

TOWN OF WEST WARWICK
RHODE ISLAND
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WEST WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Town Council Meeting
Town Council Chambers
November 19, 2024
6:00 P.M.

REMOTE PARTICIPATION IS AVAILABLE USING THE LOGIN INFORMATION BELOW:

JOIN VIA COMPUTER OR MOBILE APP: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3492888261>

JOIN VIA PHONE: DIAL: 1-646-558-8656 or TOLL-FREE AT 833-548-0282
WHEN PROMPTED, ENTER MEETING ID #3492888261
PRESS # AGAIN TO JOIN THE MEETING

YOUTUBE LINK (VIEW ONLY): <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGK1k6co83ptCoD6hYWSMxA>

AGENDA WITH ATTACHMENTS CAN BE VIEWED AT: <https://clerkshq.com/westwarwick-ri>

MINUTES

Please Note: Any matter listed on this agenda may be acted upon by the Town Council

A. Meeting called to order by the Town Council President at 6:32 p.m.

B. Roll Call taken by Town Clerk

Councilman Mark Dennison - Present
Councilman Jason Licciardi - Present
Councilman Jason Messier - Present
Council Vice President Maribeth Williamson - Present
Council President David Gosselin - Present

C. Quorum on Record Declared by Deputy Town Clerk

D. Consent Agenda

01 Approval of the minutes of November 12, 2024, Town Council Meeting

**MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the Consent Agenda.
All Ayes**

E. Ordinances

01 Second Reading of an Ordinance Related to Camping on Public Property

M. Williamson stated she is unsure of the ordinance and doesn't approve of the 20 days that bring us To Christmas and is not sure of what procedures are in place.

M. Knott, Town Manager stated that there is a template for each department to complete their mission it takes a team effort. The Police and Fire Chief participate in what needs to be done. There are some things that need to be discussed regarding the process and adequate notice that would be done with the police department and also proper storage of any material there is a draft protocol.

J. Messier stated the Town Council received a letter from the Statewide Outreach Coordinator they used the word raids and have concerns regarding the safety of both Police and Fire personnel do not agree with the 20-day process and the homeless getting arrested.

D. Gosselin replied that the ordinance has nothing to do with the homeless and regarding camping On public property.

Public Comment:

Anthony W. Bryce stated that he is homeless and that he collects \$1,000 a month and cannot afford rent and has no choice but to live in the woods.

Tom Benoit, stated he has been homeless and is now staying with a friend temporarily and paying \$400.00 a month and has been on a waiting list for housing for four years and is still waiting.

Johnathan Dogado, from 194 Cowesett Avenue and is working with HEZ and speaks on a personal Capacity. Johnathan addresses the council and asks what efforts are being made by the council to connect with the State and Federal agencies to create some sort of housing project that would prevent the criminalization of homelessness here in West Warwick.

Derek Read – 62 Andrews, shared his concerns regarding the campment.

Wendy Boudreau – 34 Pawtuxet Terrace, asked the council what services the council is offering the folks in the encampment and also the fines and punishments or is the municipal court judge going to offer the Social Services.

M. Knott replied that in the past when he was the liaison to the municipal court the judge would offer a continuance when the person would accept help outside of the court. The court would provide Social Services the same thing in District Court that help facilitate people in getting assistance and deferring the judgement until that time the person complying and making positive strides then The judge would offer continuance before providing any judgment such as a fine. The goal of this was not A revenue maker it is not the fines it is about the deterrence of the activity that you've all spoken of.

Chief Varone stated he had a meeting with the community partners obviously this was the topic of discussion. Few things that were brought out was we would be displacing disable individuals and

addition the people doing the counseling have a build a rapport over the years and has concerns rapps. The rapport diminishing and wants to work no matter which way it goes and also the Community partners want to work with us going forward and would like to see the council at the meetings within the open meeting guidelines are part of the concern.

