

## MINUTES OF SMITHFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

**Date: Tuesday, March 6, 2018**

**Place: Smithfield Senior Center**

**Time: 6:30 P.M.**

Present: Town Council President Paul M. Santucci  
Town Council Vice-President Alberto J. LaGreca, Jr.  
Town Council Member Maxine A. Cavanagh  
Town Council Member Suzanna L. Alba  
Town Council Member T. Michael Lawton  
Town Solicitor Patricia A. Buckley, Esq.  
Town Manager Randy R. Rossi  
Town Clerk Carol A. Aquilante

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**Motion** is made by Council member Cavanagh, seconded by Council member Lawton, to consider, discuss and act upon matters pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Sec. 42-46-5(a)(2), Existing Litigation. **Motion is approved by a 3/0 vote.** Town Clerk Aquilante takes a roll call vote of each Town Council member's vote to convene the Closed Session. Council member Alba and Council member Cavanagh arrive after the Closed Session meeting was convened.

**Council President Santucci calls the Tuesday, March 6, 2018 Smithfield Town Council meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.**

**II. Town Council President Santucci offers a prayer.**

**III. Town Council President Santucci conducts a salute to the flag.**

**IV. The Emergency Evacuation and Health Announcement is made by Town Manager Randy Rossi.**

**V. Presentation: none**

**VI. Minutes:**

**A. Move that the minutes of the February 13, 2018 Town Council work session be approved, as recorded.**

**Motion** is made by Council member Alba, seconded by Council Vice-President LaGreca, that the minutes of the February 13, 2018 Town Council Work Session be approved, as recorded. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**B. Move that the minutes of the February 20, 2018 Town Council work session be approved, as recorded.**

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Cavanagh, that the minutes of the February 20, 2018 Town Council Work Session be approved, as recorded. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**C. Move that the minutes of the February 20, 2018 Town Council meeting be approved, as recorded.**

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Alba, that the minutes of the February 20, 2018 Town Council meeting be approved, as recorded. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**VII. Consider, discuss and act upon the following possible appointments and reappointments:**

**A. Historic Preservation Commission reappointment with a term expiring January 2021.**

**Motion** is made by Council member Cavanagh, seconded by Council member Alba that the Smithfield Town Council hereby reappoints Jennifer Blanchette to the Historic Preservation Commission for a term expiring January 2021. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**VIII. Public Hearings:**

**A. Conduct a public hearing to solicit comments on the Year Fourteen (14) RIPDES Small MS4 Annual Report.**

Council President Santucci opens the Public Hearing.

Town Engineer Cleary explains that at the February 6<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting a Public Hearing was scheduled for the March 6<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting. Town Engineer Cleary further explains that this meeting was scheduled in the event that the Town of Smithfield received a request from twenty-five (25) or more people, a governmental agency a sub-division or an association having no less than twenty-five (25) members on or before 4:00 p.m., March 2, 2018 to discuss any comments. Town Engineer Cleary states that he has received no comments; therefore, the Public Hearing is not required.

Hearing no further comments Council President Santucci closes the Public Hearing.

**Motion** is made by Council member Alba, seconded by Council member Lawton, that the Smithfield Town Council accept the Year 14 RIPDES Small MS4 Annual Report as submitted including any attachments and amendments and authorize the Town Manager to submit to RIDEM, as required. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote**

**B. Consider, discuss, and act upon adoption of Resolutions in opposition to proposed legislation 2018 – H 7240 An Act Relating to Towns and Cities – Town of Smithfield – Business Registration Fee and 2018 - H 7425 An Act Relating to the Smithfield Land Trust.**

Council President Santucci reads the following statement:

**RESOLUTIONS OPPOSING WINFIELD BILLS MARCH 6, 2018**

- This agenda item concerns two bills introduced by state Representatives Winfield and Constantino to
  1. Abolish the Smithfield Land Trust and
  2. Abolish our Business Registration Ordinance
- Both of our Ordinances which these bills are trying to abolish were adopted by PRIOR Councils.
- I want to make it clear this Council did not ask them to do this. They did this:
  1. On their own without consulting this Council
  2. Without the benefit of public input from the Town and
  3. Without any public consideration, study or knowledge about the effects of the bills.
- We are here to consider Resolutions advising the Legislature that this Council opposes these two efforts by the Town's State Reps to invalidate Ordinances that were duly enacted by the Smithfield Town Council.
- For me, this item has far less to do with the content of the bills introduced – which, make no mistake I absolutely oppose – than it does with this Council's ability to protect the right and responsibility of the Smithfield Town Council to exercise the governing authority of this Town as given to it by the Town Charter.
- We cannot allow one person – or two people – acting alone to override the legal actions of our Town Council.
- If we do, nothing we do will be safe from a State Representative with a contrary opinion to ours or an ax to grind. We will be ceding to a State Rep the right to overrule our actions just because he feels like it, or is pandering to a constituent, or believes he can make political points with it or for any reason that enters his or her mind.
- Smithfield State Reps are not a super-Town Council – they don't have veto power over what we do.
- The dangers imposed by such a power grab are illustrated well, here:
  1. The Town was given no say of any kind on these bills
  2. There was no public clamor for either one and
  3. There is no record of any type of study or examination of whatever the issues

are that prompted these bills or the effects the bills will have

- Further, with respect to the Land Trust bill, it shows a fundamental misunderstanding of the role of the Land Trust in this Town:
  1. The Land Trust is an advisory board to the Council – it has absolutely no independent authority by ordinance,
  2. It only recommends actions to the Council – and every acquisition made by the Land Trust had been authorized by PRIOR Councils.
  3. Abolishing the Land Trust will not change any of that.
  4. And as to the business registration bill, I have absolutely no idea what the thinking is behind that or what the reason is for the introduction of that one – because there was no public vetting of it.
- And, no matter what a State Rep thinks of an Ordinance passed by the Council, this is NOT the way to express it.
- It is a huge error for this Council to let this action go unchallenged
- Make no mistake – there is a critical principle of Council responsibility and authority at stake, here.
- We are the custodians of the Council's history and future
- We only occupy these chairs for a short time
- We HAVE to do the right thing for the Smithfield Town Councils to come
- If we don't, be prepared to look over your shoulders on every law we pass, because if a State Rep disagrees with us – for any reason – our authority to govern this Town will be nullified. That's what we're dealing with, here – plain and simple.
- We simply cannot cede to a state Rep the right to overrule the actions of a duly elected Town Council.
- I ask for your support for these Resolutions opposing these two bills.

After discussion from everyone, the Public Hearing will be closed and the council will debate and vote if the draft Resolutions should be sent to the House Speaker. I will ask a few things: Everyone speaks once and everyone sticks to the agenda item.

This council will not allow this Public Hearing to degrade into any type of attack on

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anyone personally. Those persons who launch into a personal attack will be ruled out of order immediately and not be allowed to speak.

Second: Everyone will please stick to the issue of whether we should oppose these bills with the proposed draft Resolutions and not turn this into a discussion about what may or may not have happened in the past.

Council President Santucci opens the Public Hearing.

Thomas Winfield, State Representative, states that legislators do have the right to submit legislation as they see fit. Representative Winfield further states that the business registration legislation gives Tax Assessor Manlove leeway to help the local businesses regarding the fines imposed. Representative Winfield also states that he is very willing to work with Tax Assessor Manlove if this legislation passes it is going to be up to the little business.

Representative Winfield explains that the legislation regarding the Land Trust was submitted because he felt that the Town Council has not taken enough action regarding the Land Trust operations. Representative Winfield further explains that should his term end as State Legislator he has to wait a year to work for the State of Rhode Island, however, a previous member of the Land Trust resigned from the Land Trust and sold property to the Land Trust. Representative Winfield states that a certain amount of ethics should have been written within the Land Trust Legislation. Representative Winfield recommends that the Town Council should have a Compliance Audit completed before any further Land Trust transactions are completed. Representative Winfield states that some of the Land Trust deals could have been done better.

Gregory Costantino, State Representative, states that he does agree with some of the issues, however, he feels that the proposed legislation can improve businesses in Town and the Land Trust's future. Representative Costantino is concerned about the taxpayers in Town and feels that the Town should have a forensic audit done on the Land Trust files, because of the many unanswered questions. The Legislation was put in to get your attention not to get rid of the Land Trust. Representative Costantino also states that Mr. Costantino's report brought up many important issues regarding the Land Trust operations and the Town Council should have had more oversight regarding the Land Trust policies. Especially regarding the \$272,500 USDA Grant that was lost because no one followed through. There are two sides to every story.

