

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
COUNTY OF NEWPORT**

The Town Council of the Town of Tiverton, County and State aforesaid held a Special Council Meeting on Saturday, the 20th day of February 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Tiverton Town Hall, 343 Highland Ave.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilor President deMedeiros, Councilor Lambert, Councilor Mello, Councilor Perry and Councilor Sousa. Vice-President Chabot and Councilor Pelletier were absent. Town Administrator Wojcik, was also present.

1. Call To Order

Council President deMedeiros called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. with a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Roll call was taken.

Harbor and Coastal Management Commission

Chair Bruce Cox and Harbor Master Tyler Loomis

There are 38 moorings available in the basin. Portsmouth organized grid of moorings which maximizes income and provides safer waters. Restructuring mooring fees, small boats pay less. Waters not utilized are the deeper waters for bigger boats. No proposal yet, just estimating. Need to engage an engineer. Water quality testing line item is new, in Harbor Mgt Plan. State charges the fee of \$300 to approve Water Mgt Plan. Working on pollution issues, one farm in particular trying to identify the source of pollution. Reported site with URI on line and getting some high data reports. Continue narrowing down areas of pollution.

Administrator cut the request for \$5000 for Basin Mooring Analysis. Could do transfer and pay with existing budget. Accounts that are not actively used should be transferred to needed accounts. Mooring field study two prongs; map out fields and change the fees which needs a submission before Council. Need to be persuaded with plan and how much time the Harbor Commission will have to enforce the rules. Bruce Cox confirmed would strictly be the basin area. Objective step one is to lay it out then see how many spots, waiting list, demand, then adjust fees this year. Hope to have return on investment. Starwoods condos dropped 15 moorings which are now available to public. They were not using so abandoned. DEM would like to put some moorings there but will not pay anything to the Town. Administrator added Town not utilizing all mooring sites now. Bruce Cox added the moorings abandoned are by the north end of the bridges. The waiting list and demand is in the basin. Bruce indicated may need RFP for engineering and make next year's project. Councilor Pelletier added provides service to Town and clears a very congested basin, not purely financial. Councilor Perry questioned the assistant Harbor Master. Tyler responded needed for spring and summer. Operations line item is all for boat, twin engine; increased \$2000 for unexpected repairs. Council Sousa questioned need for two boats. Administrator informed Harbor Master is not certified for life rescue. Councilor Sousa wants fire and police to have access to harbor boat. Patrol from Fogland to Fall River.

Police Department

Barbara Pelletier discussed the Doggie Poop Stations and additional funding needed. Originally all installation and pick up paid for by Placing Paws. Raised possibility of dog registrations at local veterinarians and see if they will help promote when pets brought in for rabies shots. Revenue base, should send forms to area vets. Currently under 500 dogs registered, needs more enforcement. Town Clerk informed in process of sending notices after rabies clinic and possible charge late fee for not registering in April. Animal shelter contract 6 cages this year same last year. Capital, only buying 2 vehicles. On agenda to purchase third car with money from this year's budget at a savings. Interior/exterior security recording reduced to 20k. Have proposal for 38k but also looking at grant. Imperative, need documentation for proof and help building security, liability and litigation. Administrator explained have broken down lot of accounts such as heat, gas and oil, electricity, etc for better detail. Some have several line items but same account number.

Councilor Sousa indicated he would later be looking to add a seasonal hire to work on buildings. Chief stated has a person on staff for building maintenance/janitor. Janitorial supplies separate item. Page 14, salaries reflect contracts except for AFSCME, negotiating 7/1 contract. Overtime increase 10k should be able to make to end of this year. Have two out on FLMA, 2 on IOD, 2 vacancies. May and June will be hit heavy. Councilor Perry suggested committee looking into fire retention would be good to do with police. Administrator added have made some advances by using outside company. Minority communities contacted, have 75 applications back. Usual process required advertising in 2 newspapers, now spent zero, do on line and got over 125 applications. Councilor DeMedeiros stated it is good to hear what concerns are from rank and file. Councilor Perry, benefit package good in Tiverton; young want money, old want benefits. Administrator confirms good capital replacement schedule, extended warranties to help cover repairs. Useful life of cruisers 3 yrs and warranty 3 yr 75k miles. Councilor Sousa complements Christopher Cotta prior B/C Chair with getting on purchasing schedule 2/3 for vehicles. Taxpayers supported a good plan. Training is paramount can't emphasize enough. Narcan in all cruisers for opium, mental health interaction. Things changing constantly.

Councilor Perry questioned if needs will be greater with casino, need to start looking ahead. Chief met with Lincoln chief and discussed staffing; casino has mini police station on grounds and they actual send backup or answer if available. Continued with operations account, 10k less than last year.

Fire Department

Discussion on recruitment; went to online system at no cost rather than newspaper advertising. Working out well, testing procedure all on line. Councilor deMedeiros added contract gives savings, no increase salaries. Currently 4 vacancies with one training in Fall River academy. Last set of applicants only had 7 and 2 qualified. Councilor Perry would like to see a numbered list maintained. BCI done on all finalists. Chief confirmed follow Charter, application process, Personnel Board removes any not qualified, written exam. Send for interview with P/B, then BCI on good candidates. Changed level to Basic from EMT-C. Retention and recruitment committee working on those issues. Must have EMT license to be on the ambulance. Councilor Perry questioned the physical exam account increase. Chief working on getting all medical physicals each year. Shift work grooling on guys, saving quite a bit. Last 28 day audit on overtime just under 100k. Councilor Perry in report to Council last month had 23 runs to Fall River. We receive funding on rescue calls to Fall River. Almost 10% of calls. Chief responded was told to pick up more FL RV runs for revenue. One item on capital new computers on rescues, feed into building. Using windows XP, all software needs higher level. Received some software through grant. Request was removed from capital budget.

