

TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH
TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING
May 11, 2016

A regular meeting of the West Greenwich Town Council was held on May 11, 2016. Present were Mark Tourgee, Linda Rekas Sloan, Robert Andrews, Mark Boyer and Thomas Mulcahey. Also present 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 7:06 P.M.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council President Tourgee made the following announcements: A four part series covering a wide range of health topics is scheduled every Thursday in May in the Community Room from 6 P.M. until 8 P.M. Please register with the library for these free presentations. Life Reimagined Check Up, Friday, May 20th at 11 A.M. Recharge your batteries and reimagine your future, sponsored by AARP. On June 2nd at 6:30 P.M. Victor Moffitt will discuss his book "Eminent Domain Violated in Rhode Island – The Big River Project". Saturday, June 4th the Pawtuxet Valley Rotary is sponsoring a 5K race. Some of the proceeds will benefit our library. Call the library for details. The Memorial Day Parade will be Monday the 30th. Anyone interested in participating in the parade should contact Peggy Fish.

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 Rekas Sloan requested correspondence items 4, 9, and 18 to be pulled for further consideration.

Councilman Boyer abstained

Councilman Andrews moved to approve the Consent Agenda with Correspondence items 4, 9, and 18 pulled for further consideration. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

I. MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF APRIL 6, 2016
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION- APRIL 6, 2016 (SEALED)
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2016

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II. REPORTS

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

1. BUILDING OFFICIAL REPORT – APRIL, 2016
2. POLICE DEPT. REPORT - APRIL, 2016
3. TAX OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT - APRIL, 2016
4. TOWN CLERK REPORT - APRIL, 2016
5. PLANNER’S OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT- APRIL, 2016

III. CORRESPONDENCE

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

1. CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 2, 2016
2. LAND TRUST- MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2016
3. CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES OF MEETING OF APRIL 7, 2016
5. COPY OF LETTER TO: KEVIN A. BREENE, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
FROM: PAUL F. DUTRA, ESQ.
APRIL 4, 2016
RE: POLICE DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR STATE ACCREDITATION
6. COPY OF LETTER TO: DONALD A. HASSELTINE, ED.D. VICE PRESIDENT FOR
DEVELOPMENT, BROWN UNIVERSITY
FROM: MICHAEL A. URSILLO, TOWN SOLICITOR
APRIL 8, 2016
RE: JUDGE ELMER J. RATHBUN SCHOLARSHIP
7. COPY OF LETTER TO: ERIN F. LIESE, TOWN CLERK
FROM: TIMOTHY J. BROWN, P.E., KENT COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
APRIL 8, 2016
RE: INCREASE IN TARIFFS WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
8. COPY OF LETTER TO: WEST GREENWICH TOWN COUNCIL
FROM: SARAH REEVES, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC POLICY, PROGRAMS AND PLANNING
APRIL 11, 2016
RE: ADDENDUM TO THE MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING SERVICE AGREEMENT

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10. COPY OF LETTER TO: THE CHAMPLIN FOUNDATIONS GRANT REQUEST
FROM: KEVIN A. BREENE, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
APRIL 19, 2016
RE: FUNDING REQUEST FOR UPGRADING PLAYGROUND
11. COPY OF MEMO TO: DAVID TACEY, ZONING OFFICIAL AND JENNIFER PAQUET, TOWN
PLANNER AND KEVIN A. BREENE, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
FROM: ANDREW M. TEITZ, ESQ. AND AMY H. GOINS, ESQ.
APRIL 26, 2016
RE: RI SUPREME COURT DECISION REGARDING ATTORNEY FEE'S
12. COPY OF LETTER TO: ANNETTE FELDMAN, DIRECTOR LOUTTIT LIBRARY
FROM: ERIN F. LIESE, CMC, TOWN CLERK
APRIL 28, 2016
RE: THANK YOU FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ACCOMMODATIONS
13. COPY OF LETTER TO: HOWARD TILSON
FROM: JENNIFER PAQUET, TOWN PLANNER
APRIL 28, 2016
RE: ARTHUR RICHMOND ROAD
14. COPY OF LETTER TO: PETER ALVITI, JR., DIRECTOR
FROM: NICHOLAS D. KETTLE, SENATE MINORITY WHIP
APRIL 26, 2016
RE: 275TH ANNIVERSARY BANNER REQUEST
15. COPY OF LETTER TO: DAVID W. FISH, P.E., ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER RI DOT
FROM: STEVEN W. PRISTAWA, P.E., SECRETARY, RI TRAFFIC COMMISSION
APRIL 26, 2016
RE: YIELD SIGN REQUESTS FOR I-95 AT NEW LONDON TURNPIKE
16. COPY OF NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FROM: STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PLANNING COUNCIL
RE: FY 2017-2025 STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
17. COPY OF LETTER TO: KATHLEEN M. CRAWLEY, DIRECTOR
RHODE ISLAND WATER RESOURCES BOARD
FROM: KEVIN A. BREENE, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
MAY 5, 2016
RE: MAINTENANCE IN BIG RIVER

