

Minutes of a Town Council meeting held February 23rd, 2012 at 6:00 o'clock PM in the Town Council Chambers, 40 Commons, Little Compton, RI. Members present: Charles N. Appleton, Jr., Fred M. Bodington, III; Paul J. Golembeske, Gary S. Mataronas and Robert L. Mushen. Also present: Michael Steers, Chairman Planning Board.

Two (2) individuals interested in filling a vacancy on the Planning Board were interviewed, Malcolm McGeoch, Richard Ross. A third individual has not arrived as of this time, Mary Suttell. The Councilors reviewed with the individual's their availability to attend meetings and to work together as a team as well as their ability to work with existing code.

Due to the fact that Mrs. Suttell had not arrived as of this point the Council made the following change to the order of the agenda:

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To move the executive session scheduled for this meeting to be considered at this time.

At 6:23 PM the Town Council President polled his fellow Councilors as to their wishes to enter into executive session under RIGL Section 42-46-5(a)(2) collective bargaining – IBPO Local 644, IAFF Local 3957 and LC Municipal Employees Union/NEARI. All voted in favor: (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen).

The Councilors discussed each union collective bargaining situations.

At 6:39 PM the Town Council President polled his fellow Councilors as to their wishes to come out of executive session under RIGL Section 42-46-5(a)(2) collective bargaining – IBPO Local 644, IAFF Local 3957 and LC Municipal Employees Union/NEARI. All voted in favor: (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen).

Mary Suttell arrived at 6:39 PM. She was interviewed for the planning board vacancy in the same manner as was conducted with the previous two individuals.

At 6:50 PM the Councilor Appleton left the dais returning at 6:55 PM. At 6:55 PM the Town Council took a brief recess prior to beginning the remaining posted agenda items.

At 7:00 PM the Council President called the meeting back into session with a Pledge to the Flag. All Councilors remained in attendance. Also in attendance: Tom Dunn, Business Manager.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To approve, as written the minutes of the January 11, 2012 special Council meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To approve, as written the minutes of the February 9, 2012 Town Council meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To approve, as written the minutes of the February 13, 2012 special meeting of the Town Council.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To approve, as written the minutes of the February 15, 2012 special meeting of the Council.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To approve, as written the minutes of the February 16, 2012 work session of the Council.

A letter has been received from the Budget Committee concerning the Town's audit. Due to the fact that the Budget Committee Chair will not be in Town for the March 8, 2012 Council meeting where the Auditors are making a presentation he has asked for his letter to be received this evening. The Town Council President asked if his fellow

Councilors wished to place the Budget Committee letter on by unanimous consent.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on this evenings agenda by unanimous consent a letter written by the Little Compton Budget Committee expressing strong concerns with the last two audits conducted for Town financial records.

Mr. Scott Morrison, Chairman of the Budget Committee read the following letter:

THE LITTLE COMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

February 23, 2012

Dear Town Council,

We, the Little Compton Budget Committee, request that you devise and implement a plan to restructure the management of the finances of the Town. Serious deficiencies in the handling of and accounting for Town funds have been identified by our auditors for the second year in a row. We believe that it is the Town Council's duty to identify and implement the changes necessary to correct these deficiencies. We further believe that the seriousness of the identified deficiencies calls for all reasonable avenues be considered including a revision to

the Town's Home Rule Charter that makes the Chief Financial Officer of the Town an appointed position.

The Town's auditors; Lefkowitz, Garfinkel, Champi & DeRienzo P.C.; have stated that the "...Town's system of financial reporting and internal controls over financial reporting is not adequately designed and that the Town does not possess the requisite internal human resource capabilities." During the audit of Town finances for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, major specific issues were identified that affect the Town's ability to properly record, summarize and report financial information. These included: 1.) a lack of segregation of duties related to the collection and disbursement of funds; 2.) a lack of investigation and reconciliation of discrepancies in bank balances throughout the year; and 3.) numerous significant accounting errors and deficiencies. Also cited were problems with a lack of proper accounting for transfers, receivables and payables between the Town and School Department as well as an "...absence of timely and scheduled periodic communication between the Town Treasurer and the School Business Operations Coordinator."

