

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

May 14, 2012

Present: Councilman Mattson, Councilman Spear, Vice-President McGee, Councilman Jendzejec, President Cote, Town Manager Hoover, Town Solicitor Tobin

Pledge of Allegiance led by Eagle Scout Matthew Fusco  
Invocation by Reverend Bove of Cornerstone Methodist Church  
Review of Emergency Evacuation Plan

### President's Comments

President Cote welcomed Councilman Spear back and wished him well after his recent absence due to illness.

### Approval of Town Council Minutes from April 23 and April 25, 2012

Motion made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to approve minutes. All voted Aye.

### Proclamations

1. Recognizing Matthew Fusco, Boy Scout Troop 39 Summit, for earning the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout

Councilman Spear presented Proclamation to Matthew Fusco, recognizing his achievement in attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

2. Proclaiming June 8, 2012 American Cancer Society's Relay for Life Day

President Cote read proclamation recognizing June 8, 2012 as Relay for Life Day and urged citizens to participate in this anti-cancer campaign.

### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Renewal of Auto Salvage license for Capozzi's Auto Salvage
2. Renewal of Second Hand licenses
  - a. D's Walk In Closet, 790 Washington Street
  - b. Little Pumpkins, 759 Tiogue Avenue
  - c. Sew-Phisticated, 303 S. Main St.
  - d. Twice Is Nice, 1049B Tiogue Avenue
  - e. GameStop, Inc., 627 Centre of New England Blvd.
  - f. Anthony Village Antiques, 658 Washington Street
  - g. Big River Woodshop, 749 Tiogue Ave.
  - h. Gendron's Jewelers, 19 Coventry Shoppers Park
3. Application by Our Lady of Czenstochowa for Class F (beer and wine) license and dance license for annual festival on June 22-24, 2012
4. Approving the April 2012 Tax Abatements and Additions

Motion made by Councilman Jendzejec seconded by Vice-President McGee to accept consent agenda as read. All voted Aye.

### LICENSES

1. Application by Hattoy's Nursery for one day live show entertainment license on June 2, 2012 to benefit the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Foundation

Ethan Hattoy, 315 Blackrock Road, explained to the Town Council that Hattoy's Nursery is going to hold a "Breast Cancer Awareness Day" on June 2, 2012. The event consists of a cookout, raffles, plant sales, and music (one single musician); donations and proceeds will go to the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Foundation.

Motion made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to approve Live Show license and waive fee, since proceeds will benefit the cancer foundation. All voted aye.

2. Application by George Melanis for new Victualling license for Trestle Trailz Creamery, 1373 Main Street (formerly DeCiantis Ice Cream)

George Melanis explained that he will basically run the same business as the prior owner, but without a convenience store. He will only sell ice cream and Del's Lemonade.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Mattson to approve new victualling license. All voted aye.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Application by David Thomas for transfer of liquor license from Crowebar to Bella's (including new victualling, live show entertainment, dance and pool table licenses)

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to open public hearing. All voted aye.

Attorney John Brunero, Jr. represented applicant David Thomas and explained that this request is for a transfer from Crowebar to Bella's. Mr. Thomas has owned Café Gianna in Coventry for six years, been a resident of Coventry for 8 years and has 26 years of experience in this business. Bella's will be a sports bar, open normal hours from about 11:30 a.m. to closing, 7 days a week. Mr. Thomas is also fully aware of the Tips alcohol server training requirement that all waiters and waitresses are trained. He is awaiting the good standing letter from the State Division of Taxation, which is in process now and we request that the Council approve this transfer subject to receipt of good standing letter.

