capuano, Finance Director; Jane Steere, Tax Collector; Jessica Parker, Tax Assessor; Karen Scott, Town Planner; Ken Johnson, Building Official (arrived at 7:45 P.M.)

III. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

Councilor W. Worthy asked if anyone wished to speak on an agenda item to step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

None

V. Citation - Employee Years of Service

Councilor W. Worthy stated that our Tax Collector Clerk, Sandra Major, has worked for the town for 34 dedicated years. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Sandra is about to retire and we would like to recognize her years of service to the Town of Gloucester with the following Citation which he read as follows:

The State of Rhode Island

Town of Gloucester

2023-06 Citation

Sandra Major

Given with deep gratitude and appreciation for your thirty four years of service to our Town as you retire.

You have served the Town of Gloucester with your experience, integrity,

and patience.

We appreciate your commitment and acknowledge your service to our community.

The Town Council wholeheartedly represents all your fellow employees and our residents when we say "Thank You" and we wish you much enjoyment and new adventures in your retirement.

Councilor William A. Worthy, Jr., President  
Councilor Stephen W. Arnold, Vice-President  
Councilor Jonathan E. Burlingame  
Councilor Cheryl A. Greathouse  
Councilor Walter M.O. Steere, III

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Adopted this 7th day of September, 2023

Seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, W. Steere, S. Arnold, W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

Discussion: Councilor W. Worthy invited Representative M. Chippendale and Senator de la Cruz forward to speak.

Representative Chippendale stated that he and Senator de la Cruz had received notification that Sandra was retiring after 34 years. Representative Chippendale stated that 34 years dedicated to any one thing is fantastic but when you dedicate yourself, your service and your loyalty to a town like Gloucester and a community as it is clear Sandra has done because of the superlatives he has heard from anyone at town hall about Sandra then it is a loss for the town. Representative Chippendale stated it is a wonderful occasion for Sandra and wanted to recognize her with a Citation from the House of Representatives. Representative Chippendale stated the Citation congratulated Sandra on her retirement as a Senior Clerk after 34 years of dedicated service to the people and the Town of Gloucester. Representative Chippendale stated this citation is well deserved, stated his congratulations and wished Sandra the best of luck in the future.

Senator de la Cruz stated that she is excited for S. Major as well. Senator de la Cruz stated that we can do our job or we can do it exceptionally well. Senator de la Cruz stated that when someone leaves that loss is felt because you did your job exceptionally well. Senator de la Cruz stated she had a Citation from the Senate in recognition of S. Major's dedication.

Councilor W. Worthy thanked both Representative Chippendale and Senator de la Cruz for coming and representing the state of RI.

VI. Consent Items - Discussion and/or Action

A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of August 17, 2023 and Special meeting of September 6, 2023

B. Finance Director's report- July 2023

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of August 17, 2023, REMOVE from the Table the special meeting minutes of Sept. 6, 2023 (as the meeting was cancelled) and to ACCEPT the Interim Finance Director's report of July 2023; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse , W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Boards and Commissions

1. Appointments- Terms to run concurrent with the Town Council- Discussion and /or Action

a. EDC- Position # 2- two year term to expire 12/2024

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk has not received a recommendation from the Chair. Councilor W. Worthy stated that if Council does not have a name to bring forward, we can table to the next meeting.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to TABLE the appointment to the EDC, Position #2; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse , W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Appointments- Term Ongoing- Discussion and/or Action
  - a. Parade Committee- Alternates # 2 & 3

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there are no recommendations from the Parade Committee Chair at this time. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council can choose from the talent bank list or table the appointments.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to TABLE the appointment of Alternate #2 and Alternate #3, Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse , W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Town Owned Property:

1. Discussion/Action - Town owned building, Adelaide Road

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a report from the Town Planner, which was prepared by a RI Housing Inspector, on the house on Adelaide Road owned by the town. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council can review the report and decide what the next course of action if any should be.