Council President Santucci explains the oversight for the Land Trust was previous Town Council and at this time the present Town Council are overseeing the Land Trust operations. Council President Santucci asks why Representative Costantino and other State Representatives were not in attendance at any prior meetings of Town Council or Land Trust meetings with questions. Representative Costantino replies that he was not aware of the Land Trust dealings at that time.

Council Vice-President LaGreca states that when our State Representatives submit legislation the Town Council should be made aware it. Sit down to discuss and at least see what the other side of the story is, find out what really happened.

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Representative Costantino states that Representative Winfield did reach out to Council President Santucci with no information back.

Council Vice-President LaGreca feels that State Representatives should sit with the Town Council members to discuss their proposed legislation.

Council member Alba states that she had no knowledge as to the Resolution opposing the legislation prior to this evening for both bills. Council member Alba further states that there are five (5) Town Council members at least herself and Council member Lawton were not consulted about a Resolution opposing the two (2) proposed bills this evening. Council member Alba feels that there should be more communication and leadership across the board.

Joseph O'Connor, Town resident, explains that he has limited knowledge about the Land Trust until Mr. Costantino did his presentation to the Town Council. Mr. O'Connor feels that the authority should be transferred back to the Town Council regarding the Land Trust properties.

Council President Santucci explains that he made three (3) attempts to reach out to Representative Winfield to meet and discuss what has transpired with the Land Trust.

Michael Iannotti, Town resident, explains that this proposed legislation for the Land Trust completely repeals the Land Trust Statute. Mr. Iannotti further explains that this proposed legislation is a reckless act and an example of how our government should not operate. Mr. Iannotti states that the Land Trust has preserved over 1,000 acres and encourages the Town Council to vote oppose this proposed legislation. Mr. Iannotti further states that the Town Council should be grateful for the work the Land Trust members have done.

Alfred Costantino, Town resident, asks Council President Santucci if he should be recusing himself from this vote regarding his business clients.

Council President Santucci replies that he has contacted the Rhode Island Ethics Commission and he will not be recusing himself and is satisfied with the answer he received from the Ethics Commission.

Mr. Costantino discusses previous Land Trust acquisitions and how they were managed.

Council President Santucci asks Mr. Costantino to stay to the discussion of the Resolution opposition Land Trust bill.

Council President Santucci explains that the approvals Mr. Costantino is speaking of were voted on by previous Town Councils. Council President Santucci states that he is the current liaison for the Town Council on the Land Trust.

Robert Leach, Smithfield Historical Preservation Commission Chair, our Commission has deliberated on this proposed Land Trust Bill. The Commission feels the Land Trust should stay in their current role to ensure Conservation.

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Katie Law, Smithfield Historical Preservation Commission Vice-Chair, the Commission supports the withdrawal or opposition of the proposed Land Trust legislation. Ms. Law explains that residents have been given the opportunity for the conservation in the Town to remain in effect and had enjoyed it for the past twenty (20) years, by preservation of over 1,000 acres of property by the Land Trust. Ms. Law also encourages the Town Council and the Town to encourage smart development.

Council member Lawton states that Mr. Costantino should have been allowed to speak on the proposed Land Trust legislation.

Lawrence Sasso, Town resident, states that this problem should be solved at a local level not at a State level. Mr. Sasso further states that it is the Town Council's job to manage the Land Trust Commission and not the State legislation. Mr. Sasso explains that the Town of Smithfield residents have a strong desire to keep the conservation of the Town intact.

Thomas Robitaille, Town resident, explains that he has lived in Smithfield for forty-five (45) years and has just been appointed to the Land Trust Commission. Mr. Robitaille asks Representative Costantino and Representative Winfield to consider withdrawing this proposed legislation and give the Town Council the opportunity to work with the Land Trust members.

Cheryl Iannotti, Town resident agrees with Mr. Robitaille believes that it would be good government for the Town Council to work closely with the Land Trust members to manage the current Land Trust properties.

Donna Potter-Allard explains that she is not a Town resident, however she is a proponent of open spaces and is amazed by the open space in Smithfield. Ms. Potter-Allard is concerned that if this proposed Land Trust legislation is passed it will set a precedent for other Land Trust Commissions in Rhode Island.

Gloria Nerney, Town resident, states that before legislation is introduced to State Legislation the Town should be notified and open to discussion. Ms. Nerney further states that legislation should not be proposed and passed without the Town Council being aware of the proposed legislation.