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IV. CHECK SUMMARY REPORT

1. RECEIPT OF CHECK SUMMARY REPORT FOR
MONTH OF APRIL, 2016
FROM TOWN TREASURER

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **RECOGNITION OF MARGARET GARTELMAN FOR 25 YEAR'S OF SERVICE TO THE TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH AS HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Council President Tourgee commented on Margaret's service to the Town of West Greenwich and on the history of the Human Services position.

Council President Tourgee presented Margaret Gartelman with a Certificate of Appreciation for her twenty five years of service to the Town of West Greenwich.

Margaret thanked the Council for the recognition and stated the Town of West Greenwich is a great place to live.

Discussion ensued on needs and donations.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2016 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**

Council President Tourgee stated appreciation to Charlene Randall for putting together the summer concert series. He stated this is the third year in the series and concerts will be held on Thursday evening starting at 6:30 P.M. He read the following performance schedule:

June 30 - Al Carter & the Nashville Boys

July 7 - Slippery Sneakers

July 14 - Zink Alloy

July 21 - Strange Ways

July 28 - Mishnock All Stars

August 4 - Rhode Island Rednecks

August 11 - Jesse Liam

August 18 - Sure Thing

August 25 - Not for Nuthin

September 1 - Lola & the Pallbearers

2. **RECOGNITION OF MADELINE GREENE- NATIONAL WINNER OF DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION ESSAY CONTEST**

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Council President Tourgee read the achievement of Madeline Greene for her award as a National winner of the Daughters of the Revolution Essay contest.

Council President Tourgee presented Madeline Greene with a Certificate of Recognition from the Town Council.

The following items from the Consent Agenda were considered:

4. COPY OF LETTER TO: AUDREY B. HILL
FROM: SENATOR LEONIDAS P. RAPTAKIS
APRIL 4, 2016
RE: LAKE DRIVE

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan questioned the issue with Lake Drive.

Town Administrator Breene explained the history of Mac Cue Point and advised that the road issue was not Lake Drive and was Mac Cue Point, which is a private road. He advised on the boundary issues. He advised that he has spoken to Representative Raptakis and that this is a private road and the Town has provided a courtesy in the minimum maintenance of the road.

Town Solicitor Ursillo advised if the homeowners would like to get together to change the status of the road they need to petition the Planning Board.

Town Administrator Breene advised on private roads in town.

Discussion ensued on private roads.

9. COPY OF LETTER TO: KEVIN BREENE, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
FROM: NEIL STEINBERG, PRESIDENT AND CEO, RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATION
APRIL 14, 2016
RE: CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY GRANTS

Town Administrator Breene advised on the \$4,000 Land Trust grant received to upgrade signs.

18. COPY OF COMMUNICATION REGARDING A PROPOSED SOLAR FARM ON VACANT LAND
(MARSOCCI ESTATE) AT EXIT 5 AND ROUTE 102

Town Administrator Breene advised on the recent ordinance change regarding power sources.

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Council President Tourgee commented on the meeting held with a proposal for a large solar farm. He stated concern that this is last large piece of prime taxable land. He advised there are currently no utilities at the site and down the road a valuable commodity for the town. He commented on the potential development for the site.

Councilman Boyer stated more discussions need to be had regarding this parcel.

Town Administrator Breene advised on the discussion with Commerce Secretary and they State would cooperate in bringing water and sewer to the area; however it needs to be the right thing.

Frank Epps managing director for Energy Development Company explained his proposal with purchasing the property and seeks the support from the Town Council. They have offered to deed the entire frontage on Barnett Lane and Route 102. He also advised on the deeding of 22 acres to the Town that has frontage and the purchase of paper roads for \$300,000. He stated they are sensitive to the idea the Town receive the benefits they should through tangible property.

Discussion ensued on the offer.

Councilman Andrews questioned if we could tax solar.

Epps advised this would supersede the Superior Court ruling to allow taxing.

Epps stated he is a long term resident and will back all intentions with bond or guarantee.

Councilman Boyer questioned if Bond would be enforced if sold.

Town Solicitor Ursillo stated you could draft the agreement with protection.

