

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

July 18, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

Present: President Gary Cote, Ted Jendzejec, Kerry McGee, Raymond Spear, Carl Mattson, Jr.

Town Manager Thomas Hoover  
Town Solicitor Frederick Tobin

Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Sergeant  
Invocation by Reverend Auld of Summit Baptist Church  
Review of Emergency Evacuation Plan

President's Comments

President Cote thanked legislators for accepting the Charter changes; he also thanked members of the Town Council for their work in getting the amendments passed.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman McGee to approve Town Council Minutes from May 23, June 2, and June 20, 2011. All voted aye.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Resolution approving sewer tie-ins and directing the Tax Assessor to levy sewer assessments on certain properties on Idaho Street, Lakeside Drive and Montana Avenue
2. Resolution approving sewer tie-in for Tiogue Veterinary Services, 916 Tiogue Avenue and Gary Blier for 560-564 Tiogue Avenue

Motion made by Councilman Jendzejec seconded by Councilman Spear to vote on both issues in one motion. All voted aye.

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

LICENSES

1. Application by Applebee's Restaurants North LLC, dba Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar for live show entertainment license

Attorney Jeffrey Michaelson of North Kingstown, RI represented Applebee's; Troy Lyons, General Manager was also present. Mr. Michaelson explained that Applebee's current corporation is requesting a live show entertainment license. Entertainment would consist of a small combo, an individual or on occasion karaoke; there will be no six or seven piece bands.

Motion made by Councilman Mattson seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to approve live entertainment license. All voted aye.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. L/M Taco RI, Inc. dba Taco Bell, 784 Tiogue Avenue for additional hours

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

Mr. Gordon McKinnon, of East Bridgewater, MA was sworn in by Atty. Tobin, and stated that the plan is to keep Taco Bell open until 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights.

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

Motion made by Councilman Mattson seconded by Councilman Jendzejec to approve additional hours. All voted aye.

2. Transfer of Class B liquor license from Applebee's Restaurants North LLC to Apple New England LLC, dba Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar (to include new victualling and application for live show entertainment licenses)

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

Attorney Jeffrey Michaelson, representing Applebee's, explained that this is an application by Applebee's New England LLC, a well established franchise owning more than 200 grills. Besides the transfer of the Class B license, they also request approval of a live show entertainment license. The closing for the corporation transfer is scheduled for August 27.

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

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman McGee to approve license transfer and live show entertainment license contingent upon the closing, clearance from the Board of Health and Division of Taxation. All voted aye.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. Authorizing the placement of signs by the Department of Public Works On Tiogue Avenue designating the location of the Nathanael Greene Homestead subject to the approval of the Rhode Island Department of Transportation
2. Awarding a contract for the extension of Contract # 6 Sewer Project on Tiogue Avenue to RT Nunes & Sons, Inc. at a cost of \$199,208.75
3. Awarding a contract to RGB Architects for a space needs analysis, conceptual building plans and estimate at a fee of \$21,560; for the renovation to Town Hall, for the expansion of the Coventry Library; and the Town Hall Annex, for the purpose of providing space for the Town of Coventry Administrative offices
4. Establishing Transfer Station fees at the Department of Public Works
5. Awarding a contract for the purchase of an emergency generator for the Town of Coventry Emergency Command Center to LEV Electric at a cost of \$11,750.00
6. Awarding a contract for the replacement of fuel pumps and the upgrade of a fuel monitoring system at the Department of Public Works to Gill Services at a cost of \$31,735.00
7. Awarding contracts for the purchase of bulk materials for the Department of Public Works
8. Awarding contracts for the purchase of hot patch, cold patch and Dura patch for the Department of Public Works
9. Awarding a contract for the purchase of drainage pipe for the Department of Public Works

10. Awarding a contract for pavement markings to Markings Inc.
11. Awarding a contract for the purchase of a dump truck cab and chassis for the Department of Public Works to Altrui Brothers at a cost of \$81,440.00
12. Awarding a contract for the purchase of a dump truck cab and chassis for the Department of Public Works to Altrui Brothers at a cost of \$75,646.00
13. Awarding a contract for the purchase of a dump truck cab and chassis for the Department of Public Works to Altrui Brothers at a cost of \$75,646.00
14. Authorizing the award of a contract for the purchase of a used backhoe for the Department of Public Works at a price not exceeding \$65,000.00
15. Awarding a contract for the purchase of a front end loader for the Department of Public Works to Schmidt Equipment John Deere for a net cost of \$58,340.00 with trade in
16. Awarding a contract for the purchase of front end loader accessories for the Department of Public Works to Schmidt Equipment John Deere for a cost of \$76,740.00

Manager Hoover explained that Resolution #7 awarding a contract for bulk materials, needs to be amended if it is approved. The numbers were transposed on screened loam, showing a higher number in each case for pickup than for delivery, and this should be the opposite.