Jackson Despres, Town resident states that he is not criticizing past and present Land Trust members. Mr. Despres further states that the Land Trust members are volunteers and have dedicated their time to the Town of Smithfield. Mr. Despres explains that the Town of Smithfield should have a fiscal responsibility and accountability to the taxpayers. Mr. Despres states that the Town Council should have taken action sooner regarding the Land Trust acquisitions and should have investigated them sooner.

Barbara Rich, Land Trust Chair, states that her character has been impugned by some residents and have given reports that are not factual. Ms. Rich further states that every transaction was done professionally with approval by the Town Council. Ms. Rich states that Representative Costantino never spoke with her to discuss the proposed legislation.

James Ignasher, Town resident, urges the Town Council to oppose the proposed Land Trust legislation and the Town Council should work with the Land Trust Commission.

Scott House, Town resident, explains that conservation cannot be measured by development balance. Mr. House further explains that the Town should support landlocked land because they are used by hunters. Mr. House also explains that the eco-system should be preserved along with the walking trails for conservation.

Katelyn Ryan, Town resident, encourages the Town Council members to oppose the Resolution to the proposed Land Trust bill. Ms. Ryan feels that it is a gross misuse of power by our State Legislators. Ms. Ryan explains that 16% of the Town of Smithfield property is open space and it is critical to preserve that land.

Richard Poirier, Town resident explains that the Land Trust was established because the Conservation Commission could not manage the Land Trust properties. Mr. Poirier also explains that the decision of the Land Trust should rest with the Town Council members, not with the State Legislation. Mr. Poirier also suggests that the question be placed on the ballot to allow the taxpayers to decide.

Bradford Allard, Town resident, thanks the Town Council members for working with the Land Trust Commission members to improve the management of the Land Trust properties. Mr. Allard suggests that the Town reviews the open space properties in the Town for review.

Hearing no further comments Council President Santucci closes the Public Hearing.

Council member Alba explains that there has been much more open dialogue about the Land Trust and for that she is grateful. Council member Alba also feels that it is has been an education for the citizens in Town and across the State. Council member Alba feels that there has been a failure to communicate in the community, but many issues could have been alleviated if there was more communication. Council member Alba states that even if the Town Council sends a letter to the Speaker of the House opposing the proposed legislation, it does not mean that the legislation will be passed or rejected. Council member Alba also explains that if these bills are scheduled for a Public Hearing, she encourages people to testify at the State House. Council member Alba further explains that she was not consulted on the proposed Business Registration House Bill and she is not comfortable voting on it. Council member Alba also explains that the Town Council did discuss the proposed Land Trust legislation.

Council member Lawton thanks everyone for attending this evening and although Representative Winfield submitted the bill, he believes that the Town Council have taken the right steps in working with the Land Trust members and a possible Forensic Audit in the future. Council member Lawton is pleased with the open dialogue this evening.

Council Vice-President LaGreca states that there should be more communication with our State Representatives when bills are introduced to legislation in the future.



Council member Cavanagh states that her property was part of a Land Trust acquisition and encourages Representative Winfield and Representative Costantino to sit and discuss this issue with her. Council member Cavanagh agrees that the Town Council should have more communications with that our State Representatives regarding future legislation.

Council President Santucci states that a Management Plan was established for the Land Trust by Marc Mahoney, as well as an appointment of a new member of the Land Trust. Council President Santucci has reviewed many documents of the Land Trust, however, he has faith in the members of the Land Trust moving forward.

Council Vice-President LaGreca encourages Representative Winfield and Representative Costantino to withdraw their proposed bills.

Town Manager Rossi explains that the five (5) dollar business registration fee is a requirement for businesses in Town which gives the Town and opportunity to collect on delinquent tangible taxes.

Council member Alba feels that further conversation is needed with business owners to reduce the red tape in the Town, by supporting our businesses.

Council President Santucci states that the registration fee is \$25.00 which includes a Zoning Certificate and the renewal is \$5.00 per year. Council President Santucci states that this is a mechanism for the Town to collect on Tangible Taxes.

