

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Coventry Town Hall Council Chambers
January 8, 2007

Present: Kenneth Cloutier, Anthony Colaluca, Justin Pomfret, Bruce Thompson,
Frank Hyde

Town Manager Richard Kerbel
Town Solicitor Patrick Sullivan

Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Sergeant.
Invocation by President Pomfret
Town Sergeant reviewed the Emergency Evacuation plan

President Pomfret presented Certificate of Recognition to Coventry Rams Midget Football team for winning the National Championships in Florida.

Public Comment

Rhonda Muratore
Acres of Pine Road

Would like to see the school department excuse absences for football players who attended the nationals in Florida.

Motion made by Kenneth Cloutier seconded by Anthony Colaluca to approve minutes from Town Council Meeting December 11, 2006. All voted Aye. So voted.

• CONSENT AGENDA

1. Resolution # 1-07-2708 adopting 2007 Town Council meeting schedule
2. Resolution #2-07-2709 releasing bond for Deer Ridge Estates
3. Application for renewal of Private Detective license by Kenneth Cunningham
4. Resolution #3-07-2710 authorizing purchase of sliding gate opener
5. Resolution #4-07-2711 adopting budget calendar
6. Resolution #5-07-2712 appointing Bruce Thompson to Sewer Subcommittee
7. Resolution #6-07-2713 appointing William Hall as liaison to West Warwick Sewer Subcommittee

Motion made by Kenneth Cloutier seconded by Bruce Thompson to remove Item #7 for discussion. All voted Aye. So voted.

Motion made by Frank Hyde seconded by Anthony Colaluca to approve items #1 through #6. Vote 4-0 (Bruce Thompson abstains)

Discussion on #7 to clarify that Mr. Hall is being appointed to the West Warwick Sewer Sub Committee, and will be the Coventry vote on the West Warwick Sewer Commission.

Motion made by Frank Hyde seconded by Bruce Thompson to adopt resolution. All voted Aye. So voted.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution # 7-07-2714 authorizing Town Manager to enter into agreement regarding Kent County Water Authority and exchange of land on Read School House Road

Maryann Pezullo from the office of Petrarca and McGair represents Kent County Water Authority. Attorney Pezullo explained that this is a land swap. The Town of Coventry has agreed to swap land, an abutting piece of property, so that Kent County Water may construct a 1.5 million gallon water tank. More suitable site. Town has agreed that land is of equal value. Will be no greater than 32 feet in height.

Attorney Sullivan stated that appraisal was done, equal property values. This will also enhance water pressure in the area for residents.

Motion made by Bruce Thompson seconded by Kenneth Cloutier to adopted resolution. All voted Aye. So voted.

Resolution #8-07-2715 adopting Sewer Assessment Board of Review Rules of Procedure.

Solicitor Sullivan: Enabling legislation requires a Board of Review. Statute requires that the Town Council establish rules.

Manager Kerbel stated that if the rules are adopted, the first hearing will be held on January 30, 2007.

Solicitor Sullivan noted that if a taxpayer is not satisfied, will have to then go to Superior Court.

Motion made by Frank Hyde seconded by Kenneth Cloutier to adopt resolution. All voted Aye. So voted.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance regarding Site Specific Special Sewer Assessment for Business Park

Motion made by Kenneth Cloutier seconded by Frank Hyde to open public hearing. All voted Aye. So voted.

Motion made by Frank Hyde seconded by Anthony Colaluca to continue to January 22, 2007. All voted Aye. So voted.

Ordinance correcting Elderly Exemption Ordinance

Manager Kerbel explained this is merely making the ordinance consistent with the way the council intended it to be and the way it has been interpreted. Manager Kerbel noted corrections. The whole purpose here is to make sure that the people currently receiving the exemption continue to qualify for the exemption. There are no changes to the ordinance from the way it is being implemented at this time.

Tax Assessor Pat Picard – This will not affect those receiving the tax freeze now.

Motion made by Frank Hyde seconded by Kenneth Cloutier to open public hearing.

George Southworth
Sherwood Valley

Questioned how this affects rental property.

Ms. Picard stated that if you have rental property, such as apartment building other than where you reside, then you would not be eligible for the other rental property.

Motion made by Anthony Colaluca seconded by Bruce Thompson to close public hearing. All voted Aye. So voted.

Motion made by Bruce Thompson seconded by Kenneth Cloutier to adopt ordinance. All voted Aye. So voted.

Renewal of Firearms licenses

Motion made by Kenneth Cloutier seconded by Anthony Colaluca to open public hearing. All voted Aye. So voted.

No one spoke in favor, no one opposed.

Motion made by Bruce Thompson seconded by Kenneth Cloutier to close public hearing. All voted aye. So voted.

Motion made by Anthony Colaluca seconded by Kenneth Cloutier to grant firearms licenses. All voted Aye. So voted.

Work Session

Manager Kerbel gave report on recent health situation. School did reopen today and Purell washing stations have been installed. Manager Kerbel thanked Paul Sprague, Chief O'Rourke, Superintendent DiPietro and fire chiefs. The town also implemented the telephone notification system, which worked very well in notifying almost 4,000 households of why school was cancelled.

President Pomfret thanked Town Manager Kerbel for doing such a good job and keeping the Town of Coventry on top of this situation.

Motion made by Frank Hyde seconded by Kenneth Cloutier to adjourn. All voted Aye. So voted.

Town Clerk