

TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH

TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

February 5, 2014

A regular meeting of the West Greenwich Town Council was held on February 5, 2014. Present were Mark Tourgee, Susan Woloohojian, Robert Andrews, Gregory Coutcher and Thomas Mulcahey. Also present were Town Administrator Kevin Breene and Town Solicitor Michael Ursillo.

A. CALL TO ORDER - 7:00 P.M.

Council President Tourgee called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Town Administrator Breene commented on the life of Roy Johnson who passed away on January 17, 2014.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council President Tourgee made the following announcements: A Security/Resident Vacation Request Form is now available on the website for residents who would like random security checks performed by the Police Department while they are away from their homes. He also requested Tax Assessor/Collector Charlene Randall to add this to announcements next month so it will be televised. The WG Land Trust's Annual Dinner & Silent Auction will be held Saturday, March 22nd at 6 P.M. at the WG Fire Co #1, 830 Nooseneck Hill Road. Tickets are \$25 per person. Additional information is available on the town's website. Mark your calendars for the following: April 27th the WG Rabies Clinic will be held from 10 A.M. to 12 P.M. at the Highway Garage and WG Land Trust Earth Day from 12 P.M. to 4 P.M. at the Pavilion.

D. CONSENT AGENDA - All items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Town Council and may be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Council so requests, in which event the item will be removed from Consent Agenda consideration and considered in sequential order. The List of Consent Agenda Items is appended below.

Councilman Andrews moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

I. MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2014
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION- JANUARY 8, 2014 (SEALED)

II. REPORTS

(THE FOLLOWING REPORTS ARE RECEIVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL.)

1. TOWN CLERK REPORT – JANUARY, 2014
2. POLICE DEPT. REPORT – JANUARY, 2014
3. BUILDING OFFICIAL REPORT – JANUARY, 2014

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4. TAX OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY, 2014
5. PLANNING DEPT. MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY, 2014
6. TREASURER’S OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY, 2014

III. CORRESPONDENCE

(THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE IS RECEIVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL.)

1. CONSERVATION COMMISSION - MINUTES OF MEETING DECEMBER 5, 2013
2. LAND TRUST – MINUTES OF MEETING SEPTEMBER 10, 2013
3. LAND TRUST – MINUTES OF MEETING OCTOBER 8, 2013
4. LAND TRUST- MINUTES OF MEETING NOVEMBER 12, 2013
5. LAND TRUST – MINUTES OF MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2013
6. COPY OF LETTER TO: COMMUNITY MEMBERS
FROM: EXETER- WEST GREENWICH YEARBOOK
JANUARY 2, 2014
RE: BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE EXCALIBUR
7. COPY OF LETTER TO: ROBERT A. SMITH, P.E. RI DOT
FROM: STEVEN W. PRISTAWA, P.E. STATE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
JANUARY 7, 2014
RE: TRAFFIC SIGNAL ON ROUTE 3 AT INTERSECTION WITH ROUTE 102
8. COPY OF LETTER TO: ROBERT A. SMITH, P.E. RI DOT
FROM: STEVEN W. PRISTAWA, P.E. STATE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
JANUARY 7, 2014
RE: SIGNS FOR CENTRE OF NEW ENGLAND ON I-95 NORTH & SOUTH
9. COPY OF LETTER TO: KEVIN A. BREENE, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
FROM: TIMOTHY J. BROWN, P.E. KENT COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
JANUARY 8, 2014
RE: EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION
10. COPY OF LETTER TO: MANDY CHESNUTT, SENIOR MANAGER CONSERVATION
FROM: KEVIN A. BREENE, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
JANUARY 24, 2014
RE: 2013 HURRICANE SANDY COASTAL RESILIENCY COMPETITIVE GRANTS

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11. COPY OF LETTER TO: KEVIN A. BREENE, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
FROM: ROBERT ROCCHIO, P.E., RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
JANUARY 17, 2014
RE: CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR HOPKINS HILL ROAD, NEW
LONDON TURNPIKE, PLAIN MEETING HOUSE ROAD, PLAIN ROAD, SHARP STREET
AND WEAVER HILL ROAD.
12. COPY OF: SECURITY/ RESIDENT VACATION REQUEST FORM
FROM: WEST GREENWICH POLICE DEPARTMENT

IV. ADDITIONS, ABATEMENTS, REBATES & UNCOLLECTABLES

1. REQUEST OF TAX ASSESSOR/TAX COLLECTOR FOR SPECIFIC UNCOLLECTABLES
AND VOTE REGARDING SAME – JANUARY, 2014

ACCT #	January NAME	AMOUNT	CODE
<u>ABATEMENTS</u>			
03-0163-11	CENTREX DISTRIBUTORS INC	\$329,491.58	29
04-0097-11	DIAZ BRIAN J	\$132.68	05
08-0219-70	HONDA LEASE TRUST	\$11,465.62	04
13-0137-83	MARTIN CAREY N (2012)	\$218.12	04
13-0137-83	MARTIN CAREY N (2013)	\$170.82	04
13-0252-05	MCKENNA DANIEL E SR	\$36.16	04
16-0120-83	PELTIER DEBRA A	\$160.09	05
23-0098-00	WHITE FRANCIS & PATRICIA	\$6,236.79	29
<u>ADDITIONS</u>			
03-0163-11	CENTREX DISTRIBUTORS INC	\$278,542.29	29
08-0219-70	HONDA LEASE TRUST	\$11,790.86	04
13-0137-83	MARTIN CAREY N (2013)	\$57.31	04
23-0098-00	WHITE FRANCIS & PATRICIA	\$6,168.29	29
<u>REFUNDS</u>			
16-0120-83	PELTIER DEBRA A	\$22.74	05