Council member Alba states that the Town of Smithfield has one of the highest Tangible Tax rates in Rhode Island

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Cavanagh, that the Smithfield Town Council hereby adopts a Resolution in opposition to proposed legislation 2018-H 7240 An Act Relating to Town and Cities – Town of Smithfield – Business Registration Fee. **Motion is approved by a 3/2 vote. Council member Lawton and Council member Alba vote nay.**

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Cavanagh, that the Smithfield Town Council hereby adopts a Resolution in opposition to proposed legislation 2018- H 7425 An Act Relating to the Smithfield Land Trust. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**C. Schedule a public hearing on April 3, 2018 to consider ordinance amendments to the Sewer Authority Rules & Regulations, Chapter A361-37 & A361-43.**

Town Engineer Cleary explains that the Smithfield Sewer Authority approved draft Amendments to the Sewer Authority Rules & Regulations A361-37 and have forwarded them to the Smithfield

Town Council to schedule a Public Hearing on April 3, 2018 to approve an Ordinance Amendment.

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Alba, that the Smithfield Town Council schedule a Public Hearing on April 3, 2018 to consider an ordinance amendment to the Sewer Authority Rules & Regulations, Chapter A361-37 & A361-43. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

- D. Reschedule a public hearing on April 3, 2018 to consider amendments to the Comprehensive Community Plan involving a change of responsibility for the review of all Comprehensive Permit applications from the Zoning Board of Review to the Planning Board.**

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Cavanagh to schedule a Public Hearing on April 3, 2018 to consider Amendments to the Comprehensive Community Plan that change the responsibility for review of all Comprehensive Permit applications from the Zoning Board of Review to the Planning Board. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

- E. Schedule a public hearing on April 3, 2018 to consider amendments to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 68, Article IV “Comprehensive Permits”, Section 68-5 “Authority to act on applications; limits; and consideration of applications”.**

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Cavanagh, to schedule a Public Hearing on April 3, 2018 to consider Amendments to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 68: Officers and Employees. Duties of, Article IV Comprehensive Permits. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

- F. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider the renewal of the following Intoxicating Beverage License, as applied, subject to compliance with all State regulations, local ordinances, and a Certificate of Good Standing from the RI Division of Taxation.**

**INTOXICATING BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWAL 2017-2018**  
**CLASS B-VICTUALLER BEVERAGE LICENSE**

- 1. Rocco’s, LLC d/b/a “Rocco’s Pub & Grub”, 55 Douglas Pike, Unit 101 (approved for outdoor bar service)**

Council President Santucci opens the Public Hearing.

Council member Lawton asks if Rocco’s Pub & Grub have complied.

Council President Santucci states that Rocco’s Pub & Grub have complied, therefore, a Show Cause Hearing is not necessary.

Hearing no further comments Council President Santucci closes the Public Hearing.

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Cavanagh, that the Smithfield Town Council approve the annual renewal of the following Intoxicating Beverage License, as applied, subject to compliance with all State regulations, local ordinances, and Certificate of Good Standing from the RI Division of Taxation.

**INTOXICATING BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWAL 2017-2018**  
**CLASS B-VICTUALLER BEVERAGE LICENSE**

1. Rocco's, LLC d/b/a "Rocco's Pub & Grub", 55 Douglas Pike, Unit 101 (approved for outdoor bar service)

**Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**IX. Licenses and Permits:**

- A. Consider approving the annual renewal of nine (15) Holiday Sales Licenses as listed, as applied, subject to compliance with all State regulations and local ordinances.
  1. Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. d/b/a "Barnes & Noble #2082", 371 Putnam Pike, Suite 330
  2. Bath & Body Works, LLC d/b/a "Bath & Body Works #4713", 371 Putnam Pike
  3. Claire's Boutique, Inc. d/b/a "Claire's #5041", 371 Putnam Pike
  4. Global Montello Group Corp. d/b/a "Fast Freddie's of Smithfield", 471 Putnam Pike
  5. Laurito's Liquor, Inc. d/b/a "Damon's Wine & Spirits", 637B Putnam Pike
  6. Marylou's News, Inc. d/b/a "Marylou's Coffee", 368 Putnam Pike
  7. Michael's Stores, Inc. d/b/a "Michael's Arts & Crafts #2703", 371 Putnam Pike
  8. PNP Greenville, LLC d/b/a "Pick' n Pay Food Mart/Smoke Shop", 619 Putnam Pike
  9. Pleasant View Nails, Inc. d/b/a "Pleasant View Nails, Unit #5", 115 Pleasant View Avenue
  10. Princes & Sons Pizza, Inc. d/b/a "Depetrillo's Pizza & Bakery", 105 Pleasant View Avenue
  11. RDB Enterprises, LLC d/b/a "Cardsmart of Smithfield", 445 Putnam Pike
  12. Speedway, LLC d/b/a "Speedway #02821", 261 Putnam Pike
  13. Tire Pros of Rhode Island, Inc. d/b/a "Tire Pros of RI", 390 George Washington Highway
  14. Warren A. Hill d/b/a "Hill Orchards", 25 Sanderson Road
  15. Yankee Candle Company, Inc. d/b/a "Yankee Candle Company", 371 Putnam Pike, Unit 550

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Alba, that the Smithfield Town Council approve the annual renewal of fifteen (15) Holiday Sales Licenses, as listed, as applied, subject to compliance with all State regulations and local ordinances.

1. Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. d/b/a “Barnes & Noble #2082”, 371 Putnam Pike, Suite 330
2. Bath & Body Works, LLC d/b/a “Bath & Body Works #4713”, 371 Putnam Pike
3. Claire’s Boutique, Inc. d/b/a “Claire’s #5041”, 371 Putnam Pike
4. Global Montello Group Corp. d/b/a “Fast Freddie’s of Smithfield”, 471 Putnam Pike
5. Laurito’s Liquor, Inc. d/b/a “Damon’s Wine & Spirits”, 637B Putnam Pike
6. Marylou’s News, Inc. d/b/a “Marylou’s Coffee”, 368 Putnam Pike
7. Michael’s Stores, Inc. d/b/a “Michael’s Arts & Crafts #2703”, 371 Putnam Pike
8. PNP Greenville, LLC d/b/a “Pick’ n Pay Food Mart/Smoke Shop”, 619 Putnam Pike
9. Pleasant View Nails, Inc. d/b/a “Pleasant View Nails, Unit #5”, 115 Pleasant View Avenue
10. Princes & Sons Pizza, Inc. d/b/a “Depetrillo’s Pizza & Bakery”, 105 Pleasant View Avenue
11. RDB Enterprises, LLC d/b/a “Cardsmart of Smithfield”, 445 Putnam Pike
12. Speedway, LLC d/b/a “Speedway #02821”, 261 Putnam Pike
13. Tire Pros of Rhode Island, Inc. d/b/a “Tire Pros of RI”, 390 George Washington Highway
14. Warren A. Hill d/b/a “Hill Orchards”, 25 Sanderson Road
15. Yankee Candle Company, Inc. d/b/a “Yankee Candle Company”, 371 Putnam Pike, Unit 550

**Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

- B. Consider approving two (2) One-Day Beer/Wine Licenses for Donahue Models and Talent, to hold a fashion show at Bryant University, located at 1150 Douglas Pike on Saturday, March 10, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 11, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., as applied subject to compliance with all State regulations and local ordinances.**

Council President Santucci explains that the applicant for this agenda item has rescinded their application.

**X. Old Business: None**

**XI. New Business:**

- A. Consider, discuss, and act upon authorizing an RFQ for design and permit phase services for the Esmond Mill Drive Bridge.**

Town Engineer Cleary explains that Town Engineer’s Office has prepared a scope of services to provide structural design services for the Esmond Mill Drive Bridge replacement. Town Engineer Cleary further explains that in the current fiscal year \$125,000 is budgeted for the I, II and III; Design Phase.

**Motion** is made by Council member Lawton, seconded by Council Vice-President LaGreca, that the Smithfield Town Council hereby authorizes the advertisement of a Request for Qualifications for the structural design services of the Esmond Mill Drive Bridge #124401. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**B. Consider, discuss, and act upon a recommendation from the Sewer Authority to authorize an RFP to replace a sodium hypochlorite storage tank at the Wastewater Treatment Facility.**

Town Engineer Cleary explains that to the Town Council members that there is a request for proposals for the replacement of the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Sodium Hypochlorite Storage Tank.

**Motion** is made by Council member Lawton, seconded by Council Vice-President LaGreca that the Smithfield Town Council hereby authorizes the advertisement of a request for proposal for furnishing and installing of a Sodium Hypochlorite Storage Tank at the Town's Wastewater Treatment Facility. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**C. Consider, discuss, and act upon a recommendation from the Sewer Authority to authorize an RFP for construction services to install and remove a temporary river crossing for the Stillwater Interceptor.**

Town Engineer Cleary explains to the Town Council members that before them this evening is a request for proposal for the installation and removal of a temporary river crossing to allow for required access to inaccessible portions of the sewer collection system.

