

**TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH**  
**TOWN COUNCIL**

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**REGULAR MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2016**

A regular meeting of the West Greenwich Town Council was held on September 14, 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 7:00 P.M.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**C. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council President Tourgee read the following announcements: Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> begins our 275<sup>th</sup> celebration starting at 5 pm with an antique car show and the Mishnock Barn Line Dancers here at the pavilion. Fireworks begin at 8 pm at the soccer field. Saturday the festivities continue from noon until 5 pm with music, food, vendors, demonstrations, the National Guard rock wall, horse drawn carriage rides, animals, and much, much more. Please use caution when driving on Route 102 that weekend as there will be heavy pedestrian traffic. The state of Rhode Island has once again received funds from the US Treasury to help with the foreclosure crisis. The Hardest Hit Fund is being administrated through RI Housing. The homepage on the town's website has additional information to assist property owners with documented financial issues. The Town is looking for poll workers. You must be at least 18 years old and registered to vote. You don't have to be a WG resident or registered to vote here. Please contact the Town Clerk's office if you are interested. The Town of West Greenwich has selected Code RED as our emergency notification system. This system will be used to send critical communications from severe weather notifications to missing child alerts. We encourage all residents and businesses to go to the Town of West Greenwich website, click on the Code RED logo located on main page and enter their contact information. At sign up you may select which types of warnings you'd like to receive. There is no charge to you for this service. In an event of an emergency, West Greenwich officials will issue alerts through Code RED, a high-speed notification solution. The Code RED system allows messages to be quickly delivered to targeted areas of West Greenwich or the entire Town. On September 21<sup>st</sup>. the Town of West Greenwich will be conducting a performance test of the system starting at 10:00 am, contacting everyone in West Greenwich who is currently in the emergency database. Receiving a test message will assure that residents will receive a message when an actual alert is issued by Town officials. Residents who have not enrolled to receive emergency Code RED notifications, or do not receive a test message on September 21<sup>st</sup> should visit the Town's website [www.wgtownri.org](http://www.wgtownri.org) and click the Code RED logo to enroll. Those without Internet access may call the West Greenwich Police (401-397-2246), Monday through Friday, (9AM-2PM) to supply their information over the phone. Enrollment forms are also

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available at the Public Safety Dispatch Center. Any questions should be directed to Chief of Police Richard Ramsay, 401-397-2246.

Chief Ramsay stated this is a great tool to have for the Town of West Greenwich and explained the notification system.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

**I. MINUTES**

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF AUGUST 10, 2016
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION- AUGUST 10, 2016 (SEALED)

**II. REPORTS**

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

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

**III. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

1. CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES OF MEETING OF AUGUST 4, 2016
2. LAND TRUST- MINUTES OF MEETING OF JULY 12, 2016
3. CELEBRATE WEST GREENWICH DAY-275<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE- MINUTES OF MEETING MARCH 16, 2016
4. CELEBRATE WEST GREENWICH DAY-275<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE- MINUTES OF MEETING APRIL 5, 2016

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5. CELEBRATE WEST GREENWICH DAY-275<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE- MINUTES OF MEETING MAY 24, 2016
6. CELEBRATE WEST GREENWICH DAY-275<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE- MINUTES OF MEETING JUNE 28, 2016
7. CELEBRATE WEST GREENWICH DAY-275<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE- MINUTES OF MEETING JULY 26, 2016
8. CELEBRATE WEST GREENWICH DAY-275<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE- MINUTES OF MEETING AUGUST 30, 2016

