

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE
DOCKET-REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020
CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 P.M.
145 TAUNTON AVENUE-CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
EXECUTIVE SESSION: CONFERENCE ROOM A

RE-OPEN SESSION TO BE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT APPROXIMATELY 6:15 P.M.

City Council:

Council President, Robert Britto - Ward 1
Council Vice-President: Bob Rodericks - At Large
Councilwoman Anna Sousa - Ward 2
Councilman Nate Cahoon - Ward 3
Councilman Ricardo Mourato - Ward 4

City Solicitor, Michael J. Marcello
City Clerk, Samantha N. Burnett

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be both in person and virtually,
through an application called, "Zoom".

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY, USE THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

By phone:

Call the toll free number: 1-877-853-5247 (audio only) and enter the following information:
MEETING ID: 993-0796-0324
You will then be asked for the meeting passcode.
Enter the following passcode:
PASSCODE: 653929 (please note this is corrected)

By computer or smartphone (this is the audio and video option):

To participate visually (with audio) you will need to log into the following from your computer or smart phone, go to: www.zoom.us
Enter the following information when prompted
MEETING ID: 993-0796-0324
You will then be asked for the meeting passcode. Enter the following passcode number: 653929
Once entered, you will be able to join the meeting. At the appropriate time for public comment the moderator will allow you to provide comment at the meeting.
The meeting will also be available live on our city website, located at:
<http://www.clerkbase.com/RI-EastProvidence-Live-CityCouncil.html>

In addition, written public comment on any agenda item can be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 24, 2020 in the following delivery methods:

Email the City Clerk: sburnett@eastprovidenceri.gov

Mailed/dropped off at: City Hall, Attention: City Clerk, 145 Taunton Avenue - East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INVOCATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council of East Providence may meet in Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5 (a)(2)

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

a. Litigation

1. ExxonMobil Oil Corp. vs. Sarah Frew in her capacity as Assessor for the City of East Providence, C.A. No. PC-2014-0178; PC-2014-5871; PC-2015-4963; PC-2017-1455; PC-2018-0141; PC-2019-2060; PC-2020-05015.

Update on status of consolidated cases and settlement proposals and potential vote.

2. Tax Appeal Dismissals:

A. Sanford Holdings LLC - PC-2017-1690, PC-2018-0169, PC-2019-3607, PC-2020-0691

B. Matthew Lowell Mobile Home Park - PC-2014-0906, PC-2015-2260, PC-2016-1667

C. Mercury Enterprises, LLC - PC-2014-2444

D. East Providence Elks Lodge 2337 - PC-2013-1089

b. Claims

1. Leonardo Chirinian

c. Sewer Charge Abatements

1. Lewis T. Quarttrucci

III. OPEN SESSION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. MOTION TO SEAL MINUTES FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

PUBLIC COMMENT

Each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes. The order of the speakers will be on a first come, first serve basis and the maximum time for public comment shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes per meeting. Public comments must pertain to a docket item.

VI. APPOINTMENTS

a) Kendal Martes – Appointment to the Juvenile Hearing Board
(Mayoral Appointment with Council Approval)

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

b) David O'Connell, 229 Brightridge Avenue – Appointment to City Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (Council Vice President Rodericks)

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

c) Karen Costa, 54 Woodland Ave – Appointment to City Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (Council Vice President Rodericks)

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

VII. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Armenian/Azerbaijan War Statement
Council President Britto
2. New ADA/Closed Captioning for Council Meetings
Councilman Mourato

3. Eminent Domain Conversation Regarding Metacomet Golf Club (500 Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence, 02914) including Request for Legal Services Discussion and Possible Vote
Councilman Mourato
4. Policy Discussion Regarding Obtaining Independent Appraisals regarding Metacomet Golf Club (500 Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence, 02914)
Councilman Mourato
5. Eminent Domain Conversation Regarding Metacomet, (500 Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence, 02914) RFI Status Update (continued from November 10, 2020 meeting)
Councilman Cahoon
6. Property Tax Impact on Land Owners in East Providence Should Metacomet Golf Club (500 Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence, 02914) be obtained by the City of East Providence
Councilman Cahoon

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

a) COMMUNICATIONS – OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

1. **Rescinding of Executive Order 2020-042: Temporary Waiver of Interest**
2. **Metacomet Golf Club (500 Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence, 02914) RFI**
3. **Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation proposed disposal rate increase**
4. **Executive Order 2020-046 - Extension of Municipal State of Emergency to December 1, 2020**

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

b) REPORTS OF OTHER CITY OFFICIALS

- 1.) City Solicitor's Claims Report
Solicitor Michael J. Marcello
- 2.) Monthly Business Licensing Status Report (Communication Only)
City Clerk, Samantha Burnett
- 3.) Office of the City Clerk: New Handicap Accessibility Services Announcement
City Clerk, Samantha Burnett

c) RESOLUTIONS

Full resolutions on ClerkBase, under 11/24/2020 agenda: <https://www.clerkshq.com/eastprovidence-ri>