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier to move Ordinance #2024-22 Chapter 12 – Offenses – Miscellaneous, Article 1. In General, Section 12-XX-Unauthorized Camping on Public Property.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

J. Licciardi – YES

J. Messier – NO

M. Dennison – YES

M. Williamson – NO

D. Gosselin – YES

MOTION PASSES

F. Business Licenses

01 Request from the West Warwick Wizards Athletic Awards Association for a Raffle License

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the raffle license.

All Ayes

02 Request from The Cleanery for a Laundry License and Holiday Sales License

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the Sunday Sales license.

All Ayes

03 Request from Belly Busters LLC for a Mobile Food Establishment License

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the Mobile Food Establishment license.

All Ayes

THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES SHOWS & EXHIBITIONS LICENSE

01 American Legion Post 2 dba April 12, 1924- 2 Legion Way

02 Bills Place – 707 Main Street

03 Cowesett Inn Inc. dba Cowesett Inn – 226 Cowesett Avenue

04 Kmj Inc. dba The Hour Bar – 1193 B Main Street

05 Tom Arruda dba JJ’s Café – 289 Cowesett Avenue

06 L.A. Cafe, Inc. dba LA Café - 245 Washington Street

07 Millonzies Bar & Grill – 11 Curson Street

08 Phenix Sportsmens Club – 715 Main Street

09 Portuguese Holy Ghost Society - 11 Ventura Street

10 Portuguese American Sports Club – 12 Bridge Street

- 11 Portuguese American Citizens Club – 97 East Main Street
- 12 Portuguese Instructional Club dba P.I.C.- 918 Main Street
- 13 721 Quaker Lane dba Condesa Mexican Restaurant – 721 Quaker Lane
- 14 293 PVD LLC dba Boomerangs RoadHouse – 293 Providence Street
- 15 Deborah’s Down the Road Inc. – 826 Main Street
- 16 The Forewest Clubhouse Inc DbA West Warwick Country Club – 335 Wakefield Street
- 17 Condesa – 721 Quaker Lane
- 18 The Falls Event Enter LLC – 3 Bridal Avenue
- 19 Unforgettable Events Party Hall – 1745 Main Street
- 20 Grand View Event Venue – 53 Providence Street
- 21 Toast n’ Tap – 45 Quaker Lane

Let the record show that M. Williamson and J. Messier recused themselves from theatrical performances and show exhibitions.

MOTION made by J. Licciardi, seconded by M. Dennison for approval of theatrical performances and show exhibitions.

All Ayes

DANCE/LIVE BAND LICENSE RENEWALS

- 01 American Legion Post 2 DbA April 15, 1924 - 2 Legion Way
- 02 Club Frontenac – 1143 Main Street
- 03 Kmj Inc. dba The Hour Bar – 1193 B Main Street
- 04 LA Café Inc. dba LA Café – 245 Washington Street
- 05 Phenix Sportsmen’s Club – 715 Main Street
- 06 Portuguese Holy Ghost Society – 11 Ventura Street
- 07 Portuguese Instructional Club DbA P.I.C – 918 Main Street
- 08 Portuguese Sports Club– 12 Bridge Street
- 09 293 PVD LLC dba Boomerangs Roadhouse – 293 Providence Street
- 10 The Falls Event Center LLC – 3 Bridal Avenue

Let the record show that M. Williamson and J. Messier recused themselves from dance/live band.

MOTION made by J. Licciardi, seconded by M. Dennison for approval of dance live band.

All Ayes

RENEWAL OF CONSTABLE LICENSES

- 01 Nicole Knott
- 02 Thomas Oates
- 03 David Johnson
- 04 Charles Davey
- 05 A. Joseph Houle III
- 06 Jason Allard Jr.
- 07 Keith Medeiros

- 08 Jeff Caldwell
- 09 Robert Assalone
- 10 Josua Martins
- 11 Paul Ambrose Lague
- 12 Elsie Curtis

**MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by M. Dennison for approval of the constable licenses.
All Ayes**

G. Appointments and Resignations

- 01 Request from Timothy Sullivan for Appointment to the West Warwick Zoning Board of Review as a full member

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

H. New Business

- 01 Approval of Sale of Surplus Vehicle(s) on GovDeals

M. Knott stated that it's for (1) surplus vehicles a 1991 Chevy K 500 from D.P.W.

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the Sale of Surplus Vehicle(s) on GovDeals.