Discussion ensued on the process of the project and application to Zoning and Planning.

Epps thanked the Council for their time.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to approve Correspondence items 4,9,18 pulled for further consideration. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

3. PUBLIC HEARING
DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

Council President Tourgee opened the Public Hearing.

Town Planner Paquet advised this is the second of the required public hearings and it was advertised in the May 3rd edition of the Kent County Daily Times.

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
WEST GREENWICH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG)

The Town of West Greenwich will be submitting an application to the Rhode Island Dept of Administration, Office of Housing and Community Development, for funding under the federal Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, application due on May 13, 2016. The following activities are being considered for inclusion in that application:

Cornerstone Adult Services		\$ 5,000
Housing Rehabilitation	\$	0
Administration	\$	500
TOTAL		\$ 5,500

A **Public Hearing** on the proposed application will be held on Wednesday, **May 11, 2016** during the Town Council meeting starting at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers at West Greenwich Town Hall, 280 Victory Highway, RI 02817, in order to obtain the views of the public on the proposed application, after which the Council will act to finalize the application for submission. A copy of the proposed application is available for review in the Office of the Town Planner and on the Town's website at

http://www.wgtownri.org/departments/planning/planning_board.php.

Comments on the proposed activities may be submitted in writing to the Town Planner or may be made during the Public Hearing.

The Town of West Greenwich will provide interpreters for the hearing impaired provided three (3) days notice is provided.

Town Planner Paquet explained the proposed motion from the Planning Board and advised on the resolution needed.

Cornerstone Adult Services and Geoffrey Marchant were present.

Cornerstone Adult Services explained their services and stated they provide such services to 7 Residents. The funding fills the gap between what low income families can afford and what the cost on day to day nursing, food, physical therapy and a wide range of activities and support to the families.

Town Solicitor Ursillo questioned what near by towns are doing.

Geoffrey Marchant advised they applied to 15 Towns for the \$5,000 dollars. All towns have approved.

Discussion ensued on effects of Rhode Map RI.

Representative Roberts voiced concern and strongly opposed taking the funding. She further explained her reasons for concern with HUD.

Town Administrator Breene stated HUD funding is in the school district.

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Discussion ensued on HUD funding and requesting further information.

Marchant advised the application is due Friday.

Councilman Andrews stated we should take the advice of Representative Roberts.

Councilman Boyer questioned if the funding could be allocated through the town.

Councilman Andrews moved to reject submitting the application to CDBG for funding.

Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

Councilman Mulcahey moved to add \$5,500 to the budget to fund Cornerstone Adult Service request.

Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

Representative Roberts discussed Rhode Map RI.

4. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON ENTERTAINMENT/EVENT LICENSE REQUESTS- RHODY ROVERS

Council President Tourgee commented on the Rhody Rovers scholarship that is provided to EWG students.

Council President Tourgee read the request from Rhody Rovers: The Rhody Rovers motorcycle club respectfully requests permission for our two motorcycle events this coming summer. The first event would be our Enduro on Sunday, June 26th and our Trail Ride on Sunday, August 28th. We will follow our standard protocol of communication with the Police Department and hire a detail for the day of the event. We will also communicate with the other authorities and forward all insurance and day of event information to them. We are also pleased to continue our participation in the EWG awards night this year, a continued effort from our club since 1995. In closing we are very happy to be good members of your community and thank you for your support of our club and the events we are able to have in your town.

Pete Tanner from Rhody Rovers thanked the Council for the support and stated it is a pleasure to be part of the West Greenwich community. He also advised they participated in the Big River clean up.

Councilman Andrews questioned if they need the Chief's support. Tanner advised he will meet with Chief for Police detail.

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Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to approve the event requests of Rhody Rovers.

Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

5. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON REQUEST BY THE FIRE BOARD OF ENGINEERS FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR EXPENDITURE

Council President Tourgee read the following request for the Fire Board of Engineers: At the regular meeting of the West Greenwich Fire Board of Engineers, held on March 21st of this year, the Board unanimously approved to request an expenditure from the emergency fire equipment repair fund in the amount of Three-Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty Four dollars and Sixty Four cents (\$3,864.64) for the unexpected repairs of Lake Mishnock Fire Engine 2. I have attached copies of the invoice of this repair for your review. Also at the same meeting of the West Greenwich Fire Board of Engineers, held on March 21st of this year, the Board unanimously approved to request expenditure from the emergency fire equipment repair fund in the amount of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00) for the unexpected repairs of West Greenwich Fire Engine 21. As above, I have attached copies of the invoices of these repairs, totaling over \$25,000.00 for your review. The Board thanks you for your time on this matter.