Although the Budget Committee has the authority to recommend changes in compensation for elected officials including the Treasurer/Tax Collector as per Section 502 B 2 of the Charter, the Town Council is the body that has the power to investigate and make changes to the financial management of the Town. Although the Treasurer/Tax Collector is independently elected and does not report

to the Town Council, we believe that the ultimate responsibility for the management of the Town's finances rests with the Council and, therefore, that the Council must make changes that are deemed to be necessary to ensure the Town's Finances are properly managed.

Respectfully submitted,

The Little Compton Budget Committee

Scott Morrison, Chair

Robert Goff, Clerk

George Crowell

Ben Gauthier

Robert Goulart

The Town Council President noted that this letter would be considered on the March 8, 2012 agenda in conjunction with the Auditors presentation of the 2011 Audit. No actions were taken.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file the Fire Department Report for January 2012.

The Town Council interviewed three individuals who were interested in filling the vacancy on the Planning Board. Councilors noted that

all three (3) candidates bring something to the table, but only one can be appointed at this time. As a result of said interviews the following was voted:

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To appoint Mary W. Cissel Suttell to fill the vacancy on the Planning Board for a term which will expire February 1, 2015.

A Tax Assessment Appeal letter written by Gurdon B. Wattle to the Board of Assessor's has been received. Due to the fact that the Town Council sits as the Tax Assessment Board of Appeals steps will need to be taken to conduct a hearing on the matter. The Town Clerk will coordinate with legal counsels and the appellant to schedule a hearing. Robert Goff, Tax Assessor had no comments at this time. After a brief discussion the following was voted;

Motion made by Councilor Mushen, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To appoint Vernon L. Gorton, Jr. as legal counsel for the Board of Tax Assessors and Anthony J. DeSisto as legal counsel for the Town Council sitting as the Tax Assessment Appeals Board.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by

Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To renew a contract between the Town of Little Compton and Sakonnet Veterinary Hospital to provide Animal Shelter Services, contingent upon the successful review of the Police Chief and a correction to a typographical error that will reflect that the contract is a three contract covering January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2014.

Councilor Mushen read through the Town Council's proposed budget articles. Upon conclusion the following vote was taken:

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To submit to the Town Clerk the following Articles to be included on the warrant for the Annual Financial Town Meeting to be held on May 22, 2012:

FIRST

To order a tax to be levied and assessed on the ratable property in said Town and the inhabitants thereof for the 2013 tax year for the payment of the Town debts and interest, for the support of schools, for the support and maintenance of the poor, for the building, repairing and amending of highways, for the improvement in manner deemed fit of any property belonging to the Town, for all necessary charges and expenses whatsoever arising within said Town, whether

incidental or not to the above, and for any and all purposes authorized by law.

SECOND

To authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow from time to time a certain sum of money in anticipation of taxes, and give the negotiable note or notes of the Town therefor.

THIRD

To authorize and direct the Town Treasurer to receive funds from the State of Rhode Island, the Federal Government, and private and other sources, and to credit these funds to the proper appropriated Town accounts or to other Town Meeting designated accounts. Said funds so received would reimburse the Town for specific expenditures, or be in anticipation of specific expenditures within said accounts. The expenditure of said funds so received exceeding \$175,000.00 from one source or for one project or purpose shall only be spent as authorized by vote of the Town Meeting, with the exception of the Community Development Block Grant funds, which may be up to \$270,000; said Community Development Block Grant Funds may be spent in accordance with the CDBG application as previously submitted by the Town Council. All other monies would continue to be deposited to the General Fund. This article does not authorize the spending of any Drug Forfeiture Funds. (those funds to be

authorized in separate strokes).

FOURTH

To authorize the Town Treasurer to accept private donations to all private funds set up by the Little Compton Town Council. Said funds to be expended only after approval of the various committees and authorization and approval of the Town Council.

FIFTH

To authorize the Little Compton Housing Trust to receive monies, including state and federal grant monies, to receive or acquire any real or personal property, by any manner including grant, gift, bequest or purchase, devise and to convey or lease real estate and/or buildings, so long as such conveyances shall be in keeping with the purposes of the Housing Trust and in conformance with Section 103 of the Little Compton Town Charter. Said real or personal property may be held in any manner so long that said acquisition and improvement are consistent with the Mission of the Trust.

SIXTH

To authorize the Reserve Fund to receive the accumulated revenues from the lease of the cell tower at the Transfer Station and will be subject in all respects to the conditions of the Little Compton Town Charter, Section 512.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Thousand Two Hundred (\$1,200.00) Dollars as a donation to the Prevention Coalition to offset expenses to operate programs for youth in our community.