**IV. ADDITIONS, ABATEMENTS, REBATES & UNCOLLECTABLES**

1. REQUEST OF TAX ASSESSOR/TAX COLLECTOR FOR SPECIFIC UNCOLLECTABLES AND VOTE REGARDING SAME –AUGUST, 2016

<u>ACCT #</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>CODE</u>
<b><u>ABATEMENTS</u></b>			
02-0184-57	BLAIS, JEFFREY	177.94	02
03-0275-52	COMMERCE PARK REALTY, LLC	10091.13	26
04-0002-05	DABROSCA, THOMAS M	322.16	06
04-0130-97	DOLAN, THOMAS J JR	0.51	03
07-0021-40	GARDINER, DONNA L	79.96	07
07-0081-21	GOVERT, JULIE K	18.87	06
10-0002-79	JAVA ACQUISITION COMPANY 0245	14355.33	26
11-0068-31	KING, MOLLY H (2016 MV TAX ROLL)	20.28	06
11-0068-31	KING, MOLLY H (2015 MV TAX ROLL)	87.02	06
13-0064-30	MAIN, CONRAD E JR	1149.34	03
16-0197-05	PIETROFORTE, MARIA L	465.40	02
16-0288-26	PRIEBE MEGHAN R	388.94	06
<b><u>ADDITIONS</u></b>			
02-0184-57	BLAIS, JEFFREY	155.15	02
03-0275-52	COMMERCE PARK REALTY, LLC	14355.33	26
04-0002-05	DABROSCA, THOMAS M	301.88	06
10-0002-79	JAVA ACQUISITION COMPANY 0245	10091.13	26
15-0016-51	OHANIAN, JOSEPH	164.79	04
13-0064-30	MAIN, CONRAD E JR	1111.76	03
16-0197-05	PIETROFORTE, MARIA L	418.29	02
16-0288-26	PRIEBE MEGHAN R	213.86	06

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**V. CHECK SUMMARY REPORT**

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

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**1. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION FUNDING**

Andrew Henneous, School District Legal Counsel and Lee Kissinger School Committee member were present.

Town Administrator Breene explained the status of the Regional School District Funding and at the February meeting the school committee stated they would refund the amount.

Attorney Henneous explained according to RIGL the funds could not be credited to the municipality. He further explained how the district will honor the funding.

Discussion ensued on the credit.

Town Solicitor Ursillo stated he has reviewed the statute and there is similar circumstance in Bristol Warren and they could not withhold the funding.

Town Administrator Breene stated next year the towns would each receive a reduction to account for the credit this year. He further stated that enrollment has gone up significantly and we will be ahead for next year.

Council President Tourgee stated the legal opinion should have been available at the meeting.

Lee Kissinger stated they will hold up their end of the agreement.

Kissinger stated Henneous could be present at the next joint meeting.

Town Administrator Breene stated that Lee has been an advocate for the Town.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. PRESENTATION AND PROCLAMATION ON 275<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Town Administrator Breene stated this will be presented at the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

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Council Vice President Rekas Sloan read the following Proclamation:

**WHEREAS, In 1740 a group of Residents living in the so called “vacant” lands petitioned the General Assembly to split off from the Town of East Greenwich and form their own Town; and**

**WHEREAS, In April of 1741 the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations granted a Charter for a new Town to be named West Greenwich; and**

**WHEREAS, The new Town was inhabited by honest, hard working individuals and families, with an independent spirit and a history of taking care of its own, much as it remains today; and**

**WHEREAS, Through the years West Greenwich has remained a small Town with beautiful scenery, vast amounts of open space and strong rural character; and**

**WHEREAS, For 275 years the Residents of West Greenwich have always displayed a sense of patriotism, a great love for our Town and Country and fond appreciation for this wonderful Town we call home; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, It is with tremendous pride and resolve that we the members of the West Greenwich Town Council, on behalf of our Residents wish to commemorate the 275 Anniversary of said Town with best wishes for good fortune into the future.**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the Town of West Greenwich to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.**

**2. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON ENTERTAINMENT/EVENT LICENSE REQUEST- RHODY ROVERS HARE SCRAMBLE**

Pete Tanner from Rhody Rovers explained his request to hold a HARE Scramble on October 22&23<sup>rd</sup>.

Town Administrator Breene explained the property location.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan questioned what is a HARE Scramble? Tanner explained the event and it takes place through the woods.

Councilman Boyer questioned if parking would be on site. Tannin explained all parking will be on site.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to approve the Rhody Rovers HARE Scramble on October 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> subject to Police and Fire approval. Councilman Boyer seconded.

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

Council President Tourgee stated the Rhody Rovers always does a scholarship and discussed the uniqueness of pulling it out of a hat.

Discussion ensued on the scholarship.

**3. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON ENTERTAINMENT/ EVENT LICENSE REQUEST- THE WOODS TAVERN BBQ COMPETITION**

Council President Tourgee read the following letter submitted to Erin Liese, Town Clerk: The Woods Tavern is looking to host a BBQ competition on 10/15/16 and we are seeking permission from the town and the proper permits to do so. We are hoping to host it outside on a lawn area that abuts the parking lot. In that area, we were hoping to set up a tent with some tables and serve a couple varieties of Oktoberfest beers. Thank you so much and we are looking forward to hosting this event.