Discussion: Councilor W. Worthy asked K. Scott, Town Planner, if she had any information to add. K. Scott stated no. Councilor W. Steere stated that the report indicated the deplorable condition of the building and stated that there is a process to follow depending upon what the Council may decide to do.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that the report confirms his opinion that it would be throwing good money after bad to try and salvage the building. Councilor S. Arnold also stated that there is a process to follow depending upon Council's decision.

Councilor W. Steere stated that it is sad that a historic building was not kept up but based on the report it is in really bad shape.

D. Iglizzi, Town Solicitor, stated that the first step is to get a report and the second step is a public hearing as it is a public asset. D. Iglizzi stated that the Council needs to make a determination of this public asset and if there is no useful purpose then either sell the property or demolish the building. D. Iglizzi stated it needs to be an agenda item and a public hearing in order to give the people an opportunity to speak. Councilor C. Greathouse asked K. Scott about the grant opportunities, if any.

K. Scott stated that the building is not on the national historic building list which is

usually the thresh-hold. K. Scott stated she contacted RI Housing and they told her that their intent is to save every building. K. Scott stated that for RI Housing to write such a report was sad and that they did a thorough job and she trusts their expertise. Councilor W. Steere stated that the Building Inspector, the DPW director and members of the Council have been through the building and the report does confirm. D. Igliazzi stated that Council needs to put all on record and then make a decision. D. Igliazzi stated he would work with the Clerk to set up an agenda item for hearing with the Council's permission in order to ensure compliance with law.

No action taken on this item

C. Authorization to Approve/Sign

1. Contract Amendment Between CLNJS, LLC & Town of Gloucester (for previously approved National Park Service's Historic Revitalization Subgrant) - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Planner has requested this item be removed from the agenda at this time. Councilor W. Worthy stated that if it is needed at a later date then K. Scott will present it to the Council.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to REMOVE from the TABLE Item C.1. Contract Amendment between CLNJS, LLC & Town of Gloucester; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse , W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. New Business

A. Personnel

1. Appointment
  - a. Finance Department Clerk I or Clerk II - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this position is for a Clerk to assist in all aspects of the Finance Department at the direction of the Finance Director. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a recommendation from the HR Director which he read as follows:

Memorandum

TO: Gloucester Town Council  
FROM: Don Zimmerman, Acting Director of Human Resources  
SUBJECT: Clerical vacancy in Tax Collection/Finance  
DATE: September 5, 2023

In anticipation of the retirement of Sandra Major in the Tax Collector's Office effective September 8, 2023, a Clerk I or Clerk II position (dependent on qualifications) was posted internally for applicants from within the L.I.U.N.A. Clerical collective bargaining unit. At the suggestion of the Tax Collector and Acting Finance Director Jane Steere, the position was posting to perform tasks in both Tax Collection and Finance as needed. Kimberly Chabot, a Clerk II in the Tax Assessor's Office, was the only bargaining unit applicant, and Jane and I are recommending that Council appoint her to the position. As Kim is already a Clerk II, this is a lateral transfer. We recommend an effective date on September 11, 2023. While we are recruiting to fill the clerical position in Tax Assessment, Kim will perform tasks in Tax Collection, Tax Assessment and Finance.  
(End of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to APPOINT Kim Chabot to the position of Finance Department Clerk II, effective September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Ms. Chabot shall laterally move to that position and retain all current accrued time and benefits; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse , W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Authorization to seek employee - Tax Assessor's Office - Clerk I or Clerk II - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that since the previous appointment was made then this item is needed. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the HR Director will continue with internal posting and then, if necessary will continue to seek applicants for the Tax Assessor's Clerk position, vacated by Kim Chabot. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Position will be posted and advertised as a Clerk I or Clerk II position.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the HR Director

to continue the process to seek applicants for the position of Tax Assessor's Office - Clerk I or Clerk II; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse , W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

3. Interim Finance Director - (Title and/or Stipend) Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a recommendation from the HR Director regarding the status of the Interim Finance Director which he read as follows:

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gloucester Town Council  
FROM: Don Zimmerman, Acting Director of Human Resources  
SUBJECT: Stipend Continuation  
DATE: September 5, 2023

The council approved a stipend for Tax Collector Jane Steere to serve as Acting Director of Finance during the search for a replacement for Adam Muccino. The council has appointed Mark Capuano to the Finance Director position effective September 5, 2023.