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE GRANTING OF AN EASEMENT TO INSTALL, MAINTAIN, REINSTALL AND REPAIR A LOOP DETECTOR FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2000 PAWTUCKET AVENUE

Sponsored by: Councilman Cahoon

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR RED LIGHT ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AND SCHOOL ZONE SPEED ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Sponsored by: Council President Britto

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE WEAVER LIBRARY SPRINKLER SYSTEM

Sponsored by: Council Vice President Rodericks

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE AIR CONTROL SYSTEM FOR THE POLICE SYSTEM

Sponsored by: Council President Britto, Councilman Cahoon and Councilman Mourato

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

5. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE H-7614 RELATING TO TAXATION, PROPERTY

Sponsored by: Council President Britto

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

6. RESOLUTION TO CONVEY AND LEASE PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE WOLF SCHOOL LOCATED AT 215 FERRIS AVENUE

Sponsored by: Council Vice President Rodericks

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		
Britto		

7. A RESOLUTION REQUESTING GOVERNOR RAIMONDO TO RELEASE CARES ACT'S CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS TO CITIES AND TOWNS

Sponsored by: Council Vice President Rodericks

Member	Aye	Nay
Cahoon		
Mourato		
Rodericks		
Sousa		

Britto		
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IX. RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION (if necessary)

X. ADJOURNMENT

If communication assistance is needed or any other accommodations to ensure equal participation, please contact the City Clerk, Samantha Burnett at 401.435.7596 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE GRANTING OF AN
EASEMENT TO INSTALL, MAINTAIN, REINSTALL AND
REPAIR A LOOP DETECTOR FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL FOR
THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2000 PAWTUCKET AVENUE**

WHEREAS, the City of East Providence, the owner of property located at 2000 Pawtucket Avenue, Map 406, Block 6, Parcels 1 & 5 desires to grant an easement to the State of Rhode Island, Department of Transportation to enter upon a portion of the City's property hereinafter referred to as the "Loop Detector Easement Area"; and

WHEREAS, to accomplish the entry, an easement is necessary over City-owned property as set forth in the Permanent Loop Detector Easement Agreement attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws §45-2-4 empowers the City Council to grant interest in property.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- (1) The City Council of the City of East Providence authorizes the granting of an easement to install, maintain, reinstall and repair a loop detector for a traffic signal;
- (2) The Mayor, by and through the office of the City Solicitor, is hereby empowered to take all necessary steps to grant and perfect an easement consistent with the Permanent Loop Detector Easement Agreement attached hereto;
- (3) Execute a Full Release for the Permanent Traffic Signal Control Easements designated as Parcels 1P-1 and 1P-2 totaling 560 square feet as shown on State Highway Plat 2878;
- (4) Execute a Permanent Loop Detector Easement (of 1,001 Sq. Ft.) necessary for the new traffic signal being installed at the entrance to the High School allowing RIDOT to install and maintain the inductance loop detectors.

This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Adopted by the City Council: _____

Attest:

City Clerk of East Providence, Rhode Island

Introduced by: Councilman Cahoon

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A
SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR RED LIGHT ENFORCEMENT SERVICES
AND SCHOOL ZONE SPEED ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Automated School Zone Speed Enforcement System Act of 2016 authorizes municipalities to install automated speed cameras in school zones; and

WHEREAS, speeding within the City of East Providence continues to threaten the health, safety and welfare of residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the City Council passed Resolution No. 65 authorizing the Mayor to identify locations where red light enforcement and automated speed cameras in school zones would be most beneficial and to select an appropriate vendor for the identified locations; and

WHEREAS, technology exists which can assist East Providence Police officers to enforce existing traffic laws and enhance the traffic safety of the City streets and roads; and

WHEREAS, the City would like to enter into a Service Agreement with Sensys Gatso Group for red light enforcement services and automated speed cameras in school zones.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the City of East Providence City Council hereby authorize the Mayor to enter a Service Agreement between Sensys Gatso Group and the City of East Providence for red light enforcement services and automated speed cameras in school zones as outlined in the Fixed Location Traffic Enforcement Service Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Adopted by the City Council: _____

Attest:

City Clerk of East Providence, Rhode Island

Introduced by: Council President Britto

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A
CONTRACT FOR THE WEAVER LIBRARY SPRINKLER SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, Delta Mechanical Contractors, LLC was the sole bidder for the Weaver Library Sprinkler System project; and

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Delta Mechanical Contractors, LLC is in the amount of \$297,000.00. This will include design documents and plan review assistance, creation of cad files of the building, tie-ins to the fire alarm system, and power connections to the generator or air supply; and

WHEREAS, the project is being funded through the Capital Improvement Fund approved by the City Council in the amount of \$300,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the City would like to enter into a contract with Delta Mechanical Contractors, LLC for the Weaver Library Sprinkler System project in the amount of \$297,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of East Providence hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of East Providence to enter into a contract between Delta Mechanical Contractors, LLC and the City of East Providence for the Weaver Library Sprinkler System project.