Councilor Sousa referred to inventory of vehicles and requested mileage and location. Administrator added Interlocal Trust is updated with all info annually. Renting 3 garage spaces, store marine unit costing \$350/400 per month. Currently 6 million worth of equipment stored outside. Doors not big enough, need to get to. DPW can store some things indoors different. Chief need scramble response time.

Library

Ann Grealish-Rust Leon Hoyer, Jennifer Theroux Greg Jones

Distributed handout requesting 87k increase, graphs and charts indicating increase usage. Administrator had reduced request by 27k. Majority of increase direct result new building, not full year under belt yet. Mostly maintenance and contracts. Some expenses were prior covered under new building by contracts. Roughly 8k increase in operational. Slightly down with heat, good winter so far. Largest increase in salary line item. Tremendous response for usage. Taxing on current staff from Essex, need additional staff person. Request last year was low; needed to use remainder of flood insurance funds on operation instead of increase materials. One time source of funds. Councilor Pelletier commented end of June almost doubled amount of users, up 40%, computer double and circulation up 30%. Councilor Perry added Library has not gone before B/C yet. Charge out of towners 50 dollars to use room. Lot of Town boards and organizations utilize rooms. Provide equipment, wifi, 2 rooms with projection and video, conference ability. Used for interviews, tutoring, come in frequently. Reduction in service contract account, one less needed this year. New copy machine in addition to one from Essex. Councilor Sousa questioned the 20k increase on maintenance. Response basically to care for the island and landscaping, not grassy areas. Administrator commented recommending 10% increase over prior year. Town has potential safety issues and no new hirers anywhere in budget. Running DPW with one man short through winter. Need to make the entire budget work. Councilor Lambert noted more than double the users. Councilor Perry agreed, doing fantastic job. Remembered question if increase in staff would be necessary and answer was no. Ten percent increase over any other dept. Councilor deMedeiros understands need for another person but budget is tight and lot of sacrifices being made. Greg Jones emphasized the need to maintain the facility. Every year Library Board works with Town and make tradeoff on tough choices and will do that again.

Street Lights

Budget followed 5 year trend. Bills sent to Town Hall and reconcile National Grid and Direct Energy. Pretty much level funded, objective to purchase the street lights, eliminate maintenance and finance. In step 3 of Prism process. Required to audit all street lights and reconcile to information from Natl Grid regarding what exists and type of light. That work now completed. Currently waiting for final quote from Natl Grid and final cost. Difference in savings will be used to pay the financing when paid off all savings will be Towns. Several communities have been borrowing from RI Infrastructure Bank to pay Prism. Didn't cost Town for audit of lights. Councilor Perry stated schools just received money from Natl Grid for audit. Administrator stated until fix roof at Town Hall and tighten up building all energy saving efforts for nothing. Currently pay about \$27 for maintenance when should be paying 7 per light.

Landfill

DPW Director is out on medical leave. Administrator preferred he be present for actual core explanations on landfill and plan for future. Councilor Lambert suggested Landfill may be extended 3 to 3.5 years then 1 year to complete. Anticipate shortfall of ½ million. Haven't been contributing from budget over last few years. Don't see reason to borrow money and should put back the 168k back in budget. Councilor Sousa questioned where in process of going forward with legislation. Representative Edwards waiting for request from Town. Administrator not satisfied with info getting on this issue. May have 3 years under existing permit without need of extension. If have 5 years of PAYT income would be sufficient to fund closing. If don't put aside money will need to finance. Administrator raised issues of road, fence details. Engineers presented plan that was not presented prior. Plan stretch for 5 years so may not need to extend further. Councilor Sousa stated critical to fight for 5 years because the day landfill closes need to start

hauling to Johnston and twice the cost for recycling. Need PAYT to help cost. Councilor Lambert, relying on Pare Eng. and numbers they gave. Pare Eng. has done the work since beginning of process and has already cut 1 year from proposal. Administrator got Pare to do a field survey and get updated cost figures. Concern is the storm water management system on a hill. Need to design a system in compliance. Councilor Lambert stated will need 9.2 for closing and clear does not include fencing, monitoring, Councilor Pelletier would like to see a model, so many moving components. Councilors continued with tentative motions.

Councilor Perry motioned tentatively approve Fire Department request of 2,519,977. Seconded by Councilor Pelletier, motion passed 4-1. Councilor Sousa opposed.

Councilor Perry motioned tentatively approve Police Department request of 3,131,382. Seconded by Councilor Sousa, motion passed 4-0-1. Councilor Pelletier abstained.

Councilor Perry motioned tentatively approve Street Light request of 187,000. Seconded by Councilor Pelletier, motion passed 4-1. Councilor Sousa opposed.

Councilor Perry motioned tentatively approve Library recommendation for 600,000. Seconded by Councilor Pelletier, motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Perry motioned to continue Harbor Commission and Harbor Master budgets to next meeting. Seconded by Councilor Perry, motion passed unanimously.

DPW will be continued to March to allow the Director to be present.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Perry motioned to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Sousa. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

Nancy L. Mello, Town Clerk