I suggest continuing the stipend until at least October 6, 2023, while Jane and Mark transfer certain responsibilities and authorizations. This will allow Council to revisit the stipend at its October 5, 2023, meeting.

(End of memo)

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated he would be recusing himself .

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to CONTINUE the current stipend for Jane Steere, Interim Finance Director, as the transfer of certain responsibilities and authorizations continue for the Finance Department and to revisit the stipend at the October 5, 2023 Town Council meeting; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse ,S. Arnold , W. Worthy

NAYS-0  
RECUSAL- W. Steere  
MOTION PASSED

B. FY-2022 Capital Funds (Police Department) - Re-purpose previously obligated Funds - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chief has submitted a request to Council which he read as follows:

TO: Honorable Town Council  
From: Chief Joseph DelPrete  
Date: July 15, 2023  
Subject: DE obligate FY-2022 Capital Funds

I am respectfully requesting to De-Obligate \$12,000 FY-2022 Approved Capital Funds designated for the development of a Police Firing Range on Stone Dam Road, town owned property. A site feasibility and environmental assessment of the property will be too costly to implement this project. The Police Department is in the process of securing other locations for firearms qualifications and training.

I would further request to re-purpose the previously approved FY-2022 - \$12,000 in Capital Funds toward a second police cruiser purchase. During this past year's budget board meetings, I provided the previous years quotes for supporting capital funds documentation. One Police cruiser was approved in FY-2023-2024 for \$55,000 in capital funds. Central Dodge on the Boston City Master Pricing Agreement provided a changed vehicle quote of \$44,008, a \$7,500.00 increase from the previous year.

To complete these two vehicle purchases including up-fit packaging I would utilize \$19,000 from the sale of two HUM-VEES and Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds. The re-purposed \$12,000 will assist greatly in completing this project.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph DelPrete  
Chief of Police  
(end of memo)

Discussion:

Chief Delprete stated that when he was preparing last year's budget he included quotes to back up his request but subsequently the price has jumped up. Chief Delprete stated that a cruiser now costs \$ 68,000 to \$69,000. Chief Delprete explained that he made one mistake as to the memo in that the \$12,000 was going towards the first cruiser and not the second. Chief Delprete stated that he intends to



use Leose Funds which are federal funds from the sale of two humvees and he will also trade in some other stuff and receive federal asset forfeiture funds so there will not be any obligation from the town.

Councilor S. Arnold asked if the two cruisers were on backorder. Chief Delprete stated he ordered the two cruisers in April and expects them to be in the next month or two.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to de-obligate \$12,000 Pistol and Rifle Range from the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Capital Budget and re-obligate these funds towards vehicle purchases; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse , W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

#### IX. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council had received no Correspondence.

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any Councilors had anything to discuss.

1. Councilor S. Arnold stated that he and Councilor C. Greathouse got an invitation to join a school committee member for a closed meeting with RIDE. Councilor S. Arnold stated he would be happy to go but he was not sure he should go as a representative of the Council. Councilor S. Arnold stated he was looking for direction.

D. Iglizzi stated that there needs to be a clear agenda item and Council needs to vote in advance authorizing the attendance of a town council member as a town council representative. D. Iglizzi stated that if Councilor S. Arnold is attending as a taxpayer then he has every right to go but RIDE would need to know that he is not a representative of the Council. D. Iglizzi stated it needs to be one or the other.

Councilor C. Greathouse stated she intends to go.

