

Present: June Sager Speakman, Kate G. Weymouth, Ann P. Strong, Michael W. Carroll and Steve Primiano

Also Present: Town Manager Peter A. DeAngelis, Jr., Assistant Town Solicitor Andrew Teitz, Tax Collector Kathy Raposa, Tax Assessor Michael Minardi, Police Chief John M. LaCross, Fire Chief Gerald Bessette, Director of Public Works Alan Corvi, Town Planner Philip Hervey, Library Director Deborah Barchi, Building Official Robert Speaker, Recreation and Leisure Services Director Michele Geremia, Human Resources Director MariAnn Oliveira, and Town Clerk Meredith J. DeSisto

Council President Speakman called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

Mrs. Speakman asked everyone to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTERVIEWS:

The following applicants were interviewed for vacancies and renewals of appointment on boards and commissions:

- **Ad Hoc Taxation/Assessment Advisory Committee:** (2 Reappointments) – John S. Harker, and Robert Manchester (Joel Hellmann wishes to remain until Committee dissolves.)

RESIGNATIONS/NOT SEEKING REAPPOINTMENT: (There were no resignations this month.)

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS:

- **Ad Hoc Taxation/Assessment Advisory Committee:** (2 Reappointments)
Motion by Mrs. Weymouth and seconded by Mr. Primiano to reappoint John S. Harker, and Robert Manchester to the Ad Hoc Taxation/Assessment Advisory Committee for terms ending January 31, 2019. **The motion passed unanimously.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Swearing-in Barrington Police Officer:** Police Chief John LaCross conducted the swearing-in of Police Officer Quint R. Dow, Jr. and Sgt. Wesley G. McCoy, Jr.

CORRESPONDENCE: (There was no correspondence this month.)

RESOLUTIONS:

- **Discuss and Act on Legislation Regarding Ratification of Charter Amendment:**
Motion by Mrs. Strong and seconded by Mr. Carroll to forward to the General Assembly delegation for introduction and to validate and ratify amendments to the Home Rule Charter of the Town of Barrington. **The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Discuss and Act on Liquor License Amendment Class A:**
Motion by Mrs. Weymouth and seconded by Mr. Primiano to forward to the General Assembly delegation for introduction of an amendment to an act relating to Class A Licenses to eliminate prohibition in the Town of Barrington.

CONSENT AGENDA (*)

Mr. Primiano asked that the minutes of December 15, 2014 be removed from the consent agenda.

Motion by Mrs. Strong and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to adopt the Consent Agenda items #10 - #14 without agenda item #9 as presented. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Primiano stated that the word "small" (Line 39) be struck within the minutes of: "Discuss and Act on Sokoloff Report on Capturing Existing Affordable Housing Units" and replaced with the word "suggested". Mr. Primiano stated that at the December 15, 2014 Town Council meeting within the section: "Discuss and Act on Budget Forecasting Committee" that it should read Mr. Grove and not Mr. Primiano who will gather the members and set up a meeting. **Motion** by Mrs. Weymouth and seconded by Mrs. Strong to amend and adopt the minutes of the December 15, 2014 Town Council. **The motion passed unanimously.** **Motion** by Mrs. Weymouth and seconded by Mrs. Strong to adopt the sealed minutes of November 3, 2014. **The motion passed unanimously.**

***MINUTES:**

It was unanimously voted to amend and adopt the minutes of the December 15, 2014 Town Council meeting and adopt the sealed minutes of the Executive Session on November 3, 2014. See Consent Agenda above.

***UTILITY PETITIONS:**

- **Bristol County Water Authority:** It was unanimously voted to grant permission to Bristol County Water Authority to open the highways at: Old Chimney Road corner of Fireside Drive.
- **National Grid:** It was unanimously voted to grant permission to National Grid to open the highways at: Albert Avenue and Knapton Street.

***MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

It was unanimously voted to adopt the following monthly department Reports: Fire Chief, Police Chief/Animal Control Official (no report this month), Building Official, Public Works Director, Town Planner, Town Solicitor, Finance Director, Tax Assessor, Library Director (no report this month), Barrington Adult Youth Team Coordinator, Recreation and Leisure Services Director and Town Clerk. See Consent Agenda above.

***ABATEMENT LIST:**

It was unanimously voted to accept the Abatement List in the amount of \$23,246.11 and as described therein. See Town Council Book 23, page 33A.

***SURPLUS PROPERTY:**

There was no surplus property for this month.

***APPOINTMENT OF TREE WARDEN FRANCIS E. CHARETTE, JR., DPW EMPLOYEE:**

It was unanimously voted to appoint Francis E. Charette, Jr. Department of Public Works employee, Tree Warden for the Town of Barrington.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kevin and Christie Brennan of 4 Hemlock Drive requested that the bathhouse remain open during the beach season past 5:00 P.M. Mrs. Speakman stated that the Director of Recreation is currently reviewing beach policies. Carson Colmore of 676 County Road and Teresa Cummings of 5 Hemlock Drive request the same, to extend the bathhouse hours during the beach season.

BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY (BCWA) REPORT:

Director Alan Klepper was present to answer questions on the BCWA report. Mr. Carroll asked for an update and explanation of the replacement of a new water distribution line expansion joint. Mr. Klepper explained that this is not a main valve but a back-up and will be replaced within the month of January. Mr. Klepper stated that BCWA will be requesting placement on the February 2nd agenda asking for support of a resolution regarding Phase I of the Pawtucket Pipeline.

