

Town Council Meeting
August 18, 2014

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Review of qualifications for Boards and Commissions per RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (1)
 - 1. Historic District Commission
 - 2. Planning Board

- B. For the purpose of discussing matters of litigation as per RIGL 42-46-5(a) (2)
 - 1. Evergreen vs. Town of Coventry

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Present: Vice-President Kerry McGee, Councilwoman Carlson, Gregory Laboissonniere, President Cote, Town Manager Thomas Hoover, Asst. Town Solicitor Veronica Assalone

Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Sergeant
Moment of Silence
Review of Emergency Evacuation Plan

A motion was made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilwoman Carlson to close Executive Session. All voted Aye.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Carlson seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to seal minutes of Executive Session minutes. All voted Aye.

President's Comments

President Cote asked that cell phones be placed on silent and reminded citizens that there will be special election for District 5 on September 2, 2014.

A motion was made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilwoman Carlson to approve minutes from July 14, 2014. Three members voted Aye, Councilman Laboissonniere abstained because he was absent at July 14 meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Renewal of Peddler license for Jo Ann Miller of Jo-Jo's Cupcakes, LLC
- 2. Renewal of Peddler license for Christine Raboin, dba Chrissy's Dogs

A motion was made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to approve Consent Agenda. All voted Aye.

LICENSES

- 1. Application for new Peddler's license by James Sullivan for The Coventry Clam Inc., to be located at 446 Tiogue Avenue

President Cote advised that Nino's has been sold and the new owners are the same people who run Doherty's Grill on Jefferson Blvd. in Warwick as well as other establishments throughout Rhode Island. They plan \$1 to 1.5 million renovations at this location and will run a full service restaurant seven days a week. In the meantime they are asking for a hawker's license so that they can operate a food truck and do business on their own property.

Manager Hoover commented that under a typical situation for a hawker, by ordinance it is not allowed to set up within 1000 feet of an establishment selling the same goods. However, being that this application is actually for the owner of the property who will operate this truck in the interim during renovation, we don't feel that to deny this would be applicable and I recommend letting it be allowed. He is asking for a 90 day license and my understanding is that a seafood menu will be served until the new restaurant is open. The new owners plan to do multiple improvements, hook up to the sewer system, and because there has always been a problem with drainage on the hill, will divert water to the proper storm drains.

Councilman McGee asked about a time frame and Manager Hoover indicated that they plan to be up and running by the end of the year. President Cote advised that a sales permit and Board of Health approval would be necessary before the license can be issued.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Carlson seconded by Vice-President McGee to approve application with stipulations listed above. All voted Aye.

2. Application by John Studley for fireworks permit on August 31, 2014 with rain date September 1, 2014 at 47 Indian Trail

President Cote stated that the actual shooting of the fireworks will be conducted by John Guisti at an annual event which Mr. Studley holds at his house, and has for the past several years. Manager Hoover noted that fire marshal approval and police detail need to be accomplished. Mr. Guisti advised that Mr. Studley is working with the police on the detail and fire marshal approval is all set. Just need to get paperwork to the Town Clerk

A motion was made by Vice-President Mc Gee seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to approve license. All voted aye.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Reappointing Glen Skurka, John Colaluca, Leonard Piette and appointing Douglas Finegan to the Sewer Sub-committee

A motion was made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to approve resolution. All voted Aye.

President Cote administered oath of office to Mr. Colaluca and Mr. Piette.

2. Discussion and resulting action regarding the reappointment of Brian Manning to the Pawtuxet River Authority

A motion was made by Councilwoman Carlson seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to approve resolution. All voted Aye. President Cote administered oath of office to Mr. Manning.

3. Discussion and resulting action regarding the financing of the installation of a sidewalk on Reservoir Road under the 2014 State Road and Bridge program by the issuance of bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed \$340,000

President Cote stated that this had been previously approved by Council, but bond counsel asked for a revote. Manager Hoover explained that even though it was done properly before, there is some language which is required as well as some bond requirements. Our bond counsel drew this up and it needs to be approved in order to proceed with this project. Basically the Clean Water Finance Agency is funding this and each borrower has to take out a borrower's bond and that bond backs up our ability to pay back.

There has been some concern with regard to the timing of the project and the school year. Mr. McGee stated that this project still has to be designed and bid out, so we would be looking at late spring of next year, very close to the end of the school season. President Cote asked if we could request a project start date that is not until the end of the school year. Manager Hoover also stated that the main thing is that we are going to try to avoid conflict with the school department.

Councilwoman Carlson asked if the trees along the side of the road are on town property and if they are going to be a problem? DPW Director McGee indicated that we will not know the answer to either question until a survey is done.

A motion was made by Councilman McGee seconded by Councilwoman Carlson to approve resolution. All voted Aye.

