

Minutes of a Town Council meeting held on June 18th, A.D. 2015 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. Absent: Robert L. Mushen. Also present: Richard S. Humphrey, Town Solicitor, Fire Chief R. Petrin, Police Chief A. Marion, III and Tom Dunn, Business Manager.

Salute to the Flag.

Council Vice-President Paul Golembeske opened a public hearing for the purpose of collecting comments on a proposal to amend Chapter 15-1 of the Little Compton Town Code as follows:

To replace the existing Chapter 15-1 with the following:

15-1 Exemption for real property held by conservation organizations

15-1.1 Exemption. Real properties held in fee by conservation organizations in Little Compton which are recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as tax exempt per IRS Code 501(c)(3), shall be exempt from taxation. Currently, the eligible organizations are the Sakonnet Preservation Association, the Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust, and the Nature Conservancy. Within sixty days of acquisition, written notification that includes plat and lot number(s) of conserved parcels shall be sent to the Town Council by the

conserving organization. Included in that notification shall be a statement certifying that all taxes owed on the property for the current tax year are paid in full.

15-1.2 Effective Date. This section shall take effect as of the assessment date of December 31, 2015.

Abigail Brooks commented that the Audubon Society of RI currently owns property in Little Compton and in her opinion should be listed as currently eligible. Robert Goff, Tax Assessor commented that the Audubon Society is tax exempt by State Law as is The Nature Conservancy. Councilor Mataronas asked if we needed to clarify “land” conservation organization. Since the sentence reads “Real properties held ...” it was felt that it was clear enough.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To close a public hearing on a proposal to amend Chapter 15 of the Town Code of the Town of Little Compton.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To amend Chapter 15 of the Little Compton Town Code as follows:

To replace the existing Chapter 15-1 with the following:

15-1 Exemption for real property held by conservation organizations

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Abigail Brooks supplied a copy of the summer 2001 Little Compton Landscapes a Newsletter of the Sakonnet Preservation Association which includes an article on “What is the relationship between land conservation and property taxes?”

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Mataronas) abstained (Appleton, Bodington): To approve, as written the Town

Council meeting minutes for June 4, 2015.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To receive a report from the Little Compton Wellness Center by unanimous consent of the Council.

Connie Castenson, President of the LC Wellness Center stated that the Center was formerly known as the Little Compton Nursing Association. They promote healthy aging through a variety of services for the brain, exercise, nutrition and creativity calling these the keys to healthy aging.

Susan Chase, Program Director of the LC Wellness Center stated that her focus is to promote programs for the elderly. The Center houses the LC Food Bank, Corner Stone Adult Day Care and they support the Stay At Home Inc. program by storing their equipment such as canes, walkers, wheelchairs and other similar items. She considers the Center as a Social Services location and pleas for the council to help reduce the trend to continue to reduce funding through the Annual Financial Town Meeting appropriations.

Councilor Mataronas announced that the Boat Ramp at Sakonnet Harbor is finished and in use. The State is still looking to implement phase 2 of the project by installing a floating ramp along side of the boat ramp.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To place on file the Police Department Head Report for May 2015.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To ratify the actions of the Council President to communicate to Senator Louis DiPalma and Representative Dennis Canario the Council's strong opposition to Senate Bill 961 and House Bill 6278 concerning first responder overtime management rights.

Chief Petrin noted for those in attendance that both Senate Bill 961 and House Bill 6278 are no longer being considered by the General Assembly for this session.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To re-appoint Ellen DeWolf Field as a Trustee on the Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust for a five year term which will expire July 1, 2020.

Two (2) proposals have been received for Spring Roadside grass and brush mowing along Town roads:

Rich McGee and Son Excavating – as per specifications \$5,500

290K West Main Rd

Little Compton, RI 02837

Joseph Rego – as per specifications \$6,850

93 Amesbury Ln

Little Compton, RI 02837

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To refer to the Director of Public Works who serves as the Highway Supervisor two (2) proposals for Spring Roadside grass and brush mowing for his review, and to authorize said DPW Director to award the bid to the most responsive and responsible bidder.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Appleton, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To adopt the following list of salaries and benefits for fiscal year 2016:

SALARIES AND BENEFITS

JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016

1. Police Chief

As per contract

2. Part Time Policemen: to be \$2 less than Senior Patrolman rate

Uniform Allowance - \$150.00

Special Details – to be equivalent to Senior Patrolman rate when working for the Town of Little Compton and to be equivalent to Private Detail rate when working on a private entity as set forth in the agreement between the Town of Little Compton and the IBPO Local 644

3. Fire Chief

As per contract

4. Substitute Firemen: (part time firefighters):

Hourly Rate - \$15.00 per hour – set by vote of the Town Council held July 7, 2011.

5. Harbor Master - \$6,270 per year; with reimbursement of \$40 per month for cell phone use as Harbor Master until his personal contract expires and he joins the town's cell phone plan; no other benefits

Assistant Harbor Master - \$600.00 yearly

6. Building Official

As per contract

Under jurisdiction of the Building Officials Office

Electrical Inspectors - \$30.00 per visit

Plumbing/Mechanical Inspectors - \$30.00 per visit

7. Business Manager

As per contract

**8. Leonard Corrao (Disabled Firefighter) – Town payment
\$1576.21/month**

9. Tree Warden and Equipment (Contract Work)

Labor - \$45.00/hr.

Pickup Truck - \$15.00/hr.

Large Truck - \$20.00/hr.

Tractor and Loader - \$25.00/hr.

Bucket Truck - \$45.00/hr.

Chipper - \$40.00/hr.

(Vote of Town Council on 11/25/1985 – Outside contractors shall pay the tree warden \$15.00/day and notify him not less than 72 hrs. (when possible) prior to entering Town; also to notify him immediately upon completion of work).

10. Highway Personnel and Equipment (Contract Work):

Labor - \$35.00/hr.

Pickup Truck - \$15.00/hr.

Tractor w/ Rotary Mower and Operator - \$49.00/hr.

Tractor w/Side Mower & Operator - \$66.00/hr.

Backhoe w/operator - \$79.00/hr.

Tracked Backhoe (excavator) and operator - \$90.00/hr.

Five to Seven (5-7) Yard Dump Truck - \$35.00/hr.

Grader w/operator - \$75.00/hr.

One Ton Dump Truck - \$20.00/hr.

***Machine Operator labor only - \$50/hr**

***Mechanic work on town owned equipment labor only \$50/hr**

***Storage of Town Sander Truck and parts \$200/month**

Snow Removal (All w/operator):

Four Wheel Drive (4WD) Pickup w/8 ft. Power Angle Plow - \$68.00/hr.

One (1) Ton (or Greater) Truck w/9 ft. Power Angle Plow - \$73.00/hr.

One (1) Loader w/operator - \$75.00/hr.

Six (6) Wheel Dump Truck w/10 ft. Plow - \$74.00/hr.

Sanding Town Roads - \$335/sand or \$320/sand w/Town sander

11. All Salaries and Benefits as set forth in the signed contracts between the I.B.P.O., I.A.F.F., and the Little Compton Municipal Employees Association and the Town of Little Compton

12. Also, authorize Treasurer to pay:

1. Salaries of elected officials as voted at the 2015 Annual Financial Town Meeting.

2. All bills presented by the L.C. Free Public Library and the Beach

Commission.

3. Salary of Probate Judge as voted at the 2015 Annual Financial Town Meeting.

4. Longevity payments

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To authorize the Town Treasurer to make longevity payments for the municipal employees.

Chief Petrin expressed his desire to sell engine #1 and tanker #1 and replace with newer equipment. A chassis inspection was conducted on tanker #1 resulting in a report of deficiencies in the main frame rails and body. The Chief solicited online bids receiving (4) four bids for the tanker and (1) one bid for the engine. After a brief discussion the following was voted:

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To authorize the sale of tanker #1 and engine #1 of the Little Compton Fire Department as per bids solicited on-line by Chief Petrin through Brindle Mountain Fire Apparatus to Elk Horn Iowa Fire Department for the amount of \$55,000 for tanker #1 and to Randolph Volunteer Fire Department for the amount of \$95,000 for engine #1.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To authorize the purchase of a new engine/tanker and a used medium duty squad truck, contingent upon a successful review of the specifications by Councilor Mushen and additionally to allow financing in accordance with the Business Managers coordination of a seven (7) year note to finance the balance of the purchase after proceeds from the sale of the existing equipment is applied to the purchase price.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To place on file a copy of a resolution adopted by the Charlestown Town Council objecting to overreaching of state regulation of the right to farm in House Bill 6100 Sub A.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To place on file a copy of a resolution adopted by the East Greenwich Town Council requesting the General Assembly support legislative initiatives that would allow municipalities the flexibility to determine whether or not to hold school on Primary Day, Election Day or Columbus Day.

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

Golembeske, Mataronas): To place on file a communication received from the RI Dept. of Behavioral healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals, Division of Behavioral Healthcare noting changes in contracting and monitoring structure for state fiscal year 2016.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To grant permission to the United Congregational Church to use the Town Landing on August 23, 2015 at 10:00 am for a Beach Service.

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

- 1. Copy of a memo from the RI Auditor General reminding the Town that GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) Statement No. 68 – Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions is effective for fiscal 2015 governmental financial reporting.**
- 2. Copy of a resolution adopted by the Smithfield Public School Committee concerning House Bill 5861 and Senate Bill 0743 relating to gun free schools.**

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

Golembeske, Mataronas): That the bills be allowed and ordered paid as follows: \$24,158.01

Postmaster - Board of Canvassers \$5.00
NorthEast Sanitation Corp - civic rec. \$296.54
Verizon - Wastewater Treatment Facility \$53.45
Denise Cosgrove - Assessors \$477.58
Postmaster - Treasurer \$196.00
General Treasurer of RI - Assessors \$48.99
Modern Printing - Assessors \$989.00
RI Sec. of State - LC Housing Trust \$20.00
Petro - diesel \$614.43
Petro - gasoline \$2,484.67
Wilbur's General Store - Town Hall \$19.21
Wilbur's General Store - Maintenance \$11.02
Nationalgrid - Transfer Station \$32.81
Nationalgrid - Public Safety Complex \$1,070.27
Alarm New England - Town Hall \$317.97
Direct Energy - Transfer Station \$31.10
Direct Energy - Public Safety Complex \$711.27
Cox Communications - Town Hall Depts. \$255.08
KTR Maintenance & Supply - Town Hall \$44.34
Cox Communications - Computer \$252.00
Interstate Refrigerant Recovery - Transfer Station \$133.00
Aquidneck Mooring - Harbor Management Fund \$150.00
Aquidneck Mooring - Harbor Management Fund \$150.00

NorthEast Sanitation Corp - civic rec. \$50.00

Southcoast Power Equipment - Maintenance \$43.60

Southcoast Power Equipment - Maintenance \$56.18

United Site Services - Transfer Station \$115.00

Poland Springs - Town Hall - Maintenance \$33.32

Poland Springs - Transfer Station \$7.56

Nationalgrid - Cell Tower \$222.15

Nationalgrid - Adamsville Lights \$25.36

Nationalgrid - Peckham Lot \$23.01

Nationalgrid - Street Lights \$15.08

Nationalgrid - 32 Commons \$18.68

Nationalgrid - IOOF \$22.55

Nationalgrid - Town Hall \$177.73

Nationalgrid - Town Dock \$24.98

LC Vol. Fire Dept. - Fire Dept. annual fee \$1.00

Verizon Wireless - Transfer Station \$30.26

Verizon Wireless - Building Official \$59.18

Verizon Wireless - Maintenance Dept. \$30.28

Verizon Wireless - Maintenance Dept. \$33.12

University of RI - Drug Forfeiture \$550.00

Rockwood Corp. - Police Dept. \$91.50

Dept. of Attorney General - Drug Forfeiture \$60.00

Verizon Wireless - Drug Forfeiture \$278.72 \$980.22

Vic's Car Washes - Police Dept. \$9.50

Belmont Springs - Police Dept. \$33.94

Wilbur's General Store - Police Dept. \$3.77

Sakonnet Veterinary Hosp. - Police Dept. \$440.00

Sullivan Tire Co. - Police Dept. \$500.76

Cox Communications - Police Dept. \$171.00

Cox Communications - Police Dept. \$188.21

Earles - Police Dept. \$53.15 \$1,400.33

Sakonnet Tree, Inc. - Tree Warden \$507.00

Direct Energy - Peckham Lot \$17.00

Direct Energy - 32 Commons \$10.78

Direct Energy - IOOF \$16.33

Direct Energy - Town Hall \$239.42

Direct Energy - Adamsville Street Lights \$20.40

Direct Energy - Street Lights \$5.64

Direct Energy - Cell Tower \$303.26

Direct Energy - Town Dock \$19.82

Tripp's Lawn Care Inc. - Cemetery Fund \$230.00

Messenger Security Systems Inc. - 32 Commons \$65.00

Messenger Security Systems Inc. - 30 Commons \$65.00

Messenger Security Systems Inc. - Town Hall \$105.00

Modern Printing - Zoning Board \$49.00

Modern Printing - Town Clerk \$69.50

Belmont Springs - Fire Dept. \$2.39

Wilbur's General Store - Fire Dept. \$7.53

Cox Communications - Fire Dept. \$173.26

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

Home Depot - Fire Dept. \$20.12 \$253.30

Pioneer Heavy Duty Parts - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$11.08

Ocean State Truck & Diesel - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$187.00
Rob's Auto Care Inc. - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$65.00
Vic's Car Washes - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$9.50
Dawson Group - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$597.12
Dawson Group - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$906.92
Verizon Wireless - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$123.16
Tritech Software Systems - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$1,080.00 \$2,979.78
Paychex of New York LLC -Treasurer \$543.77
Goulart Petroleum Inc - Public Safety Complex \$444.94
David Sisson Contacting - Highway \$2,450.00
Russell L Sisson & Sons - Town hall \$1,502.00
Rich McGee & Son Excavating - Highway \$1,202.00
Rich McGee & Son Excavating - Highway \$233.00
Richard S Humphrey - legal services \$1,092.75

At 7:44 PM the Town Council Vice President polled his fellow Councilors as to their wishes to enter into executive session under RIGL Section 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining with IAFF Local 3957 and IBPO Local 644. All voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas). Also in attendance: Richard S. Humphrey, Town Solicitor. Absent: Robert Mushen.

Discussion of collective bargaining with IAFF Local 3957 and IBPO Local 644.

At 7:58 PM the Town Council Vice 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 with IAFF Local 3957 and IBPO Local 644. All voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas).

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To authorize the Town Council President to sign a renewal of the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Little Compton and IAFF Local 3957 for three year period from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018, contingent upon a successful review by the Council President.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas): To adjourn at 7:59 PM.

Carol A Wordell, Town Clerk