Motion made by Councilman Jendzejec seconded by Councilman Mattson to close public hearing. All voted aye.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Mattson to approve liquor license transfer subject to receipt of letter of good standing from RI Division of Taxation. All voted aye.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Vice-President McGee to amend previous motion to include live show entertainment, dance and pool table licenses. All voted aye.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions #1 through #7 were read and considered collectively as follows:

1. Appointing Marilyn Nagy, Lois Tallman and Jean Salemi to the Friends of Human Services Board
2. Appointing Coleen Duffy-Golec and Robert Bjorklund to the Coventry Library Board of Trustees
3. Appointing Robert Crowe, Anthony Petrarca and Russell Lacaillade to the Zoning Board of Review
4. Appointing Bruce Capwell and Ron Flynn to the Planning Commission
5. Appointing Rebecca Parenteau to the Coventry Housing Authority
6. Appointing Patricia Smith-Morgan to the Coventry Land Trust
7. Appointing Anthony Nardolillo to the Traffic Calming Committee

Motion by Councilman Spear seconded by Vice-President McGee to approve appointments. All voted aye.

President Cote administered oath of office to all members present.

8. Appointing Timothy A. Williamson, Esquire, as the Moderator for the 2012 Coventry Financial Town Meeting

Councilman Spear asked if a search for moderator was done for a Coventry resident. President Cote responded that Arthur Capaldi was invited, but declined. Mr. Williamson was moderator last year and he does run his business in Coventry.

Motion made by Councilman Jendzejec seconded by Vice-President McGee to approve Resolution. All voted Aye.

9. Approving cancellation of the Town Council meeting of May 28, 2012, due to it being Memorial Day, a national holiday, and adopting a revised schedule for the summer Town Council meetings of June 4, 2012, June 25, 2012, July 23, 2012 and August 20, 2012

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Mattson to approve resolution. All voted aye.

10. Approving the award of a contract to Central Chrysler Jeep Dodge of Raynham, MA for the purchase of three (3) Police Patrol Vehicles, 2012 Dodge Chargers, for a total equipped price of \$91,296

Councilman Spear remarked that the vendor is from out of state and it is unfortunate that we can't do business in our own community. Chief Volpe replied that this was the only bidder and the bid came in less than we anticipated.

Councilman Spear asked which budget the funds were coming from; Manager Hoover replied the 2011-12 budget.

Councilman Mattson added that some of the money being used is insurance money as well as grant money, Chief Volpe agreed and explained that he was using a combination of three years of grant money along with insurance payout money.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to approve resolution. All voted aye.

11. Approving the award of a contract to Xpress Sweeping Inc. of Coventry, RI for the sweeping of certain streets within the Town of Coventry at a total price of \$22,064

Bob Clarkin, DPW Director, advised that Express Sweeping will sweep about 1/3 of our roads in conjunction with our sweeper, is the only bidder and is a Coventry company.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Mattson to approve resolution. All voted Aye.

12. Approving an amendment to the contract with Wilkinson Associates to provide specifications and oversight on a select number of projects identified by the Town of Coventry's new energy audit

Manager Hoover explained the necessity of changing the original contract with Wilkinson Associates in order to proceed with various projects selected from the energy audit. The work will continue to be paid from the energy grants received by the Town of Coventry. The work Wilkinson was supposed to do was monitor Johnson Controls. Ultimately, we felt we could do a better job in-house and not to proceed on a performance contract with Johnson Controls. Therefore we need to change Wilkinson's contract so that he can do the design and prep for these projects. His original price was \$26,600; what we are proposing this evening is \$21,500.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Vice-President McGee to approve resolution. All voted aye.

13. Authorizing a lease of the Town owned property at 500 Tiogue Avenue to Niz Rev, owner of Route 3 Auto Sales, subject to compliance with all state laws, local ordinances and licensing requirements

Mr. Brian Bamford is working with Niz Rev, Mr. Rev would like to conduct an auto sales business at that location. Manager Hoover indicated that the building is in disrepair and sits on Lake Tiogue across the street from Benny's. Mr. Rev is willing to pay \$2,000 a month to the town with a five year lease, and asks for four months to get things in order with all necessary approvals before he has to pay rent to the town. He will have to perform a significant amount of due diligence in obtaining State and local approvals regarding environmental permits, zoning, building, etc.

