

Minutes of a Town Council meeting held on December 19th, AD 2013 at 7:00 o'clock PM in the Town Council Chambers, Town Hall, 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 in attendance: Richard S. Humphrey, Town Solicitor and Tom Dunn, Business Manager.

Pledge to the Flag.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To approve, as written the December 5, 2013 Town Council meeting minutes.

Announcement:

A Remonstrant's Hearing will be held at 7:30 PM as advertised. The Council will take this matter up at that time.

Rebecca Elwell is scheduled to give an update from the L.C. Prevention Coalition on the local status of the coalition and its eligibility to apply for state funded prevention grants. Mrs. Elwell is presently held up in traffic.

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

Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To delay until Mrs. Elwell arrives discussion of the Prevention Coalition and its eligibility for prevention grants.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To authorize the payment of \$755,773.56 to ADS Construction, Inc. for General Contractor services to be charged the Bond Anticipation Note for the School Renovation Project under BAN Disbursement #19 and to further approve Change Order #8 in the amount of \$35,531.94.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To move Old Business #2 to be considered before Old Business #1.

Chief Wordell announced that Stephanie Manchester-Wilkie accepted the offer of employment for full time public safety dispatcher. The Council will need to vote to officially hire Ms. Manchester-Wilkie with the terms and conditions set forth in the LC Municipal Employees Union. Training has begun and will be paid hourly until her official hire date.

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

Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To hire Stephanie Manchester-Wilkie as a full time public safety dispatcher with a six (6) month probationary period, salary and benefits as per the contract between the Town of Little Compton and the LC Municipal Employees/NEARI, effective January 6, 2014.

Chief Wordell recommends offering employment for the part time public safety dispatcher position to Jessica Vandal.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To make an offer of employment to Jessica Vandal to fill a part time public safety dispatcher position and ask the Police Chief to return to a future meeting if the offer is accepted.

One (1) vacancy on the LC Free Public Library Trust – two (2) citizens submitted letters of interest, Janice Griffin and Robert L. Murphy.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Mataronas, Mushen) Councilor Golembeske stated for the record that he did not participate on this matter: To invite the two (2) citizens who expressed an interest in the Trustee vacancy on the LC Free Public Library Trust to come on January 9th 2014 at 6:30 PM to discuss their desire to serve on the Library Trust.

Councilor Mushen gave an update on a recent negotiation meeting with Jon Ibbotson, Road Supervisor. The offer of a 2% raise for the renewal contract as determined at the 12-5-2013 Council meeting. Mr. Ibbotson countered that he would only take a 10% increase this year and an additional 10% increase next year. Mr. Ibbotson then decided he would not accept the Towns offer and will complete his service to the town as of December 31, 2013.

Councilor Mushen additionally noted that the DPW Director Bill Moore has secured five (5) seasonal snow plow vendors who have previously been coordinated by Mr. Ibbotson, but will now be coordinated by Mr. Moore. The Town is also moving forward with a search for a CDL Licensed Driver to operate the Town's Mac Sander. It is the Town's intent to continue with the same level of service as we have had in the past for sanding and snow removal. The following notations were made:

- The Town's stainless steel sander is presently stored at a facility owned by Mr. Lebruex.**
- The Town owned Mac Sander presently stored at Mr. Ibbotson's will be moved to the Town Transfer Station and stored on the paved area near the Good Will Clothing container**
- There is a need to determine what the Town will do if a weather event occurs where the State does not activate the State sand/salt facility on Willow Avenue. – additionally noted that both the Tiverton**

and Portsmouth facilities are always activated and open

- **Equipment wash down will need to be reassigned to Town personnel and done at the maintenance garage, 30 Commons**

The Town Solicitor made a reflection that although the Town offered 2% and the counter offer was 10% we are only looking at an 8% difference. He wondered if making this change was prudent at this time of the season. He also noted that the Town Council is charged with the health and safety of its citizens and warned to be cautious in their decisions.