All Ayes

- 02 Proclamation Declaring November as Lung Cancer Awareness Month

M. Knott received a request from the Lung Cancer Association to pronounce November as Lung Cancer Awareness month.

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the Lung Cancer Awareness Month.

All Ayes

- 03 School Building Committee Update

M. Knott stated that the Plans Community Conversation for tomorrow night has been rescheduled to December 18, at 6:00 p.m. at the High School Auditorium. The reason for the rescheduling was for recommendations and more commensurate with the expected budget available to fulfil many needs and still on target to have the proposal and plans submitted to the Department of Education in February.

- 04 Resolution Approving Change order to Bid Award 2025-1 to Beausoleil Bros. for the Crompton Playground (2024-88)

M. Knott stated the bid award to Beausoleil Bros. in the amount of \$390,000. Two items came forward: The first one the extension of a retaining wall and the second one was to subbase the port in place. The additional cost is \$3600 for the total of \$41,600 there will be no additional funding. The DEM and the ARPA funds that were approved will stay in budget.

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the Change order Bid Award 2025-1 to Beausoleil Bros.

All Ayes

- 05 Resolution Awarding the Bid for On-Call Roadway Improvement Project Contract (2025-03)

M. Knott stated he spoke with Jim Geremia regarding the funding service and flexibility as we move forward. The RFP that was advertised and received six responses and Jim and his crew looked over all the bids and recommended that the bid should be awarded to the lowest bidder Venango Materials of Johnston for a two-year period if approved. Then it would come back for funding sources and a list of street names.

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the Bid for On-Call Roadway Improvements Project Contract (2025-03).

All Ayes

- 06 Resolution Authorizing Payment for the Purchase of Two (2) 2024 F-150 Pick Up Trucks

Director of DPW Jeff Cadwell, stated that he looking to replace the foreman vehicle and the Park and Recreation vehicle. The two vehicles are on the way out and the body is rotted. The Two vehicles will have plows put on for the winter.

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the Purchase of Two (2) 2024-F-150 Pick Up Trucks.

All Ayes

- 07 Approval of 2025 Town Council Meeting Schedule

MOTION made by M. Williamson, seconded by J. Messier for approval of the 2025 Town Council Meeting Schedule.

All Ayes

I. Upcoming Appointments

- 01 Sewer Use Board of Review – Appointment to fill a vacancy as an alternate member for three-year term
- 02 Sewer Use Board of Review – Appointment to fill a vacancy as a regular member for three-year term
- 03 Tax Assessment Board of Review -Appointment to fill a vacancy for a three-year term
- 04 School Building Committee – Architectural, Engineering, Construction Experience Needed
- 05 Tree Warden – Must be a Licensed Arborist
- 06 Recreation Committee – Appointment to fill vacancy for three-year term
- 07 West Warwick 250th Commission
- 08 Pawtuxet River Authority – Appointment to fill vacancy for unexpired term ending June 2026

J. Public Forum

Council President Gosselin began by apologizing to the Town Council and the Town of West Warwick and would like to recognize and a moment of silence for the passing of two wonderful gentlemen David Perry who brought the West Warwick Caboose to the town West Warwick and many other great things and also Paul Richards who served on many boards like the Recreation Committee, Parks and Recreation committee and also the Board of Canvassers.

Derek Read, 62 Andrews Ave., began by questing the Town Manager, Knott regarding the drainage issued at Industrial Lane and if the town retrieved the plans from the engineer that drew them

M. Knott stated there are no firm updates regarding this matter moving forward from the town perspective as of today. Regarding the plans there is no information as of tonight and also it does not have the answer for what the town responsibility is at this time.

K. Adjournment

MOTION made by J. Messier, seconded by J. Licciardi to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

All Ayes

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Iannitelli
Deputy Town Clerk