

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Coventry Town Hall Council Chambers  
1670 Flat River Road, Coventry, RI  
September 24, 2007

- WORK SESSION

1. Interviews for Redevelopment Agency
2. Discussion regarding ordinance 2-07-254 and 4-06-250.

Mr. Hyde stated that this addresses the Harris Mill district zone change. Apparently the builder has issues with the lender because of the wording. Nothing will change, just need some wording to be more specific. Recommends putting this off until Interim Manager Paul Sprague can be present to speak to us directly.

- TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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

Town Solicitor Patrick Sullivan

Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Sergeant  
Invocation by Anthony Colaluca  
Town Sergeant reviewed evacuation plan

Motion made by Bruce Thompson seconded by Kenneth Cloutier to approve Town Council minutes from September 10, 2007. All voted Aye. So voted.

- CONSENT AGENDA

1. Resolution canceling Town Council meeting on October 8, 2007 due to the holiday
2. Resolution allowing sewer tie for Kentucky Fried Chicken, 824 Tiogue Avenue

Motion made by Anthony Colaluca seconded by Bruce Thompson to approve Consent Agenda. All voted Aye. So voted.

- RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution appointing members to Redevelopment Agency

Town Council wishes to interview more applicants, motion made by Kenneth Cloutier seconded by Frank Hyde to table to future meeting. All voted Aye. So voted.

- ORDINANCE

1. Article IX – Commercial Recreational Trailer Parks and Campgrounds (tabled)

President Pomfret recused himself. Vice-President Thompson stated that public hearing is closed.

Mr. Thompson - We have looked into this further since the last meeting. I have contacted the Police, Fire and School departments, none of which have any issues with this ordinance being passed. As far as the schools, we were told that maybe there was a maximum of 5 children over the last five years who may have attended the schools. The police department gave us a breakdown of complaints from the four campgrounds over the past 7 years. There were 10 responses to complaints. The fire chief would rather see some type of occupation in the campgrounds to help avoid the possibility of vandalism or arson.

Mr. Cloutier – Would like to change Paragraph A, Line 4, the words “year round residence” to be changed to “year round recreational camping”. Remove the word “residence” and replace with “recreational camping”.

Mr. Colaluca – My only concern is with student population. I know it is declining right now, but would like to see some type of stipulation put in from the campgrounds saying that there would be no children attending the school system from the campgrounds. That’s the only stipulation I would like to see.

Attorney Sullivan – The Town has the responsibility to educate all children if they live here. I’m not sure you can force someone who lives here not to attend the schools.

Mr. Colaluca – Is it possible for the campgrounds to put in a stipulation stating that during the winter months no children can live there?

Solicitor Sullivan – It is an option, but it may have no teeth to it, you can’t contravene state law.

Mr. Hyde – I have the statistics from the police, school and fire departments. There is no issue here. I don’t have any problem with this, the documentation speaks for itself.

Nicholas Gorham, Esq. - Point of order. The first thing I would like to say is that I object to voting tonight. The agenda is not clear, says this item is tabled. Misleading agenda. When I read agenda, didn’t know if you were tabling this tonight or was it going to be on the agenda because it was tabled at the last meeting. Only way you could know is if you were at the last meeting. Inappropriate to vote tonight. I have plenty to say, I wanted to make some points tonight.

Solicitor Sullivan – I believe this is properly on the agenda.

Mr. Cloutier – I didn’t like the implication that someone could reside here year round. The words “recreational camping” gets rid of the “resident” word.

Mr. Thompson – That was the one stumbling block we kept coming across.

Motion made by Kenneth Cloutier seconded by Anthony Colaluca to adopt ordinance and change wording to “recreational camping” on Line 4. All voted Aye. So voted. (Four Aye, one recusal by Mr. Pomfret)

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert DiPadua  
62 Laurel Avenue

Mr. DiPadua – Questioned how ordinance regarding the senior tax for the elderly is progressing.

Solicitor Sullivan – Mr. Sprague and I have done some work on it, it is a work in progress.

Charles Vacca  
124 Fairway Drive

Mr. Vacca – Two questions. How will the council determine who gets chosen for Redevelopment Agency?

President Pomfret – Each councilman will have a say regarding who they feel would be a good candidate. More interviews will take place at the next meeting. Interested people still may apply.

Mr. Vacca – I am still opposed to the ordinance you just passed. How will you enforce it?

Solicitor Sullivan – The same as it always was, by the zoning officer and the building official.

Mr. Vacca – Regarding the junk car ordinance, who enforces that? There is one car, been there about 3 years, no license plate, flat tires, on Bank Street. Also reminded the council of the building next to the police station that is in disrepair as well as the old lace mill on Tiogue Avenue.

Kim Paul  
181 Colvintown Road

Ms. Paul was told there was going to be a meeting regarding Independent Sand and Gravel. Ms. Paul complained of sand and dirt clouds, and kids using all terrain vehicles at the site.

Mr. Pomfret – Mr. Sprague had a death in his family and isn't here tonight. Will speak with him about this as well as enforcement issues when he returns to work.

Ron Ghizzarelli  
50 Harrington Road

Mr. Ghizzarelli – I was in favor of the ordinance change. Would like to make a suggestion that you put “agenda public comment” at the beginning of the meeting and “general public comment” at the end.

George Dailey  
Shell Station (Corner of Hopkins Hill and Tiogue Avenue)

Mr. Dailey notified the council of the dangers of this intersection. Someone is going to get killed. People cutting through this lot all the time to avoid the light. Suggested maybe a camera system with a \$75.00 fine, like Providence does.

Motion made by Frank Hyde seconded by Anthony Colaluca to adjourn meeting. All voted Aye. So voted.

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Town Clerk