

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on February 18,2021:

Councilor Forgue stated that pursuant to current R.I. Executive Orders executed by Governor Gina Raimondo this meeting is being teleconferenced via Zoom.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:30 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Julian (Jay) Forgue, President; William E. Reichert Vice President; Walter M.O. Steere III; Stephen Arnold; and William Worthy , Jr.

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Iglizzi, Town Solicitor; Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Ken Johnson, Bldg/Zoning Official; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Adam Muccino, Finance Director; Melissa Bouvier, Senior Center Director

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Councilor Arnold reminded the Council that there may be some people joining this meeting by telephone or without video capability, therefore, Council members should identify themselves when speaking, particularly when making or seconding a motion.

Councilor Arnold went on to explain the procedure for the zoom meeting, how participants can be recognized when requesting to speak, and further stated that participants expressing inappropriate behavior or being disruptive may be removed from the meeting by the Council.

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

Councilor Forgue stated that those wishing to speak on agenda items should raise their hand and Christine Mathieu will recognize those that wish to speak.

None

V. Consent Items- Discussion and/or Action

- A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of February 4, 2021 - Discussion and/or Action
- B. Tax Assessor's Additions & Abatements - January, 2021
- C. Finance Director's Report - January, 2021

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of February 4, 2021; to APPROVE the Tax Assessors ABATEMENTS to the 2020 Tax Roll in the amount of \$481.70; the 2019 Tax Roll in the amount of \$537.32; There are no ADDITIONS to the 2020 Tax Roll; and to ACCEPT the Finance Director's Report for January 2021; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VI. Unfinished Business

- A. Boards and Commissions
 - 1. Appointments - Discussion and/or Action
 - a. Budget Board

Position # 3 expired term - New term to expire 12/2023

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE the appointment to the Budget Board for a term to expire 12/2023; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Land Trust

Member at Large- Conservation Commission expired term-
New Term to expire 2/2022

Member at Large - Planning Board expired term- New term
to Expire 2/2022

Councilor Forgue stated the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission will vote on their recommendation to Council this month and forward for Council's March meeting.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the APPOINTMENT of Land Trust Members at Large from the Conservation Commission and Planning Board to the March 4th, 2021 Town Council Meeting; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye

Councilor Worthy -Aye

Councilor Steere -Aye

Councilor Reichert -Aye

Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Gloucester Scarecrow Festival Re: Food Trucks - Discussion and/or
Action

Councilor Forgue stated this was tabled from last meeting for further review by Atty. Igliazzi.

Discussion: D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that he has reviewed state law and the Gloucester Code of Ordinance as well as speaking to both the Town Clerk and the Chief of Police to try to find a solution. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that the promoters of the Scarecrow Festival would like to be exclusive as to food distribution. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that there are five annual food truck licenses available for the town to permit and that three have been issued; and, that the town has the right to not issue temporary permits. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, recommended the following approach: 1) the Chief of Police has indicated that based on the amount of traffic and people who participate in the

festival he could exercise his authority to prohibit food trucks on the road from the Senior Center to CVS; 2) the promoters could apply to the Town for permits within that restricted area ; and 3) the promoters could ask the private landowners within that restricted area to exclude food trucks not associated with the festival from their property. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor , stated that J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, indicated that she could exercise her authority and not issue any temporary permits during the two days of the festival. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that this would be the only way to legally exclude the three annual food truck licensees from that area. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that there would be multiple licenses that the promoters would need to apply to the Town for at a cost of \$50.00 each. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that this is the best that could be done for the Scarecrow Festival promoters to be able to monopolize the activities in that particular location at that time. M. Rechter, Scarecrow Festival Chair, stated that he understands what D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated in his response to Councilor Forgue's question. M. Rechter, Scarecrow Festival Chair, stated that he does not think they would contact the landowners. M. Rechter, Scarecrow Festival Chair, asked if all food vendors including those on private land need to follow the thirty (30) foot setback from the sidewalk this year as they did last year due to COVID 19. M. Rechter, Scarecrow Festival Chair, stated his concern that private food trucks would not have to follow the same rules as those of food vendors who are part of the festival. M. Rechter, Scarecrow Festival Chair, also raised his concern of additional cost for police if there are issues with the food vendors not part of the festival. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that the 30 foot setback was a State of Rhode Island Health Department COVID 19 regulation that applied to all food trucks. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated the rule would still apply to everyone due to social distancing because of the lines that form with food trucks and not wanting any lines to converge. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated he does not know what the regulations will be this fall but whatever regulations there are will apply to all. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that if he saw a food truck not complying on private property that he could exercise his authority and shut them down. M. Rechter, Scarecrow Festival Chair, stated that he wants to make sure everyone is on equal footing; that they will just have to figure out what to do when the time comes; and, they appreciate the time and effort put into this matter. Councilor Forgue stated his appreciation for the job done by the organizers as it is a great event for the town. L. Gaddis-Barrett, resident, stated that the purpose of the Scarecrow Festival is to attract tourism to the town. L. Gaddis-Barrett, resident, stated that it seems that efforts are being made to detract from economic development by trying to prevent food vendors from coming into town. Councilor Forgue stated that D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that private owners can have the food trucks on their property if they follow the procedures for permits and that no one is trying to stop economic development. Councilor Forgue

stated that the Scarecrow Festival is trying to raise money during their festival as part of the way to keep the festival going. Councilor Steere stated that the chairs of the Scarecrow Festival have done a fantastic job to bring this to the community and it was a grass roots effort to bring fun and pride to the town. Councilor Steere stated that this is the price of success; that everybody wants to be involved. Councilor Steere stated that D. Iglizzi, Town Solicitor, stated that there is nothing we can do with the private landowners . Councilor Steere stated that this is such a great community event so he hopes no problems start to appear that would diminish anything.