Councilor W. Steere asked if the school committee authorized the school committee member to go to the meeting. Councilor S. Arnold stated he believes they did. Councilor C. Greathouse stated it was voted on at the School Committee meeting. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that we should not do anything representing the Council if the Council has to vote on it because this is the school and their fight. Councilor W. Steere asked the purpose of this meeting. Councilor S. Arnold stated

that the purpose is to get a full understanding of the law relating to bathroom and locker room usage and who is allowed where. Councilor W. Steere asked if this would become a subcommittee. D. Iglizzi stated no. Councilor S. Arnold stated that this is not imminent but he wanted to put it out there.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that he guesses they were asked because they are councilors and that he is happy to go but he would need a vote from the Council. Councilor C. Greathouse stated that she would be happy to represent herself and as a grandmother.

Councilor W. Steere stated that it needs to be abundantly clear that if anyone attends that they are doing so as a taxpayer and not as a council member. Councilor C. Greathouse stated she reached out to them because she wanted advice. Councilor S. Arnold stated that the topic does impact people in the community so he does not want to misrepresent anything.

2. Councilor W. Steere stated that the Governor announced that the recreation grant rounds are coming up. Councilor W. Steere stated that K. Scott has done a lot of work preparing for this possibility for GMP and other projects. Councilor W. Steere stated that he knows K. Scott has plans and hopefully is looking to apply.

3. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, asked Councilor S. Arnold if he wanted the item discussed in correspondence # 1 on a future agenda. Councilor S. Arnold stated that it would be on the agenda only if things progress on the part of the School Committee.

#### X. Department Head Reports/Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any department heads have anything to report or if any Councilors have any questions for department heads.

1. Chief Delprete stated that FEMA, RIEMA, M. Floor, IT Director and G. Mosca, Emergency Management Director met at the police station to discuss the police project expansion. Chief Delprete stated that the expansion includes the emergency operations center and the use of the federal million dollars funding. Chief Delprete stated that this meeting is the last hurdle before the federal funding can be approved. Chief Delprete stated that once the approval is given that the clock starts ticking and that it is a three year window.

Chief Delprete stated the following three options he feels are available for Council to consider:

- a. Chief Delprete stated he would submit plans for the police station with numbers for the expansion of adding 8,000 square feet and acquiring the adjacent property
- b. Chief Delprete stated another option is moving the police and

emergency operations center to a new location.

- c. Chief Delprete stated that the third option was to leave the current station alone and do nothing which would mean the loss of federal funds. Chief Delprete stated that if the building is left the same then he will be asking for a lot of capital projects in the next two or three budget cycles.

Chief Delprete stated that he will send more precise numbers to the Clerk for the Council and include a needs assessment and a preliminary design.. Chief Delprete stated that he has been working on a possible plan for the last five years but with the federal funding now is the time for a decision. Chief Delprete stated that a lot needs to be done and he is setting the department up for the next 30-40 years.

G. Mosca stated that the individuals from FEMA and RIEMA who came to the meeting will be the ones who are going to oversee this grant. G. Mosca stated that they went over the plans with FEMA and RIEMA and they asked if there were any options planned. G. Mosca reviewed the options with FEMA and RIEMA and they were happy with both options. G. Mosca stated that the members of FEMA and RIEMA asked when the town would make a decision. G. Mosca stated he hoped this month. G. Mosca stated that FEMA and RIEMA are holding off until they see what the town is going to do.

G. Mosca stated his opinion that the third option stated by Chief Delprete does not make sense to him because the building is decrepit. G. Mosca stated that Chief Delprete will need to come back to request more and more money as time goes by as the building needs work. G. Mosca stated that the expansion including the emergency operations center would be the first in northwest Rhode Island. G. Mosca stated the clock is ticking as to the window for this federal money. G. Mosca stated his opinion that it should be an agenda item as soon as it can.

2. Councilor S. Arnold asked G. Mosca about the possible hurricane forming . G. Mosca described the possible scenarios that the hurricane may take and how a hurricane is unpredictable. G. Mosca stated that he is watching it and will keep all informed. Chief Delprete described that have been through this before, preparations are being discussed and Glocester residents have always been self sufficient. G. Mosca stated that residents should be prepared to sustain themselves for a minimum of three days.

3. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated the state has released the recreation grants; that she is working on the master plan for the remainder of Glocester Memorial Park and Winsor Park. K. Scott stated that she has met with the Recreation Committee and

individual sporting groups. Now she is in the process of setting up a public meeting for the end of this month so all know of the deadlines. K. Scott stated that she will try to make all of this work with the grant deadlines.

4. K. Scott stated that the legislature made the most significant sweep of changes in zoning and land use in decades that will become effective on January 1, 2024. K. Scott stated that she has been attending meetings with the state to discuss how to handle such changes. K. Scott stated that about one quarter of cities and towns have staff that can handle the changes; that about one half of the cities and towns are hiring a consultant to handle the changes; and, the rest of the cities and towns are trying to decide what to do. K. Scott stated that not only are the changes significant but that they have ripple effects in other areas of our town ordinances. K. Scott gave an example of how the new laws have streamlined the processes for planning board and zoning.

Councilor S. Arnold asked who made these changes and K. Scott stated it was the legislature.

J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that these changes will cause major confusion for boards and commissions. J. Fecteau stated that the changes to the ordinance are immense and will be costly so both the clerk's office and the planning office will go over their ordinance budget. Councilor W. Steere asked if the state came up with any money to help the cities and towns. K. Scott explained that RI Housing offered money to be applied for by the city or town but only if the city or town uses RI Housing templates after they write them.

K. Scott anticipates that an extension may be requested. Councilor W. Steere stated he had a conversation with K. Scott and read some of these laws. Councilor W. Steere stated that these new laws are scary as it removes a lot of the public from the process and there is no funding. Councilor W. Steere asked if a letter from the Council requesting an extension or funding would be a help. Councilor W. Steere stated that a lot of cities and towns will question why their legislators voted for these changes and ours did not. Councilor W. Worthy stated that G. Rogers came to a Council meeting to discuss these laws when proposed and it fell on deaf ears. K. Scott stated that she will come back to Council if she feels there is a way for them to help.

5. M. Capuano, Finance Director, stated his thanks to all at the town hall for being very welcoming and helpful during his first week in transition. M. Capuano stated his opinion that all are passionate about what they do. M. Capuano thanked J. Steere and stated how very helpful and knowledgeable she is and that the town is in good hands. M. Capuano thanked M. Floor as he was a big part that allowed him to hit the ground running and he thanked his staff for being welcoming, helpful and dedicated. M. Capuano stated that he and J. Steere would be meeting with Bob Strom next

Friday. M. Capuano stated he is getting a handle on technology and the day to day process. M. Capuano stated that he is hoping to come up with possible efficient ideas and that his short term objective is to pay attention to the audit.

#### XI. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any boards or commissions have anything to report or if Council has any questions.

None

#### XII. Open Forum

Councilor W. Worthy asked if anyone has anything to discuss on any other subject and if so, to please state your name when you come to the microphone.

1. J. Lowell, resident, stated a request for an update on the Smithfield Peat situation. Councilor W. Worthy asked K. Johnson for an update. K. Johnson, Building Official, stated that there is no new update, that he has been in talks with Smithfield Peat; and, and that nothing is happening at the location. K. Johnson stated that once Smithfield Peat comes up with a plan then it will go to Planning and Zoning. K. Johnson stated that Smithfield Peat stated they may incorporate the material on site into their plan. K. Johnson stated that no plan has been submitted and that they are dagging their feet a little. K. Johnson stated he called Smithfield Peat today but did not receive any answer. K. Johnson stated that whatever happens will go through Planning and Zoning and will include a public hearing.

Councilor W. Steere asked if Smithfield Peat owner realizes he is in violation and if he has been given a time frame for submitting a plan. K. Johnson stated that as soon as he knows then everyone will know. K. Johnson stated that the issue is that material was dumped on the property. K. Johnson stated that at the time the Smithfield Peat dumped the material on the property he was under the impression that it was allowed so this is a simple misunderstanding.