V. CHECK SUMMARY REPORT

1. RECEIPT OF CHECK SUMMARY REPORT FOR
MONTH OF JANUARY, 2014
FROM TOWN TREASURE

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON RENEWAL OF JUNKYARD LICENSE- ESTATE OF
LILLIAN J. CARPENTER

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Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to table Discussion and Vote on Renewal of Junkyard License for the Estate of Lillian J. Carpenter. Councilman Coutcher seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION- MORGAN BECK, AUDREY KLING & ANNIE SPIRA

Council President Tourgee explained that due to weather, the recognition will take place at the March Town Council Meeting.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to continue Community Service Recognition of Morgan Beck, Audrey Kling and Annie Spira to the March Town Council Meeting. Councilman Andrews seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

2. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON APPOINTMENT OF TOWN CLERK

Council President Tourgee explained that the interview committee members were as follows: Former Town Clerk Janet Olsson, Chief Richard Ramsay, Councilman Andrews and Town Administrator Breene. He also advised on the recommendation of the committee to hire Acting Town Clerk Erin Liese, as she was the most qualified candidate.

Town Administrator Breene discussed the posting of the job and that seven applicants applied for the position. He also advised that no residents had applied and three applicants (including Erin) were interviewed based on qualifications.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to appoint Erin Liese as Town Clerk for a two year term. Councilman Coutcher seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

Erin Liese was congratulated and sworn in by Michael Ursillo, Town Solicitor.

Erin Liese, Town Clerk thanked the Council and Town Administrator Breene for their confidence in the appointment. She also thanked Former Town Clerk Janet Olsson for her guidance and support, colleagues and the RI City and Town Clerks. She also introduced her friends and family present as follows: Kyle Liese, Husband; Travis, Son; Gibby and Ginny Fountain, Parents; Heidi Lessard, Aunt; Lynn Hawkins, Exeter Town Clerk; and Leigh Botello, East Greenwich Town Clerk.

A small recess was taken.

3. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON APPOINTMENTS TO JUVENILE HEARING BOARD

Stephen Barnabe was present and introduced himself and discussed his wish to be involved in the community.

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Chief Ramsay explained the Juvenile Hearing Board, the qualifications of the applicants and the process in which they were interviewed.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to appoint Stephen Barnabe and Herbert Larkin for two year terms to the Juvenile Hearing Board. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

4. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON VETERANS' EXEMPTIONS FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Town Administrator Breene advised on the article in the Kent County Daily Times regarding Active Duty Military in Coventry and the confusion on the issue.

Charlene Randall, Tax Assessor/Collector explained the recent inquiry by a resident regarding Active Duty Military. She also stated that 282 West Greenwich residents currently receive the Veterans exemption.

Discussion ensued on Veteran's exemption types, applicability and tracking.

No action was taken.

5. PUBLIC HEARING - DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 87 REGARDING OPEN FIRES

Town Solicitor Ursillo advised on the proposed change to Ordinance No. 87, regarding open fires.

No public comments made.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to approve the amendments to Ordinance No. 87 Regarding Open Fires. Councilman Coutcher seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

6. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON CLAIM AGAINST THE TOWN- BINH DINH

Town Administrator Breene advised on the claim regarding a motor vehicle received against the Town.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to deny claim and refer this matter to the Trust. Councilman Coutcher seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

7. DISCUSSION AND RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT WITH STATE OF RHODE ISLAND WATER RESOURCES BOARD

Council President Tourgee questioned if \$5, 000 was enough. Town Administrator Breene explained the agreement and the roads that are included in the agreement.

Discussion ensued on the history of payments and recourse for non payment.

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Town Administrator Breene commented on the status of the Water Resources Board.

Council President Tourgee requested to revisit this item in June.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to approve the agreement with State of Rhode Island Water Resources Board and revisit this item in June. Councilman Andrews seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

8. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON SENATE BILL S 2136 – RELATING TO EDUCATION- RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES

Town Administrator Breene advised on the effect of Senate Bill S 2136.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to send a letter to Senator Rumsey against Senate Bill S 2136. Councilman Andrews seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

Town Administrator Breene advised he would draft the letter.

9. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH LOCAL UNION 1322- POLICE DISPATCHERS

Town Administrator Breene explained that Local Union 1322 would like to start negotiating a new contract and a committee would need to be formed.

Council President Tourgee and Councilman Andrews expressed interest in serving.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to appoint Council President Tourgee, Councilman Andrews, Town Administrator Breene, and Chief Ramsay to negotiate with Local 1322.

Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

10. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES

Discussion ensued on available dates.

Councilman Andrews moved to set Budget Workshops for March 10th and March 24th at 7:00 P.M. Council Vice President Woloohojian seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee- aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Coutcher – aye, Mulcahey – aye

G. PUBLIC FORUM

No public comments were made.

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H. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 1 PERSONNEL - POLICE**
- 2. PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 2
LITIGATION – SWAP INC. VS. Town of West Greenwich Planning Board SHAB 2013 -01.**

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to close the meeting and to go into Executive Session at 7:48 P.M. pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 A (1) Police Personnel and RIGL 42-46-5, a, 2 for Litigation relative to SWAP Inc. VS. Town of West Greenwich Planning Board SHAB 2013-01. Councilman Andrews seconded. VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Coutcher – aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to come out of Executive Session and seal the minutes at 8:13 P.M. Councilman Andrews seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Coutcher – aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye

No votes were made in Executive Session.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to adjourn 8:14 P.M. Councilman Andrews seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Coutcher – aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye

ERIN F. LIESE, CMC

TOWN CLERK