**Motion** is made by Council member Lawton, seconded by Council Vice-President LaGreca, that the Smithfield Town Council hereby authorizes the advertisement of a request for proposals for installation of a temporary river crossing for Sewer Authority operation & maintenance purposes. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**D. Consider, discuss, and act upon a recommendation from the Sewer Authority to authorize contract amendment #2 with Veolia Water for operation and maintenance contract services to implement a Capital Asset Renewal Management System.**

Town Engineer Cleary explains that the Sewer Authority has voted to forward the Town Council a recommendation to consider a Contract Amendment with Veolia Water for a proposed Capital Asset Renewal Management System in the amount of \$9,740. Town Engineer Cleary further explains that the CARMS system allows for the integration of the managed assets registry into a software program that will predictively schedule asset replacements for Town owned sewer equipment and generate a Capital Program Management Plan for the Authority's future use.

**Motion** is made by Council member Alba, seconded by Council Vice-President LaGreca, that the Smithfield Town Council hereby authorizes Contract Amendment #2 with Veolia Water for the sum of \$9,740 for the integration of the CARMS system to prepare a Capital Program

Management Plan for the Smithfield Sewer Authority. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**E. Consider, discuss and act upon the adoption of the Police & Fire Pension Funds Investment Policy.**

Town Manager Rossi explains that the Police and Fire Pension Committee met on February 27, 2018 and recommended. The proposed Investment Policy. The transfer of pension asset funds from John Hancock to Principal Financial which is managed by Whale Rock has been completed. Town Manager Rossi further explains that the Committee recommends the Town Council to approve the enclosed Retirement Income Plan for Employees of the Police and Fire Departments – Statement of Investment Policy.

Council President Santucci commends Town Manager Rossi and the Committee for all their hard work on the Police and Pension Funds Plans.

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Alba, that the Smithfield Town Council approve the Statement of Investment Policy for the Police and Fire Pension Funds as recommended by the Police and Fire Pension Committee. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**F. Consider, discuss and act upon authorizing an RFP for the Anna McCabe Elementary School basketball court replacement.**

Town Manager Rossi explains that on behalf of the Anna McCabe Basketball Courts Subcommittee, who are asking for an advertisement of an RFP for replacement of the basketball courts at Anna McCabe Elementary School. Town Manager Rossi further explains that the RFP will provide pricing for two (2) surface options, post-tension concrete and asphalt to allow the Committee the opportunity to further review both options.

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Lawton, that the Smithfield Town Council hereby authorizes the advertisement of an RFP for Replacement of the Anna McCabe Basketball Courts. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

**XII. Public Comment**

Paul Aiello, Town resident, asks that a list of changes be placed on the Town Council agenda to the Rules of Procedure of the Town Council. Mr. Aiello also states that any changes to the senior Tax Freeze should be reviewed by the Charter Review Commission and placed on the ballot as a Charter revision to be decided by the Smithfield voters.

Alfred Costantino, Town resident, states that earlier this evening Council member Alba spoke on communication, and he never received a thank you from the Town for the Land Trust presentation he made, that took countless hours of research. Mr. Costantino states that he

initiated the conversation regarding the Land Trust. Mr. Costantino discusses his feelings about the development rights purchased by the Land Trust and tonight he was not allowed to express himself on the agenda item opposing the Resolution of the Land Trust.

Thomas Robitaille, Town resident, commends Town Manager Rossi regarding the information on the website for all the back-up information for agenda items on the Town Council meeting. Mr. Robitaille explains that he is not against the Senior Tax Freeze, he just feels that each taxpayer should pay a portion of every bond issue approved by the voters of Smithfield.

Joseph O'Connor, Town resident, states that he attended a Financial Review Commission Work Session with the Town Council meeting and he was appalled by the conduct of two (2) members of the Financial Review Commission. Mr. O'Connor further states that the two (2) members made disgusting comments regarding the senior taxpayers in Town.

Donald Brown, Town resident, states that many people cannot afford to maintain their homes with an increase in taxes, because they live on monthly budgets.


**XIII. Announce any closed session votes required to be disclosed pursuant to RI General Laws, Sec. 42-46-4.**

Council President Santucci announces that there were no votes taken in the Closed Session meeting held this evening.

**XIV. Adjournment.**

**Motion** is made by Council Vice-President LaGreca, seconded by Council member Alba, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion is approved by a unanimous 5/0 vote.**

Meeting adjourns at 9:56 P.M.

  
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Town Clerk