Councilman Andrews questioned how high the bills were for repairs.

Town Administrator Breene advised the fire company pays most of them.

Discussion ensued on funding.

Councilman Mulcahey recused.

Councilman Boyer moved to approve the emergency repair expenditure of the Fire Boards of Engineers.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan seconded.

VOTED: Tourgee - aye, Rekas Sloan - aye, Andrews - aye, Boyer- aye

6. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON ACCEPTANCE OF DIANA M. ROTELLI RESIGNATION FROM THE LAND TRUST

Council President Tourgee read the following letter of resignation from Diana Rotelli: It is with deep regret that I must inform you of my resignation from the West Greenwich Land Trust effective at the close of our April 12th meeting. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve this town and its wonderful people for the past 14 years. Due to the time required caring for elderly parents, both in Massachusetts, I cannot dedicate the time needed to fulfill my duties and responsibilities as I desire and you deserve. I wish to thank you for your support throughout the years and your desire to preserve open spaces in our wonderful town. I will always remain a friend of the Land Trust.

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Councilman Mulcahey stated Diana is a great lady.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to accept the resignation from Diana M. Rotelli.

Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

7. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON APPOINTMENTS TO THE LAND TRUST

Council President Tourgee read the letter from Steven Wright regarding appointments: At tonight's meeting of the West Greenwich Land Trust, Diana Rotelli stepped down as chairperson and resigned from the Land Trust. I was voted in as Chairman. We presently have two volunteers who have been attending our meetings on a regular basis who would like to be considered for the two trustee positions. Hank Webster for Diana's position starting in May and Liz O'Laughlin for Teri Cicero's position in June.

Council President Tourgee further discussed the status of volunteer boards.

Town Administrator Breene advised Kevin Nowicki was also up for reappointment.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to appoint Hank Webster (5/19) and Liz O'Laughlin (5/21) and reappoint Kevin Nowicki (5/21) to the Land Trust. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

8. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING BOARD

Council President Tourgee advised David Berry, Brian Wallace and William Bryan were up for reappointment. He also stated there is a vacancy.

Councilman Boyer moved to reappoint David Berry (5/21), Brian Wallace (5/18) and William Bryan (5/18) to the Planning Board. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

9. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON APPOINTMENTS TO THE ZONING BOARD

Council President Tourgee advised Charlotte Jolls, Dr. Clyde Fish and John M Ruzzo were up for reappointment.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to reappoint Charlotte Jolls (5/18), John Ruzzo (5/17) and Dr. Clyde Fish (5/21). Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

10. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON AWARDING THE BID OF THE 2016/2017 19,000 LBS. 4x6 DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW

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Town Administrator Breene advised Stoneham Motor Company did not meet the bid specifications.

Town Solicitor Ursillo stated if you do not meet the specification you are disqualified.

Councilman Mulcahey questioned the funding of the truck.

Town Administrator Breene advised on the funding from the State Water Resources Board for management of Big River to put towards the purchase of the truck.

Discussion ensued on funding of Big River Management.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to award the Bid for a 2016/2017 19,000 lbs. Dump Truck with Plow to Flood Ford of East Greenwich for 68,966.00. Councilman Boyer seconded.

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

11. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON AWARDING THE BID FOR THE AUDIT

Town Administrator Breene advised on the audit bid process and requested the matter be continued to June for further research.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to continue awarding the bid for the Audit to the June Council Meeting. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

12. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON AWARDING THE BID FOR THE 2016 FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Tax Assessor Randall requested this matter be continued to June for Steven Wright has not seen the bids.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to continue awarding the bid for the 2016 Fireworks Display to the June Council Meeting. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

13. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON REQUEST TO SUPPORT RHODE ISLAND LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS RESOLUTION FOR GREEN ECONOMY

Town Solicitor Ursillo explained the request from Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns regarding a Green Economy Bond.

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Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to support the RI League of Cities and Towns Resolution in Support of the Green Economy Bond. Councilman Boyer seconded.

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

14. DISCUSSION AND VOTE REGARDING S-2834 RELATIVE TO VOTER ID

Council President Tourgee read the following letter from the RI Town and City Clerks' Association requesting opposing S-2834: The above-reference Bill relative to the Voter ID law was introduced March 23, 2016 and referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee. The RI Town and City Clerks Association is strongly opposed to repealing the Voter ID law. We feel that the Voter ID law has been successful in protecting the integrity of our elections while also expediting the voting process at the polls. By presenting identification, a supervisor is able to locate the voter in the poll book without the challenges of language or hearing barriers. The Secretary of State's Office provides easy access to a free Voter ID to ensure no voter is disenfranchised. Accordingly, the RITCCA respectfully requests your opposition to Senate Bill S-2834 and repealing the Voter ID law.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to send a Resolution to our legislatures opposing S- 2834 Relative to Voter ID. Councilman Boyer seconded.