The second item needing an amendment is Resolution #8 regarding the award to D'Ambra; the dollar amount of \$70.00 needs the word "ton" to follow it.

Manager Hoover commented that on Resolution #10 pavement markings, a bid was received two hours late, and we can't award to a company that is late with a bid submission, but there is no need to amend the resolution.

On Resolutions #11, 12 and 13 regarding dump trucks for DPW, Manager Hoover explained that it seems one particular dump truck costs more than the other two. However, these trucks are identical, and the reason why it seems one truck costs more is actually because the computer hardware for all of the trucks was put in one resolution, including a \$615 add-on to cover all three trucks as far as the software.

Raymond Budziak, 429 Fairview Ave., was sworn in by Atty. Tobin and asked why DPW would buy a cab and chassis without the body. DPW Superintendent Dennis Smith replied that the body and hydraulics would be bid at a later date.

Mr. Budziak asked why we would purchase a new loader rather than repair it and Mr. Smith responded that it is difficult to get parts, leaving us no way of actually repairing it. Mr. Budziak also questioned the bidding process and Manager Hoover assured him that all bids were properly and publicly advertised and opened.

Motion made by Councilman Spear seconded by Councilman Mattson to approve Resolutions #1-16, including Resolution #7 and #8 as amended. All voted Aye.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Representative Lisa Tomasso, 40 York Drive, thanked the Town Council for approving the resolution allowing placement of signs for Nathanael Greene Homestead. She received a letter from Thomas Greene, President of Nathanael Greene Homestead requesting signage, as travel routes have been cut off since the bridge has been out.

Ron Gizzarelli, 50 Harrington Road, had several issues to comment on:

1. Needs to be clarification at the Tiogue Avenue and Arnold Road intersection, whether or not you turn right on red. This is a state road and someone needs to contact the State to clarify what to do there. President Cote asked Chief Volpe to find out what the designation there should be, whether or not it is a right turn on red.
2. Mr. Gizzarelli commented on response times for the Hopkins Hill Fire District to Centre of New England. Response time would be shortened if we had the ability to utilize the access road which goes through that property and out to Hopkins Hill Road.
3. Mr. Gizzarelli also commented on the negativity of some recent posts in the Kent County Times.

Councilman Jendzejec asked Mr. Gizzarelli about his knowledge of the response times and Mr. Gizzarelli responded from his own experience traveling the route.

President Cote reminded the public that the Town Council has no control over the fire districts in Coventry, however he believes Mr. Gizzarelli brought this forward as a health and safety concern.

Chief Frank Brown, 23 Linwood Drive, has been the chief of Hopkins Hill Fire District for the last 19 years. He advised that he has supplied documentation to Councilman Jendzejec of the last 60 runs to Centre of New England. Response times were 7.3 minutes with some even less depending on the time of day and the traffic. A seven minute response falls well within national levels. Chief Brown remarked that traveling on Johnson's Blvd. with emergency vehicles, as was suggested at one meeting, is not a viable route because of the elementary school; they utilize Division Road in West Greenwich.

Although Chief Brown would like to have use of the access road, DEM needs to be involved if that happens, and even if it did happen, the road would have to be maintained at certain standards for emergency vehicles to get through. People in the area with whom he spoke are happy with the current response times.

Girard Bouchard, 64 Rebecca Street, President of the Central Coventry Board of Directors stated that Hopkins Hill Fire Department is more than capable of doing their job. We do call on each other for assistance and this issue should be taken up within the fire district.

Mr. Budziak asked what the town is doing with the dump trucks that are being replaced and Mr. Smith responded that they are being used for parts.

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

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Town Clerk