

TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH
TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2015

A regular meeting of the West Greenwich Town Council was held on January 7, 2015. Present were Mark Tourgee, Susan Woloohojian, Robert Andrews, Thomas Mulcahey and Linda Rekas Sloan. Also present was Town Administrator Kevin Breene.

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.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council President Tourgee made the following announcements: On December 11th, the Exeter-West Greenwich Regional High School was recognized as a Commended School at a reception in the State Room of the State House. Only 10% of the schools in RI have earned this distinction. A classification of "Commended" is the highest rating possible. Superintendent Erinakes explained the recognition and ranking of the EWG School District.

Council President Tourgee continued with the following announcements: Patrolman Joseph Ferle received the AAA Traffic Hero Award for his traffic enforcement work in 2014. The Police Department was also awarded a Pedestrian Safety Award for 7 years without a pedestrian fatality. There will be a Drinking Water Well Workshop held on Monday January 26th from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. at the Louttit Library Community Room. Water quality experts from URI Cooperative Extension and the Department of Health will go over how to protect your well and what sort of things to test for and why. If you have a private well, you are responsible for having it tested and making sure it is safe to drink for you and your family. Water testing kits will be available at the workshop for participants. More information is available on the Town's website or at www.rivelltesting.org. To register, call URI at 874-4918.

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

Council Vice President Woloohojian noted the error to minutes of December 10th. The motion for Vice President was made by Councilman Andrews and seconded by Councilman Mulcahey.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the correction to the December 10th minutes. Councilman Andrews seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey -aye, Rekas Sloan - aye

I. MINUTES

TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH

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JANUARY 7, 2015

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2014
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION- DECEMBER 10, 2014 (SEALED)

II. REPORTS

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

1. TOWN CLERK REPORT – DECEMBER, 2014
2. POLICE DEPT. REPORT – DECEMBER, 2014
3. BUILDING OFFICIAL REPORT – DECEMBER, 2014
4. TAX OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER, 2014
5. PLANNING DEPT. MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER, 2014

III. CORRESPONDENCE

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

IV. ADDITIONS, ABATEMENTS, REBATES & UNCOLLECTABLES

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

JANUARY

ACCT #	NAME	AMOUNT	CODE
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ABATEMENTS

01-0004-77	AT & T (2014 TAX ROLL)	\$223.41	21
01-0004-77	AT & T (2013 TAX ROLL)	\$223.41	21
02-0242-98	BOURQUE, LYNN M	\$131.96	09
03-0112-00	CARPENTER EDWARD G & DOROTHY M (EST OF)	\$5,888.14	24
03-0163-11	CENTREX DISTRIBUTORS INC	\$334,987.11	24

ADDITIONS

02-0242-97	BOUSQUET, LYNN M	\$131.96	09
03-0112-00	CARPENTER EDWARD G & DOROTHY M (EST OF)	\$4,016.30	24
03-0163-11	CENTREX DISTRIBUTORS INC	\$281,482.73	24

V. CHECK SUMMARY REPORT

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1. RECEIPT OF CHECK SUMMARY REPORT FOR
MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2014
FROM TOWN TREASURER

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. RECOGNITION OF MORGAN BREENE MARSHALL SCHOLAR

Council President Tourgee commented on Morgan Breene's extraordinary accomplishment of receiving the Marshall Scholarship.

Video from the University of Rhode Island was presented on Morgan Breene's work and award.

Council President Tourgee presented Morgan with the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, Morgan Breene has been a life long resident of West Greenwich; and

WHEREAS, she is a graduate of the Exeter-West Greenwich School District; and

WHEREAS, she completed the University of Rhode Island Honors Program and graduated Summa Cum Lade in May, 2014; and

WHEREAS, she was the recipient of the Academic Excellence award for her major in anthropology and the Metz Price for Outstanding Achievement in history; and

WHEREAS, she was also the recipient of URI Undergraduate Research Excellence Award in the Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities; and

WHEREAS, Morgan received the URI Center for the Humanities 20th Anniversary Prize for Undergraduate Research; and

WHEREAS, she was named URI first Marshall Scholar and only from Rhode Island. This award provides two years of funding for scholars to study in the United Kingdom; and

WHEREAS, Morgan will use the funding to pursue a master's degree in maritime archaeology at the University of Southampton; and

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the West Greenwich Town Council, and on behalf of the Citizens of West Greenwich, hereby congratulate Morgan Breene on her outstanding accomplishment and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the Town of West Greenwich to be affixed this 7th day of January, 2015.

Senator Kettle and Senator Morgan presented Morgan Breene with a proclamation from the State Senate.

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Superintendent Erinakes and School Committee members Claudine Pande and Lee Kissinger recognized Morgan for her accomplishment.

2. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON APPOINTMENT OF TREE WARDEN

Town Administrator Breene advised that Tom Leavitt is currently the Tree Warden and this would be a reappointment.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to reappoint Tom Leavitt as Tree Warden.

Councilwoman Rekas Sloan seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye, Rekas Sloan - aye

3. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON APPOINTMENTS OF NEGOTIATING TEAM FOR CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF POLICE OFFICERS LOCAL 517

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to table appointments to the negotiating team for contract renewal with International Brotherhood of Police Officers Local 517.

Councilwoman Rekas Sloan seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye, Rekas Sloan - aye

4. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON APPOINTMENTS OF NEGOTIATING TEAM FOR CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, LOCAL NO 4771, AFL-CIO

Town Administrator Breene discussed letter received to begin negotiations with Local No. 4771.

Councilwoman Rekas Sloan moved to appoint Councilman Andrews and Council Vice President Woloohojian to the negotiating team for contract renewal with International Association of Fire Fighters, Local No 4771, AFL-CIO. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye, Rekas Sloan - aye

Councilman Mulcahey questioned the contract terms and stated they have requested a one year contract.

Councilman Andrews requested a copy of the current contract.

5. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON DATE AND ALTERNATE DATE OF FINANCIAL TOWN MEETING

Town Clerk Liese advised on potential dates for the Financial Town Meeting according to the Charter.

Discussion ensued on availability.

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Councilman Andrews moved to set the date for the Financial Town Meeting to June 1st at 7:00 P.M. with an alternative date of June 8th. Council Vice President Woloohojian seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye, Rekas Sloan - aye

6. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON DATE FOR TOWN BUDGET HEARING

Town Administrator Breene advised the Budget Hearing would need to be held 45 days prior to the Financial Town Meeting.

Town Clerk Liese advised the April regular meeting would meet the requirement of 45 days prior.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to set the date of the Town Budget Hearing to April 8th at 7 P.M.
Councilman Andrews seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye, Rekas Sloan - aye

7. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES

Town Administrator Breene discussed the workload of the Town Treasurer and advised the budget requests are delayed. Town Treasurer Andrews advised the budget worksheets will go out next week.

Town Administrator Breene explained the budget process.

Councilwoman Rekas Sloan moved to table discussion and vote on budget workshop dates.
Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye, Rekas Sloan - aye

G. PUBLIC FORUM

No public comment was made.

Council Vice President Woloohojian moved to adjourn 7:27 P.M. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Woloohojian - aye, Andrews - aye, Mulcahey –aye, Rekas Sloan - aye

ERIN F. LIESE, CMC

TOWN CLERK