This is a private stroke submitted by the Town Council.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars as a donation to the Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District Program.

This is a private stroke submitted by the Town Council.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand (\$7,000.00) Dollars as a donation to the Friends of the Little Compton Nursing Association.

This is a private stroke submitted by the Town Council.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars as a donation to the East Bay Community Action Program to help defray the cost of providing services and programs

that benefit Little Compton citizens.

This is a private stroke submitted by the Town Council.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Three Thousand, Eight Hundred (\$3,800.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for Senior Citizens Busing.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Twenty Three Thousand, Eight Hundred Eleven (\$23,811.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for a Student Assistance Program.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred Eighty Four Thousand, One Hundred Thirty Eight (\$884,138.00) Dollars for the Little Compton Police Department for the ensuing year. The estimated distribution to be as follows:

Salary, Chief \$77,797.00

Salaries, Lt.,Sgt.,6-PtIm. 477,820.00

Holiday Pay 32,055.00

Court,OT,Vac,Sk Lv & OOR Pay 43,800.00

Uniforms 13,700.00

Education 1,500.00

Maint,Gas,Off Sup & Tele 40,700.00
Shift differential 3,000.00
Convention expenses 1,500.00
Longevity 25,007.00
Animal Control Fees & Expenses 4,750.00
SUBTOTAL \$721,629.00

Clerk-Typist/Dispatchers:

Salaries (4-full time) \$126,628.00
Vacation & Sk Lv Rep Pay 15,100.00
Holidays 5,577.00
Weekend Replacement 10,800.00
Differential 1,533.00
Longevity 2,871.00
SUB-TOTAL \$162,509.00
TOTAL \$884,138.00

DRUG FORFEITURE FUNDS

To authorize the expenditure of up to Eighty Thousand (\$80,000.00) Dollars of Drug Forfeiture Funds for use by the Little Compton Police Department.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fourteen

Thousand, Three Hundred Forty Five (\$114,345.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay the principal and interest on the Public Safety Complex Bond note for the ensuing year.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Forty Six Thousand (\$46,000.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the heat, electricity and janitorial services for the Public Safety Complex.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Six Hundred Eighty Three Thousand, Thirty One (\$683,031.00) Dollars to maintain the Little Compton Fire Department for the ensuing year. The estimated distribution to be as follows:

Salary, Chief \$ 66,777.00

Salaries, (1)Capt.,(2)Lts.,(5)FF/EMT's 392,210.00

Longevity 18,408.00

Holiday Pay 26,365.00

Vacation,Sick & Overtime Repl. 118,488.00

Cardiac/Paramedic Incentive 5,450.00

Uniform Allowance 10,800.00

Part-Timers Clothing 1,200.00

Training 25,833.00

Equipment Maint. & Office Supplies 17,500.00

\$ 683,031.00

#

To see if the Town will authorize the Ambulance Reimbursement Fund to receive and expend monies from reimbursement payments received from third party billers. All revenues generated by said reimbursement payments shall be deposited in the Ambulance Reimbursement Fund and expended by the Town Council for Fire Department equipment and other related expenses.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars, to add to the pension of Alfred Texceira as per the agreement dated May 31, 1989.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Forty One Thousand, Eight Hundred Twenty Four (\$41,824.00) Dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay salary and benefits for disabled fire fighter Leonard Corrao for the ensuing year as follows:

Salary	\$ 18,915.00
Health Benefits	22,909.00
	\$ 41,824.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Five Thousand, Two

Hundred (\$5,200.00) Dollars for the salary of the Social Services Director for the ensuing year.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate a sum not to exceed Seventy Four Thousand, Three Hundred Seventy Five (\$74,375.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay the principal and interest on the Wastewater Treatment Facility Bond note for the ensuing year and maintenance contract obligations.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars to be placed in a fund to be used for the future expansion of the Records Vault located in the Town Hall.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand (\$30,000.00) Dollars for a capital expenditure fund to be used for the general repairs and improvements to Town buildings and for any other capitol improvement deemed necessary.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Forty One Thousand, One Hundred Seventy Five (\$41,175.00) Dollars or so much as may be necessary to cover expenses incurred through the use of a Business Manager. The estimated distribution to be as follows:

Managerial duties/Salary \$ 40,700.00

Department Expenses 115.00

Phone 360.00

\$ 41,175.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand, Five Hundred (\$20,500.00) Dollars for the salaries and expenses of the Town Council for the ensuing year. The estimated distribution to be as follows:

Salary, President \$ 6,372.00

Salary, Councilmen (4) 8,495.00

Office Supplies/Telephone 3,633.00

Town Code Additions 2,000.00

\$ 20,500.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Four Thousand, Four Hundred (\$54,400.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the services of a building official and highway supervisor for the ensuing year. The estimated distribution to be as follows:

Building Official - salary \$ 42,000.00

Part-Time clerical 5,000.00

Expenses – Veh., Mileage,

Tele., Office Supplies & Misc. 7,400.00

\$ 54,400.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand (\$12,000.00) Dollars, or so much thereof that may be necessary, to pay the fees of independent inspectors to perform electrical, mechanical and plumbing inspections.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Seventeen Thousand, Four Hundred Seventy (\$17,470.00) Dollars for use of various advisory boards to the Town Council for the ensuing year. The estimated distribution to be as follows:

Planning Board \$ 5,000.00

Conservation Commission 500.00

Zoning Board of Review 3,000.00

LC Housing Trust 1,470.00

Rec.,Cons.,Open Space 7,500.00

\$ 17,470.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Forty Nine Thousand, Fifty One (\$749,051.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as

may be necessary, to pay Health Insurance Benefits for Town employees, both active and retired.

Active Employees \$ 629,445.00

Retired Employees 119,606.00

\$ 749,051.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand, Six Hundred Forty Six (\$169,646.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the Town's matching portion of F.I.C.A.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Seventy Seven Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty (\$77,760.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the Town's insurance coverage.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Sixty One Thousand, Eighteen (\$61,018.00) Dollars for legal services for the ensuing year.
Distribution as follows:

Town Solicitor \$ 42,840.00

Other legal services 18,178.00

\$ 61,018.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand (\$60,000.00) Dollars as an incidental and emergency fund to be spent at the discretion of the Town Council.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Twenty Seven Thousand, Four Hundred Ninety One (\$27,491.00) Dollars for expenses to run the Town Hall for the ensuing year.

#

To see if the Town will authorize the Harbor Management Fund (the “Fund”) to receive and expend monies for harbor related purposes. All revenues generated by Town boat launching fees, mooring permit fees, qualified mooring inspectors, and all other fees and fines received in connection with the Fund ordinance shall be deposited into the Fund and expended by the Town Council with the advice of the Harbor Commission. Funds shall be disbursed for purposes directly associated with the management and implementation of the Town’s Harbor Management Plan and the Harbor Management Fund Ordinance. Monies from the Fund shall be allocated to the Harbor Master and/or his designee, subject to Town Council approval, for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of the Town’s Harbor Management Plan and/or the Fund ordinance.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Hundred Sixty Five Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty Six (\$165,456.00) Dollars to operate the Town Transfer Station for the ensuing year. The estimated distribution to be as follows:

Contract Hauling \$ 75,000.00
Solid Waste Management 83,256.00
Electric, Telephone &
Miscellaneous 7,200.00
\$ 165,456.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty Two Thousand, Four Hundred Eighty Four (\$142,484.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the general maintenance and upkeep of all town property (exclusive of road repair or road construction) for the ensuing year. The estimated distribution to be as follows:

Salaries \$ 119,074.00
Longevity 3,510.00
Material,Parts,Equip. 19,900.00
\$ 142,484.00

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Three

Thousand (\$203,000.00) Dollars for the maintenance and general upkeep of Town roads, for the reconstruction and resurfacing of Town roads and for sand, salt and clearing of snow from Town roads.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Seventeen Thousand, Six Hundred Twenty One (\$17,621.00) Dollars for the removal of dead trees, pruning dead limbs and low hanging branches along Town property.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty One (\$50,751.00) Dollars for the purchase of maintenance contracts and supplies for the Computer Systems in use in the Town Hall.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Sixteen Thousand, Five Hundred Twenty One (\$16,521.00) Dollars for auditing the books of the Town Treasurer and Tax Collector and any and/or all other Town Department books for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 (not including the School Department).

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of One Thousand, Two Hundred Twenty Four (\$1,224.00) Dollars for the expenses of Street

Lights for the ensuing year.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Four Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirteen (\$4,813.00) Dollars for the salary and expenses of the Probate Judge for the ensuing year.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Five Thousand, Thirty (\$5,030.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for oil and electricity and/or miscellaneous expenses for the International Order of Odd Fellows Hall (I.O.O.F.)/32 Commons Meeting Hall.

#

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Twenty One Thousand, Forty Nine (\$21,049.00) Dollars for the salaries, equipment and supplies to be expended under the supervision of the Auditorium-Gymnasium Committee for the Civic Recreation Program and to cover cost related to sanitary facilities for recreational fields.

----- end of submitted strokes

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To authorize the Town Council

President to execute a proclamation honoring a resident of the Town and to return with the executed document at the March 8, 2012 meeting for disclosure.

Councilor Mushen suggested that a portion of the funds generated by the \$1 surcharge on dog licenses be donated to the Placing Paws Center of Tiverton. Presently there is \$708 in the Cat Spay and Neuter Account. The General Law which created the spay and neuter account from the aforementioned source allows for 50% of the proceeds to be used for an individual who meets certain criteria and 50% of the funds to be used to spay or neuter animals currently residing in the city or towns pound and to fund low-cost spay/neuter programs. After a brief discussion the following was voted:

Motion made by Councilor Mushen, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To donate \$354 to Placing Paws of Tiverton, RI for its use under the RI Spay and Neuter Cat Fund for a low-cost spay/neuter program for cats and to advise the Center of the potential availability of more funds should they be able to document an individual who meets certain qualifying criteria allowed by RIGL §4-24-13.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To allow the Council President to

create solicitation letters to pursue potential volunteers to serve on a committee that would be charged with logistical oversight and fund raising for the summer orchestra event previously coordinated by Phyllis Field.

At 7:26 PM the Town Council sitting as the Board of License Commissioners voted the following:

Motion made by Councilor Bodington, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Mataronas, Mushen) Councilor Golembeske abstained: To grant a Class F-1 One Day Beverage License to the LC Game Club for a Game Supper to be held on March 10, 2012 at the John Dyer Road Facility.

The Town Council received resolutions adopted by the Town Councils of East Greenwich and Coventry opposing H-7250 that mandates expired teacher contracts to continue at existing terms and conditions. After a brief discussion the following was voted:

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To adopt the following resolution:

**TOWN OF LITTLE COMPTON
RESOLUTION
OF THE**

TOWN COUNCIL

WHEREAS, current state law does not provide for mandatory continuation of an existing teacher collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS, a Superior Court Justice recently ruled that state statute, defining when a contract ends, obviates any clause agreed to allowing for a continuation of a public employee contract; and

WHEREAS, school districts and cities and towns have seen a calamitous reduction of state aid; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers are already burdened by some of the highest property taxes nationally; and

WHEREAS. School districts and cities and towns must comply with RIGL §44-5-2, that caps the property tax levy imposed by municipalities; and

WHEREAS, according to §16-2-9(d) “The school committee of each school district shall be responsible for maintaining a school budget which does not result in a debt.”; and

WHEREAS, school committees may require employee concessions to comply with the aforementioned state statutes; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 7250 would mandate that an expired contract shall continue under the same terms and conditions of employment; and

WHEREAS, this would serve as a disincentive for unions to bargain in good faith and allow existing employee wages and benefits to continue unchanged indefinitely thus forcing districts to possibly violate RIGL §44-5-2 & §16-2-9(d).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Little Compton respectfully request the Rhode Island General Assembly to oppose House Bill 7250 that mandates expired teacher contracts must continue at the existing terms and conditions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Senator Louis DiPalma and Representative Dan Gordon and Governor Lincoln Chafee.

Adopted this 23rd day of February, 2012.

Robert L. Mushen

Town Council President

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Appleton, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington,

Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To grant permission to the American Legion Post #37 to conduct a Memorial Day Parade and Service on May 28, 2012 beginning at 10:00 AM.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To authorize the Town Treasurer to pay invoices received from the Budget Committee for postage and mailing fees related to the FY2013 Financial Town Meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file the consent calendar as follows:

- 1. Copy of a report entitled Lessons Learned from Tropical Storm Irene produced by a RI Senate Subcommittee**
- 2. Letter advising the Town Council that Lt. Marion will serve as Acting Chief from February 23rd to 28th during the Chief's absence.**

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): That the bills be allowed and ordered paid as follows: \$39,034.94