K. Johnson stated that he will make Smithfield Peat remove the material but until he gets a plan or they decide not to do business in Gloucester he is waiting. Councilor W. Steere stated he wants Smithfield Peat aware that the time frame is not open ended. K. Johnson stated that he never gives an open-ended time frame. K. Johnson stated that he can't do anything else than what he is doing and that it is being handled. K. Johnson stated that he is not sure of the neighbor's concern as nothing is going on at the site and that nothing will happen until a decision has been made regarding what they propose. K. Johnson stressed that he is not going to address this issue at every meeting. K. Johnson stressed again that the matter is being handled.

Councilor C. Greathouse asked if the soil had been tested. K. Johnson stated it has not been tested but that it is loam.

Janice Lowell stated her opinion that she has every right to ask Council what is going on at the site. J. Lowell stated that this issue has been going on since February since the cease and desist order. J. Lowell stated that the Building Inspector stated that they would be required to remove the material before they can apply to Planning or Zoning. K. Johnson interrupted and stated he is not doing this anymore. J. Lowell stated she should not be interrupted. Councilor W. Worthy called for a point of order. D. Igliazzi stated that can't allow interruptions.

K. Johnson left the meeting.

J. Lowell stated her opinion that it is fair for her to ask for an update and that she feels there is no guarantee that the material is safe. J. Lowell stated she built a brand-new house next door to the site before Smithfield Peat came to town. J. Lowell stated her opinion that the material came from a property that stored hazardous contaminated material. J. Lowell stated that the last thing she wants to do on a Thursday night is to come to a Council meeting. J. Lowell stated she feels she has to come in order to protect her property. J. Lowell stated that she needs to know that it is safe. J. Lowell stated that this has been going on for six months so feels a deadline and answers from Building office is not out of line. J. Lowell asked if there are penalties for being in violation. J. Lowell stated she has been hearing for months that Smithfield Peat will come up with a plan. J. Lowell stated that she is nervous about this and wants to make sure her property is not contaminated. J. Lowell stated she does not want to listen to the noise of trucks and machinery on a daily basis. J. Lowell stated her opinion that this is not a misunderstanding because Smithfield Peat is a major company that has been in business for years. J. Lowell stated her opinion that they know how things work in that you go to town and get permits and do your due diligence before you buy the property.

J. Lowell stated she is confused as to how this matter is being handles and questions why the Building inspector is so upset. J. Lowell stated she has lived in town for 50 years and just built her retirement home. J. Lowell stated her frustration at not getting answers.

Councilor W. Worthy asked D. Igliazzi if a letter from Council to the owner of the property would be helpful. D. Igliazzi stated his recommendation that Council not send a letter but let the matter be handled by the department head.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that he hears all the points of view and asked if there was some short term mechanism to have the soil tested and paid for by Council.

D. Igliazzi stated that more information is needed before any decision like that can be made. Councilor W. Worthy stated he understands all of the frustration.

P. Lowell, resident, stated that there was unbearable noise of trucks and machinery when the material was moved onto the site. P. Lowell stated he went to Smithfield Peat and stated his opinion that the material was moved from next to a pile that was contaminated with arsenic. P. Lowell stated his opinion that there are questions as to whether or not there was any cross contamination. P. Lowell stated his concerns about the material that was moved onto the location. P. Lowell also stated that he heard that the property would be a full Smithfield Peat operation. P. Lowell stated that he also heard from the owner of Smithfield Peat that the property was going to be a 3-4 person landscaping operation. P. Lowell stated that he does not want to hear the daily noise of trucks and machinery at the property. P. Lowell stated he does not see how an operation like this can be considered. P. Lowell stated that he is just frustrated with the situation.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that he will reach out to K. Johnson and bring information back to Council at the next meeting.

### XIII. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to ADJOURN at 8:40 p.m.; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse , W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy  
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED