

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
March 28, 2005

Present: Gregory Laboissonniere, Ted Jendzejec, Frank Hyde, Richard Sanetti,
Justin Pomfret

Town Manager Francis A. Frobel
Town Solicitor Patrick Sullivan

Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Manager Francis Frobel
Invocation led by Council President Hyde
Mr. Frobel reviewed Emergency Evacuation Plan

President Hyde presented Certificates of Recognition to police from several different cities and towns for their participation in "Operation X-filer", resulting in the arrest of 47 individuals on a variety of narcotics charges.

Police Promotional Ceremony

Chief O'Rourke led ceremony; officers sworn in by Town Manager Frobel.

Sworn In: Audra Kingston – Assistant Animal Control Officer
Carolyn Lacombe – Animal Control Officer
Frederick Heise – Sergeant
Ronald DaSilva – Lieutenant
Bryan Volpe – Captain

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Motion made by Richard Sanetti seconded by Ted Jendzejec that minutes of March 7 and March 14, 2005 are approved. All voted Aye. So voted.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Renewal of Hawker license for Brian Warnock, 2502 Nooseneck Hill Rd., dba Joe's Produce

Motion made by Ted Jendzejec seconded by Justin Pomfret that license is approved. All voted Aye. So voted.

2. Application by Robert Sorrell, 2065 Elmwood Ave, Warwick dba Scotti's Ice Cream for renewal of Peddler license

Motion made by Richard Sanetti seconded by Justin Pomfret that license is approved. All voted Aye. So voted.

3. Application by Carl and Tammy Monteiro, 700 Washington Street for Second Hand and Sunday Sales license for Little House of Consignment, Inc.

Motion made by Gregory Laboissonniere seconded by Richard Sanetti that license is approved. All voted Aye. So voted.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution # 23-05-2433 awarding contract for operation and maintenance of Coventry sewer system (tabled)

Motion made by Richard Sanetti seconded by Justin Pomfret that resolution be taken off table. All voted Aye. So voted.

Motion made by Ted Jendzejec seconded by Justin Pomfret that resolution be adopted. All voted Aye. So voted.

RESOLUTION
OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL
NO. 23-05-2433

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Coventry, that the Town Manager is authorized to award the contract for certain services related to the operation and maintenance of the Coventry sewer system to Weston & Sampson.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of March, 2005.

APPROVED : Frank Hyde
President

ATTEST: Cheryl A. George
Acting Town Clerk

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Resolution authorizing Town Council to enter Addendum Agreement with Commerce Park Associates 8 LLC

Motion made by Gregory Laboissonniere seconded by Richard Sanetti that resolution be tabled. All voted Aye. So voted.

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Resolution #24-05-2434 regarding Kent County Water Authority's proposed moratorium on high service connections to the water supply

Frank Perry, Chairman of the Board of Kent County Water Authority, offered ideas on ways to avoid a moratorium. He stressed that Kent County Water Authority needs support from community leaders. People need to understand that they can't have acres of green grass all the time. Builders and homeowners should look into more drought resistant plants or shrubs.

Mr. Sanetti: People should have a great appreciation for water, but it is taken for granted. We need to make an effort to assist Kent County Water in policing and enforcing conservation.

Mr. Perry stated that conservation of water is necessary and urged the Town Council to endorse a program of conservation. He stressed the importance of educating the public in ways to conserve water. It is the outside water usage that is the problem, especially in peak summer months. Suggested maybe cutting people back to once a week on the outdoor usage of water.

Enforcement is a problem. Not enough staff to be everywhere. Need cooperation.

Mr. Jendzejec questioned if other communities are being effected also. What have they done to deal with this?

Mr. Perry responded yes, in high service areas such as west of Route 2 in East Greenwich, up Division Road both sides, the West Warwick Industrial Park area, the hill in Crompton out to Route 3. I would say about 40% of it is in Coventry. The solution was expansion of the Mishnock well field. Drilling additional wells and building a treatment plant and putting water into that system. After 5 years, haven't been able to come up with a satisfactory permit for DEM, a process that should have taken 2 ½ years. Basically this has been abandoned.

Mr. Laboissonniere asked what would trigger a moratorium. Mr. Perry responded if conservation doesn't work since this is the only immediate source of water that there is. We need to know that the towns directly involved are all on board, they are all impacted the same way Coventry is. Need a lot of public relations, press releases. When you talk conservation, we are cutting our own budget. We are saying don't use the water. We have a rate increase pending and part of that is because we are not getting the revenue because we have had a couple of wet years.

Mr. Sanetti stated Kent County Water has proposed a 25% rate increase to clean up debt that Kent County Water already has. Six million dollars (\$6,000,000.00) have been wasted on the well project in the last five years. Feels Kent County Water Authority has failed its customers in that so much time and money was wasted. Coventry is the only community that is in attendance at KCWA meetings to offer conservation efforts. I will offer to help by putting violation notices on doors; will keep some in my car for watering violations. .

President Hyde – If we are going to try to invite business to come to town to balance out our taxes, I need to be able to reassure them that we have the water for them.

Mr. Pomfret – Maybe people need to know that if we can bring water to Centre of New England which brings us business, which widens the tax base, then it takes the burden off the average taxpayer.

Mr. Perry – It's not just Centre of New England. You have the Rocky Hill Fairgrounds with Brooks going in, West Warwick Industrial Park, with various plans. They also have a lot of homes that are watering lawns. We are not dealing with just municipal boundaries here.

Mr. Laboissonniere: We should all be on the same page, be proactive, approach other councils.

Mr. Hyde: Maybe talk to legislators also.

Mr. Jendzejec - We should include the effected towns to join us in opposition to this moratorium.

Mr. Hyde asked if other towns are practicing conservation.

Mr. Perry said that Kent County Water is making the same approach in each town. This is not just Coventry. Coventry is the most aggressive.

Motion made by Ted Jendzejec seconded by Richard Sanetti that resolution be adopted and sent out to neighboring communities. All voted Aye. So voted.

RESOLUTION
OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL
NO. 24-05-2434

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Coventry supports economic development as a means to enhance the quality of life in the town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council further supports the expansion of the commercial and business tax base, which further enhances the quality of life in the town; and

WHEREAS, the current state of the economy is conducive to the establishment of new business and commercial concerns in and around the State of Rhode Island including the Town of Coventry; and

WHEREAS, an integral part of this expansion of economic development is access to safe and adequate water supply; and

WHEREAS the Kent County Water Authority is currently considering a moratorium on issuing approvals to access to water via a high service connection.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVRD, that the Town Council for the Town of Coventry is opposed to any moratorium and urges the members of the Kent County Water Authority to reject calls for a moratorium of any kind relating to access to this vital resource, and urges it to look to other areas to produce additional supplies of water rather than limiting availability to the existing supplies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall be effective upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of March, 2005.

APPROVED: Frank Hyde
President

ATTEST: Cheryl A. George
Acting Town Clerk

Resolution urging Town Manager to explore alternative financing of public improvements and infrastructure under the Tax Increment Financing Act

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Ted Jendzejec that resolution be tabled. All voted Aye. So voted.

PUBLIC HEARING

Renewal of Kennel licenses

1. BALL, Harold C., Sr. & Janet M., dba CHIHUAHUA HEAVEN
74 Pig Hill Road
2. COFFUA, John S., dba COFFUA'S BEAGLES
594 Tiogue Avenue
3. DEROCHER, Michel J., PECKHAM LANE BEAGLES
119 Peckham Lane
4. FONSECA, John F. & Catherine E., dba C.J.'S KENNELS
1660 Flat River Road
5. KOPATCH, L.J. Kip, dba TEABEAR KENNELS
31 Greenhouse Road, Greene
6. TRENKLER, Donna M., dba AJADO AKITAS
542 Plainfield Pike
7. VADOVSKY, Cheryl dba WHITESTONE KENNEL
1368 Plainfield Pike, Greene
8. VANCOUYGHEM, Philippe, dba COLVINTOWN KENNELS
99 Colvintown Road
9. BICKERSTAFFE, Patricia, dba CAMELOT CHINESE CRESTEDS
1091 Plainfield Pike
10. SPENDER KENNEL
935 Knotty Oak Road

Motion made by Ted Jendzejec seconded by Greg Laboissonniere that public hearing be opened. All voted Aye. So voted.

No one spoke in favor, no one opposed.

Motion made by Greg Laboissonniere seconded by Ted Jendzejec that public hearing be closed. All voted Aye. So voted.

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Gregory Laboissonniere that kennel licenses be granted. All voted Aye. So voted.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. Amendment of Ordinance Regarding Fair Share Development fees
2. Amendment of Ordinance Regarding Waste Water Management fees
3. Amendment of Ordinance regulating parking fees
4. Ordinance establishing CARE program

5. Amendment of Ordinance Regarding Special Business Park Assessments
6. Ordinance regarding Alarm Systems

Motion made by Richard Sanetti seconded by Justin Pomfret that ordinances be advertised for public hearing. All voted Aye. So voted.

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Gregory Laboissonniere that meeting be adjourned. All voted Aye. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Cheryl A. George
Acting Town Clerk