John J McNamee, CPA - audit 392.78

Paychex of New York LLC - Treasurer \$351.45

Laura Rom - Planning Board \$42.00

Laura Rom - Zoning Board \$28.00

Laura Rom - Building Official \$224.00

Richard S. Humphrey - Legal Services \$1,493.50

Richard S. Humphrey - Legal Services \$522.00

Richard S. Humphrey - Town Solicitor \$3,500.00

Poland Springs - Maintenance \$0.63

Poland Springs - Town Hall \$32.60

Petro - Gasoline \$3,367.14

Petro - Public Safety Complex \$1,624.44

Petro - Maintenance \$602.39

Sani-Kan - Maintenance Garage \$90.95

Armand Levesque - Senior Busing \$53.50

Allied Waste - Transfer Station \$5,416.50

Nationalgrid - Town Dock \$36.65

Nationalgrid - Peckham Lot \$13.94

Nationalgrid - Street Lights \$20.56

Nationalgrid - 32 Commons \$16.34

Nationalgrid - IOOF \$22.47

Nationalgrid - Town Hall \$195.14

Nationalgrid - Adamsville Lights \$45.90

Nationalgrid - Public Safety at Transfer Station \$159.53

Verizon Wireless - Transfer Station \$32.50

Verizon Wireless - Building Official \$39.79

Verizon Wireless - Maintenance \$32.50
Verizon Wireless - Maintenance \$34.31
Kimtek Corporation - MEDS Funds - Fire Dept. \$2,975.00
Comstar - Fire Dept. \$159.75
Enos Home Oxygen Therapy - Fire Dept. \$17.00
Enos Home Oxygen Therapy - Fire Dept. \$34.00
Fire Tech & Safety - Fire Dept. \$1,206.50
Shipman's Fire Equipment - Fire Dept. \$146.00
Shipman's Fire Equipment - Fire Dept. \$217.31
Rob's Auto Care Inc. - Fire Dept. \$217.95
Rob's Auto Care Inc. - Fire Dept. \$102.12
Kevin's Auto Parts - Fire Dept. \$24.56
KTR Maintenance & Supply - Fire Dept. \$370.00
Verizon Wireless - Fire Dept. \$225.30
Vic's Car Washes - Fire Dept. \$9.50
Western Coventry Fire Dept. - Fire Dept. \$217.50
Belmont Springs - Fire Dept. \$20.56
Griggs & Browne - Fire Dept. \$50.00
Wilbur's General Store - Fire Dept. \$14.45
Target Solutions - Fire Dept. \$750.00
Cox Communications - Fire Dept. \$176.09
Clinical 1 Home Medical - Fire Dept. \$145.63
New England Fools Inc. - Fire Dept. \$115.00
Boundtree medical - Fire Dept. \$105.88
City of Newport - Fire Dept. \$421.72
American Wireless Inc. - Fire Dept. \$138.76 \$4,885.58

Cox Communications - 32 Commons \$27.96
Petro - 32 Commons \$491.28
ACS - RI Historical Records Trust Fund \$1,299.00
United Site Services - Transfer Station \$115.00
RI Assoc. of Assessing Officers - Assessors \$50.00
Markey & Asplund, Inc. - Assessors \$392.00
Postmaster - Assessors \$90.00
RI Assoc. of Assessing Officers - Assessors \$120.00
Denise M. Cosgrove - Assessors \$88.74
Len Duckworth - Assessors \$271.32
Madden Electric Co., Inc. - Town Hall - grant funds \$1,222.86
Everlasting Designs - Computer - grant funds \$2,922.00
WBMason - Clerk - Treasurer \$164.69
RI Police Accreditation Comm - Drug Forfeiture \$2,000.00
Verizon Wireless - Drug Forfeiture \$412.98
Blackboard Connect Inc - Drug Forfeiture \$1,249.75
Hero247 - Drug Forfeiture \$672.00 \$4,334.73
Wilbur's General Store - Police Dept. \$34.11
Cox Communication/Internet - Police Dept. \$171.00
Cox Communication/Telephone - Police Dept. \$187.02
K.T.R. Maintenance - Police Dept. \$135.00
W.B. Mason - Police Dept. \$102.96 \$630.09
Madden Electric Co., Inc. - Public Safety Complex \$53.18
Russell L Sisson & Sons - Town Hall computer room \$510.00

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by

Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To adjourn at 7:29 PM.

Carol A Wordell

Town Clerk