4. Discussion and resulting action regarding the renewal of an annual service contract with CyberComm for radio and recording systems at the Coventry Police Department at a cost of \$8,112

Chief Volpe advised that this is for an annual service contract from CyberComm. They handle all of our internal communications, have quality personnel, and have served our agency for longer than I can remember. Councilwoman Carlson asked if there would be an issue due to the fact that the contract has already expired and Chief Volpe replied that Cybercomm is aware of that and will honor the contract.

A motion was made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to approve resolution. All voted Aye.

5. Discussion and resulting action regarding the purchase of a 2014 Ford Interceptor (SUV/Utility) vehicle for the Coventry Police Department from the Greater Boston Police Council bid at a cost of \$35,995 from the Police FY 2015 operating budget

Motion made by Councilwoman Carlson seconded by Vice-President McGee to approve resolution. All voted Aye.

6. Discussion and resulting action regarding the purchase of a replacement Dodge patrol car from the Greater Boston Police Council bid at a cost of \$32,515, utilizing \$19,700 from an insurance award and \$12,815 from the Police Department impact fee account

Chief Volpe explained that the vehicle being replaced was a 2012 Dodge patrol car with about 65,000 miles on it that was in an accident. There is an insurance award to put toward the purchase. We are looking at a Ford Taurus, called an interceptor because it is a police package.

Councilman Laboissonniere asked about the replacement vehicle being a Ford rather than a Dodge. Chief Volpe replied that they have had some major issues with the Dodges involving drive trains, engine and steering issues. Manager Hoover added that the purchase of this particular car is replacing a patrol car which had been in an accident, where a car pulled out in front of the police car and the patrol car hit a tree up in the vicinity of the credit union on Route 3.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Carlson seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to approve resolution. All voted Aye.

7. Discussion and resulting action regarding the award of a contract for service weapons for the Coventry Police Department to Atlantic Tactical of New Cumberland, PA at a cost of \$15,029.28 from the Police Dept. impact fee account.

Chief Volpe explained that they have had their current weapons for about eleven years, and some had serious malfunctions. So we started looking at outfitting with new parts, and it was getting very pricey. During that process, I started a conversation with some dealers in the area and found there is a market for used weapons like ours. We put out a bid and got a response from Atlantic Tactical. As a result, they gave us a quote, much less than I expected, where it would cost us only \$75.00 more than it would cost us to buy parts for the old ones. This is kind of a no brainer, especially since we have the funds available. The bottom line is that we have to have safe equipment that works. So this involves the same weapon with a better site system, at about \$5,000 less than I expected.

Mr. Laboissonniere asked how many weapons are involved and Chief Volpe responded 63, allowing for a few extra as there is always one in disrepair.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Carlson seconded by Vice-President McGee to approve resolution. All voted Aye. So voted.

8. Discussion and resulting action regarding the awarding of a contract for HDPE pipe to Warwick Winwater Works of Warwick, RI
9. Discussion and resulting action regarding the awarding of a contract for PVC pipe and castings to EJ Prescott of Lincoln, RI
10. Discussion and resulting action regarding the awarding of a contract for cold patch and Dura Patch to Johnston Asphalt of Johnston, RI
11. Discussion and resulting action regarding the awarding of a contract for UPM Patch to P.J. Keating Company

President Cote explained that these are annual contracts from the Department of Public Works.

A motion was made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to combine items #8, #9, #10 and #11. All voted Aye.

A motion was made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to approve items #8, #9, #10, #11. All voted Aye.

12. Discussion and resulting action regarding entering into a license agreement with Hawk Crest Homeowners Association for the care and maintenance of Lot 14 in Assessor's Plat 25 in Hawk Crest Estates

Manager Hoover asked that this agreement be held and returned to the Town Manager as a problem has arisen. Attorney John Brunero is handling the issue and it could come back to the Council for consideration at a later date.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Carlson seconded by Councilman Laboissonniere to return to the Town Manager. All voted Aye.

ORDINANCE

Amending Section 217-26 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances with regards to tax classification of residential properties containing partial commercial or business uses

A motion was made by Councilman Laboissonniere seconded by Vice-President McGee to advertise for public hearing. All voted Aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ken Jackson, 1199 Harkney Hill Road, thanked Manager Hoover, President Cote and the Department of Public Works for their assistance in picking up brush and helping to restore a cemetery. No one should have to go into that cemetery the way it was. President Cote thanked Mr. Jackson for taking the initiative to clean up a historical cemetery.

Tammy Duxbury, 2 Orchid Drive, asked questions regarding the recent sale of surplus equipment. She asked for details of the sale as far as where it was advertised, the bidding process and how much money was raised, who the bidders were and who purchased.

Manager Hoover replied that we advertised in the Kent County Times. In his opinion most of what was sold was junk, which included vehicles down to small computer equipment. We raised better than \$13,000, which was distributed back to the department from which it came, to be used by that department. Information will be posted on the website.

A motion was made by Vice-President McGee seconded by Councilwoman Carlson to adjourn meeting. All voted Aye.

Town Clerk