Adopted by the City Council: _____

Attest:

City Clerk of East Providence, Rhode Island

Introduced by: Council Vice President Rodericks

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A
CONTRACT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE AIR CONTROL
SYSTEM FOR THE POLICE STATION**

WHEREAS, on October 28, 2020, four contractors submitted bids for the replacement of the air control system for the police station; and

WHEREAS, the lowest bid was provided by Automatic Temperature Controls, Inc. in the amount of \$241,946.00; and

WHEREAS, the project will be funded through available Police Department asset forfeiture funds further known as Google funds; and

WHEREAS, the City would like to enter into a contract with Automatic Temperature Controls, Inc. for the replacement of the air control system for the police station in the amount of \$241,946.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of East Providence hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of East Providence to enter into a contract between Automatic Temperature Controls, Inc. and the City of East Providence for the replacement of the air control system for the police station.

Adopted by the City Council: _____

Attest:

City Clerk of East Providence, Rhode Island

Introduced by: Council President Britto, Councilman Cahoon, Councilman Mourato

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF H-7614 RELATING TO
TAXATION – PROPERTY TAX RELIEF**

WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws, Chapter 44-33 entitled “Property Tax Relief” provides relief through a system of tax credits and refunds to elderly and/or disabled persons who own or rent their homes; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7614, an Act Relating to Taxation – Property Tax Relief has been introduced in the Rhode Island General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, this Act proposes to define as “disabled,” persons receiving veterans’ affairs disability benefits paid by the federal government for purposes of property tax relief.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of East Providence supports House Bill 7614 and respectfully requests that the Rhode Island General Assembly enact the bill into law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Rhode Island, the President of the Rhode Island Senate, the Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives and the Senators and Representatives from the City of East Providence.

Adopted by the City Council:

Attest:

City Clerk of East Providence, Rhode Island

Introduced by: Council President Britto

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO CONVEY AND LEASE
PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE WOLF SCHOOL
LOCATED AT 215 FERRIS AVENUE**

WHEREAS, the Wolf School located at 215 Ferris Avenue is in need of additional land area to accommodate its faculty, staff, and students; and

WHEREAS, the City of East Providence is the owner of properties located adjacent to the Wolf School that can accommodate their needs including Parcel A which is approximately 9,272 square feet and a "new lease area" consisting of approximately 8,703.5 square feet (as attached); and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws §45-2-4 grants the City Council the authority to convey and/or lease property.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:

The Mayor, by and through the office of the City Solicitor, is hereby empowered to execute any and all documents including but not limited to purchase and sale agreement, deed of transfer and lease necessary to perfect the sale and/or lease of the properties as described above. Said sale not to be less than \$18,900.00.

This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Adopted by the City Council: _____

Attest:

City Clerk of East Providence, Rhode Island

Introduced by: Council Vice President Rodericks

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE**

RESOLUTION NO.

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING GOVERNOR RAIMONDO
TO RELEASE CARES ACT'S CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS
TO CITIES AND TOWNS**

WHEREAS, the Governor and municipal leaders across the state have declared a state of emergency as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, municipal leaders have worked cooperatively and productively with the state administration to respond to and contain the virus; and

WHEREAS, cities and towns have been given guidance that there will be delays in receiving reimbursements from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for qualifying COVID-19 related expenses; and

WHEREAS, the state has received \$1.25 billion dollars under the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to cover state and municipal costs associated with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Treasury has stated that the Coronavirus Relief Fund may be used for COVID-19 expenses not otherwise reimbursable by FEMA, including public safety expenditures personnel costs associated with COVID-19 response, and the mandatory local match for expenses submitted to FEMA; and

WHEREAS, according to the National League of Cities, Rhode Island is one of only three states that have not distributed a portion of their Coronavirus Relief Fund to local governments; and

WHEREAS, cities and towns across Rhode Island face potential revenue risks resulting from the economic impacts of COVID-19, including a possible reduction in state aid programs, lower collection rates of property taxes, and other business activity revenue losses, all of which could exceed \$100 million; and

WHEREAS, the state has withheld scheduled state payments in the current fiscal year by over \$50 million dollars through the end of September 2020; and

WHEREAS, the state has not yet completed a budget for Fiscal Year 2021, creating even greater uncertainty about expected aid to local governments and school;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council calls on the Governor to execute a plan for distributing CRF funds to cities and towns, taking into account expenses incurred and revenues lost by each city and town as a result of the emergency. And be it further resolved that the Council urges the General Assembly to support total state aid to local governments at the same aggregate level as in FY 2020-2021.

Adopted by the City Council: _____

Attest:

City Clerk of East Providence, Rhode Island

Introduced by: Council Vice President Rodericks