President Cote expressed concern regarding ground water contamination and overflow running through there. Mr. Bamford indicated that he proposes to talk to the town engineer and also bring in his own engineer. They would have to get approvals from the town and any other necessary agencies before proceeding to improve the property. The roof is also in disrepair,

and the building needs extensive plumbing repair.

President Cote asked Mr. Bamford to keep the President of the Tiogue Lake Association in the loop as they work very diligently on the lake. Manager Hoover has left a message for Jeff Hakanson, President of Lake Tiogue Association and has also spoken with Barry Blier, the owner of adjacent property.

Solicitor Tobin suggested a lease agreement, so that we can specifically spell out what the obligations are.

Motion was made by Councilman Spear seconded by Vice-President McGee to approve with stipulations. All voted aye.

14. Requesting the General Assembly to amend House Bill 2012 – H 8075, to include the Town of Coventry, where the Tax Collector is authorized to attach a separate motor vehicle excise tax certificate upon application for any municipal lien certificate

Manager Hoover asked the Town Council to return this resolution to him, as he has been advised of a technicality.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to send resolution back to Manager Hoover. All voted aye

15. Amending Article 6 of the Coventry Zoning Ordinance referred to the Planning Commission in conformance with the Planning Commission's recommendations, and authorizing advertisement of same

Manager Hoover gave overview, stating that zoning amendments were referred to the Planning Commission for their recommendation. Hearings were held and the Planning Commission has requested that the Town Council accept the amendments and advertise for public hearing.

Planning Director Paul Sprague confirmed that the Planning Commission has made recommendations regarding changes to the Zoning Ordinance. He advised that most of the changes make the ordinance more user friendly, making it easier to start a business in town.

Solicitor Tobin suggested that the Town Council adopt the resolution which authorizes advertisement of Exhibit A (zoning amendments).

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to adopt resolution and advertise ordinance for public hearing. All voted aye. So voted.

16. Amending and adopting the Capital Budget and Operating Budget for the 2012 – 2013 fiscal year

Manager Hoover advised that after several work sessions and public hearings with the School Committee and Town Council, a budget has been developed with no tax increase. The budget for the school department is the same as last year (any increases come from state aid); the town budget increases slightly but still with no tax increase. There is also no increase of maintenance of effort on school side.

The only three changes to the budget are the \$1.2 million to municipal and police pension funds; an added \$15,000 to Parks and Recreation to increase summer camp to five days, (the \$15,000 will be balanced out by the increased revenue in fees) and \$35,000 to school capital budget from the cancellation of the lease on cell towers, which will be dedicated to updating the the fire alarm system at the high school.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to adopt resolution. All voted aye.

PRESENTATION – Waterman/Fiske Assistance Fund

Human Services Director Pat Shurtleff reported on the assistance given through the Waterman-Fiske Fund during the period of March 1, 2011 through March 30, 2012 as follows:

Housing \$5,516.00  
Emergency Housing - \$1,938.96  
Emergency Home Heating - \$14,129.11

Medication, medical and Health insurance \$1,498.23  
Camperships for Coventry Parks and Recreation Summer and Vacation camp - \$7,075.00  
Emergency hot water heater and storm related water damage repair - \$1,055.97

Total expenditures: \$31,213.27

Mrs. Shurtleff indicated that many of these issues are due to lost jobs and high unemployment, a big factor in all these situations. Individuals serviced must meet income guidelines and be Coventry residents.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to accept and file report. All voted aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Gizzarelli, 50 Harrington Road, thanked the Town Council for asking Mr. Bamford and Niz Rev to keep Tiogue Lake Association apprised of what is going on with the property at 500 Tiogue Avenue.

Greg Laboissonniere, 131 Colvintown Road, inquired if the self insurance fund will be depleted by next year. Manager Hoover responded that it will be depleted. Mr. Laboissonniere asked for the dollar amount for the liability insurance; Finance Director Przybyla will provide it to him.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Mattson to adjourn. All voted aye.

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Town Clerk