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

15. DISCUSSION AND VOTE REGARDING H-7539 RELATIVE TO PRIMARY ELECTION DATE

Council President Tourgee read the following letter from the RI Town and City Clerks' Association: On behalf of the RI Town and City Clerks' Association I am writing to express the Association's opposition to H-7539 relative to the primary election date. The Bill proposes that the September Primary be moved from the second Tuesday after the first Monday, to the first Saturday in September in each even numbered year. In nearly all even numbered years, this would place the day of the Primary on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Voting on a holiday weekend would drastically reduce voter participation thereby increasing the demand for absentee mail ballots. We also believe it would make it more difficult to hire poll workers as many families take the opportunity to enjoy vacation before their children return to school. Additionally, the costs for staffing a Saturday Primary would be significantly higher than a weekday. Post-election work would need to be completed on the Sunday and/or Monday of the holiday weekend, further increasing the costs of conducting the primary, particularly in unionized communities. These costs would place an undue burden on all local municipalities. Accordingly, the RITCCA respectfully opposes passage of House Bill H7539.

Council President Tourgee stated elections should not be held on the weekend.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to send a Resolution to our legislatures in Opposition of H-7539 Relative to the Primary Election Date. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

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16. DISCUSSION AND VOTE REGARDING S-2263 AND H-8080 RELATIVE TO SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Town Administrator Breene questioned why the recent Primary was not held at the school. Town Clerk Liese advised the school was in session so the election could not be held there.

Council President Tourgee read the following letter from the RI Town and City Clerks' Association: The above- referenced Bills would leave discretion of opening schools to each municipal school department. Currently, 205 of the 419 default polling locations in the State of Rhode Island are schools. The City of Providence alone uses 21 schools, while some municipalities rely solely on schools for their polling locations. Forcing relocation of these polling locations would be extremely difficult for the local boards. The alternative would be to continue using the schools as polling locations. This would result in challenges associated with parking and accessibility and create inconvenience for voters. We believe that the safety of our students is paramount and should not be jeopardized by holding elections in schools while they are in session. The cost for police security to ensure their safety would create an unfunded mandate thereby placing an undue burden on municipalities. The RI Town & City Clerks' Association respectfully opposes passage of House Bill H- 8080 and Senate Bill S-2263.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to send a Resolution to our legislatures opposing the passage of S-2263 and H-8080. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

17. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FULLY FUNDING THE 25% GRANT-IN- AID TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Annette Feldman, Louttit Library Director explained the State Law and funding for libraries. They are looking for the reinstatement of the fully funded 25% of state grant aid.

Discussion ensued on funding.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to send a Resolution to our legislatures requesting the reinstatement of funding. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

G. PUBLIC FORUM

Town Administrator Breene requested Chief Ramsay explain the letter received from T.P. Schwartz regarding traffic on Weaver Hill Road.

Town Solicitor Ursillo requested this be added to the agenda for discussion.

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Councilman Mulcahey moved to add to the agenda for discussion regarding letter from T.P. Schwartz.
Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

Chief Ramsay stated he would put additional surveillance on Weaver Hill Road and further explained the history of speeding tickets and accidents.

Discussion ensued on DUI.

Town Administrator Breene commented many drivers are distracted by texting.

Chief Ramsay advised this is a difficult location and no one else has complained, however the department will address the concern of Mr. Schwartz.

Councilman Andrews stated he received a letter from Mr. Schwartz 20 years ago when he was Chief.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to close the meeting to go into Executive Session at 8:44 P.M. pursuant to, RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 2 Litigation- Swap Inc. Vs. Town of West Greenwich Planning Board SHAB 2013-01 and pursuant to, RIGL 42-46-5, (A) Potential Litigation with Highway Auto Parts.
Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

H. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 2 LITIGATION-
SWAP INC. VS. TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH PLANNING BOARD SHAB 2013-01**
- 2. PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 2 POTENTIAL LITIGATION- HIGHWAY AUTO PARTS**

Councilman Mulcahey moved to come out of Executive Session and seal the minutes at 9:27 P.M.
Council Vice President Rekas Sloan seconded.

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

No action was taken.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to adjourn at 9:28 P.M.
Council Vice President Rekas Sloan seconded.

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

ERIN F. LIESE, CMC
TOWN CLERK