Councilor Mataronas does not feel 10% is prudent at this time and feels the other employees would consider this an opportunity to seek 10% raises for their positions.

Previously the Town sander was on a vehicle owned by Mr. Ibbotson, that vehicle was failing and was sold to the Town for a \$1. Recently the Mac sander was purchased by the Town adding to the Town's fleet of snow removal vehicles. Additionally snow plows are mounted on the Maintenance Truck and the DPW Directors Truck. A suggestion was made by the Police Chief to consider an RFP to look for sand and a loader to be on standby in the event the State facility on Willow is not open.

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

Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To allow the Council President and DPW Director to proceed with options for snow removal including, if deemed appropriate, to seek an RFP for sand and loading service options.

At 7:45 PM the Town Council sitting as the Board of License Commissioners opened a Remonstrant's Hearing asking if anyone present wished to be heard regarding the renewal applications for licenses held by Round Pond Management Corp. d/b/a Stone House 1854. Hearing no comments the follow discussion occurred among the Council members:

- The Stone House does not presently meet state or local requirements, owing taxes to both the state and the town.**
- The Town ordinances stipulate that no license may be issued until all fees owed to the town have been satisfied, this would include local taxes**
- The Stone House has filed a letter noting that they are closed for business until May 1, 2014.**
- The Manager of the facility contacted the Town Clerk to advise the Town of their non-compliance and to ask if he would be required to attend this evening. Due to the fact that he had no documentation to present supporting his renewal he was advised not to make the 3 hour trip down.**

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by

Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To grant the renewal of a Class BV Beverage License, an Entertainment License, Victualing License and a Holiday Sales License to Round Pond Management Corp. d/b/a Stone House 1854 for premises located at 122 Sakonnet Point Road, contingent upon meeting all state and local requirements before the licenses can be issued.

The Remonstrant's Hearing was closed at 7:55 PM.

Rebecca Elwell was welcomed to the Council meeting. She reviewed for the Council a grant opportunity which has come available for twelve communities, including Little Compton. The grant funds are federal funds to be funneled through the State of Rhode Island to these predetermined communities. The funds are for programs to be established relating to prevention of marijuana use by 12 – 17 year olds in our community. This opportunity was announced in an article in the Providence Journal and alluded to a potential funding value of \$100,000 to \$125,000 per year for five years for each of the twelve communities identified. Little Compton will need to coordinate with Portsmouth because our high school students attend school in that community. There are not too many details at this stage. An RFP should be received in January where Mrs. Elwell will return to a Council meeting and to discuss the Town Council serving as fiscal agent to accept the RFP proposal to be submitted for potential funding. If the Town chooses to pursue this grant the program will

need cooperation from the Portsmouth School Dept., Portsmouth Police Dept., Little Compton School Dept. and Little Compton Police Dept. A survey of the local middle school children will likely be necessary. This matter was informational only.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To authorize the Town Clerk to sign a renewal contract with ACS Enterprise Solutions, LLC for imaging and data storage of the land evidence records of the Town, contingent upon a successful review of the contract by the Town Solicitor and the Town Clerk.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To promote Ryan LeClaire to the rank of Junior Patrolman effective December 19, 2013 due to the successful completion of his probationary period, with salary and benefits as set forth in the agreement between the Town of Little Compton and IBPO Local 644.

A series of letters concerning an Access to Public Records Act Request received from the LC Volunteer Fire Dept. were listed under communications #1. The request asks for any and all documents of whatever nature listed in 15 separate requests concerning the public safety complex, funding by drug forfeiture funds, council resolutions,

ordinances, audits, financial records, traveling and disposition of several pieces of equipment listed all from 1990 to date. This request is of such a volume that it is difficult to predict the amount of time and copying expense to complete. The Town Solicitor advised the LCVFD through their attorney that a value of \$750, which consists of 51 hours of search and retrieval, at a fee of \$15 per hour (first hour free) as per RI General Laws would be needed to begin the search.

Information that the check has been received today the 19th by the Solicitors Office has been received by the Town Clerk. It should be noted that this request constitutes an extraordinary effort by Town employees to compile the material requested. Councilor Mushen stated that he personally has difficulty with this request. The request covers 23 years worth of council minutes and correspondence, financial records, police department drug forfeiture files and all records on the construction of the public safety complex. The Solicitors office chose a low value of 50 hours for search and retrieval but the Police Department believes it may be closer to 100 hours for his research and notes that he will have to pay overtime for his officers to do the research which is not reimbursable.

The Solicitor stated that he hoped we could provide what the LCVFD was seeking. Chief Wordell stated that he finds issue with the fact that no one came into any of our offices to ask to see these records, but rather has sent this request as a first action. He further noted that many times individuals would come in to our offices and ask for

documentation or information and leave satisfied. The Solicitor asked the Chief if he felt this was punitive in nature and that the information is readily available to any volunteer to review if they had asked. The Chief answer in the affirmative.

Francisco Silva, a lifetime member of the LCVFD asked if the Council had knowledge of the number of active volunteers at this time. Their answer was that they did not have that information; they do however know who the officers are from the annual filing with the Secretary of States Office. Jack Crook is presently listed as the President of the LCVFD.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file in the Town Landing folder a letter from Arthur and Susan Goldstone giving their opinion on proposed improvements to the site.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): That the recommendation of the Board of Tax Assessors for the cancellation of the following taxes be granted under Section 44-7-14 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, as amended:

Acct/Name Plat/Lot/MV Abatement Value Abatement Year

23-0285-55 Tangible \$6,000.00 \$64.56 2013

Welchman, Kyle

23-0285-10 2008 Audi A4 \$13,068.00 \$181.65 2013

Welchman, Renee

09-0010-05 2012 Subaru \$6,599.87 \$91.74 2013

Ingoldsby, Joseph E. 1998 Ford 0.00 0.00 2013

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

- 1. Copy of a request from Larry Anderson sent to the LC Agricultural Conservancy Trust for a copy a document described in the Trust's Nov. 6th meeting minutes.**
- 2. Copy of a notice sent by the Coastal Resources Management Council of proposed changes to its Administrative Procedures for hearing 01-14-2014**
- 3. Corrected Notice received from Coastal Resources Management Council correcting the location of a public hearing to be held 1-14-14 to consider changes to administrative procedures and regulations.**

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

Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): That the bills be allowed and ordered paid as follows: \$36,888.74

Nationalgrid - Cell Tower \$198.46
Nationalgrid - Transfer Station \$37.54
Nationalgrid - Public Safety Complex \$1,034.67
Nationalgrid - Adamsville Street Lights \$59.47
Nationalgrid - Town Hall \$191.08
Nationalgrid - IOOF \$22.28
Nationalgrid - 32 Commons \$20.13
Nationalgrid - Street Lights - Peckham Lot \$25.42
Nationalgrid - Street Lights \$20.19
Nationalgrid - Town Dock \$32.94
Petro - Maintenance \$706.61
Petro - Public Safety Complex \$1,766.41
Petro - gasoline \$4,063.13
Cox Communications - computer \$252.00
Cox Communications - Town Hall Depts. \$269.17
WBMason - Building Official/Highway \$419.95
Richard S Humphrey - legal services \$217.50
Richard S Humphrey - legal services \$58.00
Richard S Humphrey - legal services \$493.00
Interstate Refrigerant Recovery Inc. - Transfer Station \$210.00
JC Madigan Inc. - Highway \$99.49
Christopher Oliveira - Wastewater Treatment Facility \$480.00
Madden Electric - Public Safety Complex \$4,125.00

Home Depot - Town Hall - Maintenance \$63.89

Postmaster - Assessors \$92.00

Aquidneck Mooring - Harbor Management Funds \$75.00

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Alarm New England LLC - Town Hall \$317.97

McGeough's Turf Management Inc. - Civic Rec. \$979.00

McGeough's Turf Management Inc. - Civic Rec. \$812.00

Tiverton Auto Body Inc. - Fire Dept. \$15.00

Ocean State4 Truck & Diesel - Fire Dept. \$405.00

Freightliner of Hartford Inc. - Fire Dept. \$20.08

Rob's Auto Care - Fire Dept. \$1,094.13

Dawson Group - Fire Dept. \$1,473.70

Firematic Supply Co Inc. - Fire Dept. \$88.00

Vic's Car Washes - Fire Dept. \$28.50

Verizon Wireless - Fire Dept. \$69.22

Verizon Wireless - Fire Dept. \$40.01

Verizon Wireless - Fire Dept. \$30.17

Griggs & Browne Co Inc. - Fire Dept. \$50.00

Northeast Rescue systems - Fire Dept. \$389.00

Wilkie Excavating - Fire Dept. \$135.00

RI Assoc. of Fire Chiefs - Fire Dept. \$150.00

Cox Communications - Fire Dept. \$170.79

Firex Inc. - Fire Dept. \$72.00

Northeast Rescue Systems - Fire Dept. \$796.00

Belmont Springs - Fire Dept. \$21.26

Enos Home Oxygen & Medical Supply - Fire Dept. \$34.00

KP Manning Auto Parts - Fire Dept. \$20.00

Messenger Security Systems Inc. - Fire Dept. \$120.00

Firematic Supply Co - Fire Dept. \$74.00

Shipman's Fire Equipment - Fire Dept. \$256.95

The Dawson Group - Fire Dept. \$1,331.29 \$6,884.10

Verizon Wireless - Highway \$58.91

Verizon Wireless - Transfer Station \$30.17

Verizon Wireless - Maintenance Dept. \$30.19

Verizon Wireless - Maintenance Dept. \$33.06

RI Resource Recovery - Transfer Station \$172.00

Allied Waste - Transfer Station \$6,881.91

Fisher Bus Inc. - Senior Busing \$300.00

WBMason - Treasurer - Town Hall \$92.85

Poland Springs - Maintenance \$4.72

Poland Springs - Town Hall \$13.09

Direct Energy - Transfer Station \$28.55

Direct Energy - Public Safety Complex \$481.53

Direct Energy - Town Hall \$195.49

Direct Energy - Adamsville Street Lights \$52.40

Direct Energy - Town Dock \$23.55

Direct Energy - Street Lights Peckham Lot \$15.37

Direct Energy - Street Lights \$9.69

Direct Energy - 32 Commons \$9.62

Direct Energy - IOOF \$11.96

Direct Energy - Cell Tower \$203.52

Modern Printing - Assessors \$28.00

International Assoc. of Assessing Officers - Assessors \$87.50
Rhode Island Attorney General - Drug Forfeiture \$90.00
Rob's Auto Care - Drug Forfeiture \$45.00
Verizon Wireless - Drug Forfeiture \$349.39
Vic's Car Wash - Drug Forfeiture \$9.50
Taser International - Drug Forfeiture \$393.26
Sidney Wordell - Drug Forfeiture \$446.00 \$1,333.15
Sidney Wordell - Police Dept. \$995.00
Belmont Springs - Police Dept. \$31.02
Wilbur's General Store - Police Dept. \$17.96
Cox Communication/Internet - Police Dept. \$171.00
Cox Communication/Telephone - Police Dept. \$197.29
W.B. Mason - Police Dept. \$303.98
Sakonnet Veterinary Hospital - Police Dept. \$420.00 \$2,136.25
Mike Mass - Harbor Management Fund \$152.76
Paychex - Treasurer \$401.10

Motion made by Councilor Bodington, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To adjourn at 8:48 PM.

Carol A Wordell
Town Clerk