ANNUAL AUDIT PRESENTATION:

Cheryl Langevin, Audit Manager and Patricia Boucher, Director, Bacon & Company, LLC presented the Town audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. The Town is the recipient of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. Town Manager Peter DeAngelis acknowledged the efforts of Finance Director Kathy Raposa, the staff of the Finance Department and all the department heads for a job well done.

DISCUSS AND ACT ON 139 GEORGE STREET:

Mrs. Speakman stated that on October 8, 2014 that there was a forum to discuss the future use of 139 George Street. At the end of the forum, Mrs. Speakman suggested that if any boards or commissions had an interest, to submit any recommendations or concerns to the Town Council. Mr. DeAngelis stated that at this time, the Cemetery Commission has no interest in the property. Discussion ensued regarding keeping the land strictly as farmland, long term lease options, deed restrictions, restricting the footprint, repayment to the Spencer Fund, conservation easement, and concerns with keeping the property within the character of the neighborhood. Jason Lawrence, 153 George Street, would like to see the property remain as a single family home and has concerns if it was to become part of affordable housing. Mrs. Strong is not in favor of a proposal that does not include a payback to the Spencer Fund. Martha Brooks, 100 George Street, stated that there is a lot of merit to the argument to lease to a disabled veteran and is in favor of keeping the property as a single family. Mr. Carroll suggested that we should identify our priorities – keeping the character of the neighborhood and or, receiving the maximum return in order to payback the Spencer Fund. Mrs.

Speakman stated that her concern is that we may be getting caught up with repaying the Spencer Fund and this may interfere with any valid proposals. Mrs. Speakman suggested to continue this discussion at the February Town Council meeting and refer to the Planning Board and the Town Planner.

DISCUSS AND ACT ON PUBLIC HEARING:

#2014-6 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 185. ZONING 185-64 Decisions of the Board:

Mrs. Speakman opened the public hearing for Ordinance #2014 – 6 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 185. Zoning 185-64 Decisions of the Board which was filed on November 3, 2014, introduced on December 15, 2014 and set for public hearing. No one from the public spoke. Mrs. Speakman closed the public hearing.

Motion by Mrs. Strong and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to adopt #2014-6 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 185. ZONING 185-64, Decisions of the Board. **The motion passed unanimously.**

DISCUSS AND ACT ON PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT OF THE FORMER ZION PROPERTY:

Town Manager Peter DeAngelis explained that Shineharmony Holdings, Inc. has been working to develop a plan for a proposed redevelopment of the former Zion Bible College campus and they have met with some members of the administration. Mr. DeAngelis requested that two (2) members from the Town Council, as well as, two (2) members from the Planning Board partake in further discussions in order for representatives from Shineharmony Holdings to present a Master Plan sometime in the future. Mrs. Speakman stated that at the request of Shineharmony, she was asked to attend a meeting. Mrs. Speakman said that she agrees that another member from the town council should be attendance. All members of the Town Council were very interested in participating and after a brief discussion, it was determined that Council Members Kate Weymouth and Ann Strong will attend the meetings with representatives from Shineharmony. Mr. DeAngelis stated that he will ask Town Planner Phil Hervey to request that two (2) members from the Planning Board participate.

DISCUSS AND ACT ON JOINT MEETING QUESTIONS WITH TOWN COUNCIL, SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES:

Discussion ensued with members of the Town Council proposing questions for a meeting with the school committee and local representatives that has been tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015 at 7:30 A.M. Mr. Primiano suggested that he would like to see a discussion regarding: (1) ramifications and concerns with RhodeMap; (2) a discussion on working to change the Affordable Housing Laws to provide relief for Barrington from the unattainable 10% goal and (3) a discussion on the moratorium on school construction funding and the school funding formula.

DISCUSS AND ACT ON REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) RELATING TO LEGAL SERVICES:

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed RFP for municipal legal services. Mrs. Strong suggested to allow for more than one law firm and requested a change to the document on the first page "...retain a single law firm or multiple law firms within which members..." Mrs. Strong requested that within that same paragraph that the following be added: "...Town Solicitors in ~~the~~ one or more in the following designated areas of specialties:..." Mrs. Speakman requested that on page 5 Paragraph 7 that the following be added: "The selected attorney or firm shall be required to provide a detailed monthly billing, as well as, a monthly solicitor's report in a manner acceptable to the Town Manager and Town Council, documenting all hours ..." **Motion** by Mrs. Weymouth and seconded by Mrs. Strong to authorize the Town Manager to amend and proceed with the RFP for legal services. **The motion passed unanimously.**

SET AGENDA FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING:

The Town Council set the agenda for the Monday, February 2, 2015 Town Council meeting. Discussion ensued and the following subjects will be included:

- 139 George Street (continued)
- Discuss and Act on Creating a "Councilor's Monthly Agenda" (continued from December 15, 2014)

EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH RIGL:

- **DISCUSS AND APPROVE SEALED MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION ON DECEMBER 15, 2014:**
- **RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) LITIGATION RE. AND NORTH END HOLDINGS, LLC:**
- **RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY:**

Motion by Mrs. Weymouth and seconded by Mrs. Strong to move into executive session at 9:16 P.M. to Discuss and Approve sealed minutes of Executive Session on December 15, 2014; and to discuss in accordance with RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) Litigation re. North End Holdings, LLC and RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (5) Acquisition of Property. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Motion by Mr. Carroll and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to move out of executive session at 9:50 P.M. and seal the minutes except for the **Motion** by Mrs. Weymouth and seconded by Mr. Primiano to not exercise the right of first refusal at 102 Sowams Road. **The motion passed unanimously.**

ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Primiano to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 P.M.

Meredith J. DeSisto, Town Clerk