Michael Berek was present from the Woods Tavern and explained the event would be similar as last year. They have decided there will be no tent this year. The area will be roped off and will be working with the Chief.

Chief Ramsay stated he had no issue with this event.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to approve the October 15, 2016 Woods Tavern BBQ Competition subject to Police and Fire approval. Councilman Boyer seconded.

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

**4. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON ENTERTAINMENT/ EVENT LICENSE REQUEST -TAVERN ON THE HILL FALL VAN RUN**

Council President Tourgee read the following request: The Tavern on the Hill would like to hold a Van Run on September 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>. The Van Run is the same as it has been for the past five years. All cars will be confined to the back field Friday night, all day Saturday and leaving Sunday morning. Van patrons will be coming into the Tavern for beverages and food to be consumed inside the Tavern or food taken to go (not beverages). They will have a band on Saturday afternoon.

No one was present from the Tavern on the Hill.

Chief Ramsay stated he had no issues with this event in the past.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to approve the September 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Tavern on the Hill Van Run. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

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**5. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON REQUEST FROM FIRE BOARD OF ENGINEERS FOR UPDATING RADIO EQUIPMENT**

Chief Hoxsie explained the need to purchase new radio equipment. He explained the most recent issue with the storm. He stated Chief Ramsay has been working to resolve the issue. They met with the radio vendor and explained the recommendations.

Discussion ensued on reasons for replacement.

Town Administrator Breene stated the insurance company will cover \$70,000, which includes damage done to dispatch office equipment.

Chief Ramsay stated there are several issues with the system. He further explained some money will be covered by insurance but they are not sure how much.

Town Solicitor Ursillo stated the money has not been appropriated by the electors.

Discussion ensued on the Fire Apparatus Fund appropriated at the Financial Town Meeting.

Town Administrator Breene commented on the history of the radio system.

Chief Hoxsie stated this is a time sensitive issue due to a rebate.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to approve the request of the Fire Board of Engineers to expend no more than \$40,000.00 out of the Fire Apparatus Fund. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

**6. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON AWARDING BID FOR A 2016/2017 SIX WHEEL ALL SEASON DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW**

Public Works Director Wright explained the bids received for a 2016/2017 six wheels all season dump truck with plow and recommended the RI Truck Center Bid for \$151,964. He further explained \$150,000 was appropriated for the purchase and the rest could come out of equipment upgrade fund.

Town Administrator Breene stated this was a competitive bidding process.

Council President Tourgee questioned what you would do with the 1993 truck. Public Works Director Wright explained it would be used as a last resort.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to award the 2016/2017 Six Wheel All Season Dump Truck with Plow to RI Truck Center. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

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**7. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON AGREEMENT WITH PARTNERSHIP FOR RHODE ISLAND STREETLIGHT MANAGEMENT**

Town Administrator Breene explained the partnership and grant money available to convert the street lights to LED.

Discussion ensued on the 5 lights and the cost.

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to approve the agreement with Partnership for Rhode Island Streetlight Management. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

**G. PUBLIC FORUM**

Ross Matthews, Baily Pond requested the Council update the noise ordinance. She further explained they have a neighbor using a radio as a weapon. The police have been to the residence several times. She stated it is a waste of time to have police come if nothing could be enforced.

Discussion ensued on the issue.

Town Administrator Breene stated the town has done a lot.

Chief Ramsay stated the Ordinance has been reviewed and they are working to upgrade the 1969 ordinance. He further explained charges that have been enforced.

Discussion ensued on the issue.

Council President Tourgee stated they do not like to put in ordinances and explained changing an ordinance is a process. He further explained changes would require three reading and the Chief and Town Solicitor Ursillo will make sure it is enforceable.

Matthews stated they just ask that it be addressed.

Discussion ensued on civil action.



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**H. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Vice President Rekas Sloan moved to close the meeting to go into Executive Session at 8:04 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 and pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, (A) Potential Litigation with Cedar Ridge. Councilman Mulcahey seconded.

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

- 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**
- 3. PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 2 POTENTIAL LITIGATION- LOW AND MODERATE HOUSING  
COMPONENT AT CEDAR RIDGE**

Councilman Mulcahey moved to come out of Executive Session and seal the minutes at 8:36 P.M. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

No action was taken.

Councilman Mulcahey moved to adjourn at 8:37 P.M. Councilman Andrews seconded.

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

**ERIN F. LIESE, CMC  
TOWN CLERK**