No Action

(The meeting was interrupted by participants using foul and inappropriate language. Host muted all participants and adjusted the settings so any participant can speak if asked to unmute by the host. The meeting resumed without further interruption. Councilor Forgue issued an apology for the foul and inappropriate language and stated that the meeting was moving forward.)

VII. New Business

A. Covid-19 Updates/Discussions/Actions

1. EMA Update - Discussion and/or Action

G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that he is completing preparations for the joint clinic with Foster that is to be held this Saturday. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated he is in discussion with the RI Health Department to try and get more doses for Glocester. G. Mosca, EMA Director , stated that if he is able to get more doses then he may need to move the clinics to Ponaganset High School as it has more room and parking. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that he is fully staffed for the clinics; that he has great support from the fire and police departments, especially from Matt Fague and Matt Floor; and, from the Town Clerk's office and Melissa at the Senior Center who are making reservations. G. Mosca, EMA Director stated that the State may return to a regional model after the 75 and older people are vaccinated. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that we would support the regional clinics if they are held. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that the state clinic for people 65 and older is scheduled to start on Monday at the Dunkin Donuts Center and at the Sockanossett Crossroads location. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that they will continue to assist the regional clinic in Smithfield on the scheduled date. G. Mosca, EMA director, stated that the appointments for residents 75 and older are being made by calling the oldest first in order to avoid any favoritism. Councilor Forgue asked the number of residents 75 and older in town and G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated between 700 and

800. Councilor Forgue asked if G. Mosca, EMA Director, knew when the residents 65 and older would be done. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that the state will be offering vaccinations to people 65 and older so the town may not be doing those vaccinations.

G. Mosca, EMA Director , recommended keeping the Emergency Declaration in place. Councilor Arnold asked if there was a way to help people who needed transportation. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that the fire department has said they would transport a resident if they were homebound; and, that going to people's homes would involve getting prior permission from the RI Health Department and would require a rescue with advanced life support at the home during the giving of the vaccine. Councilor Forgue asked for the date certain that G. Mosca, EMA Director would recommend. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated he recommends extending the Emergency Order to the first meeting in April, which is April 1st.

2. Emergency Declaration Status, Extension, and/or Amendments
(Currently in place until February 18, 2021) - Discussion and/or
Action

G. Mosca, EMA Director, recommended keeping the Emergency Declaration in place and extending it to April 1, 2021.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to EXTEND the Gloucester Emergency Declaration until April 1, 2021 ; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Taxpayer Request: Consideration of an Elderly Exemption for FY
2020-Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: A. Muccino, Finance Director, reviewed the issue that Mr. Nadeau , resident applicant, received the elderly exemption in 2018 and due to his age and a

change made by the Council at that time, the exemption would have been converted to the elderly exemption for 2019. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that renewals were sent out in December 2019 for the 2020 tax roll and that the deadline to submit the renewal was extended to April 30, 2020 by the Council due to the pandemic. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that Code Reds were sent out about the extension ; that ads were placed in two local publications; and, the information was placed on the town's website. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated a voice mail was left on the phone number on record for Mr. Nadeau. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that the issue is whether Mr. Nadeau came in person to the assessor's office by the deadline as is required in the procedure to obtain the exemption. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that the evidence supports that Mr. Nadeau did not appear in person as is required in order to receive the exemption for 2020. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that Mr. Nadeau has reapplied for the exemption for 2021 and there is nothing from the Assessor's office to indicate that it will not be given. Councilor Reichert stated that he thinks the Council needs to make changes to the in person requirement for this exemption. Councilor Reichert stated that the in person requirement is unfair and gave the example of the elderly person he helped into the town hall recently in a snowstorm. Councilor Forgue requested that this topic be made an agenda item. G. Steere, resident, stated that if this individual is Mr. Richard Nadeau then he knows that R .Nadeau has mobility issues due to recent medical issues so there is no way he could have gotten into the town hall. G. Steere, resident, also stated that there are residents who just can't get into the town hall. Councilor Reichert agreed with G. Steere. A. Muccino, Finance Director, clarified that this issue was for a Mr. Don Nadeau.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to extend the tax exemption for 2020 to Don Nadeau due to extenuating circumstances; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: Councilor Steere asked D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, if the motion was proper. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated the motion is proper and the Council may act.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Councilor Steere asked for an agenda item to start looking into addressing the larger issue of fulfilling town requirements while making the process less onerous

C. FY 2021-22 Budget

1. Consideration of stipend for EMA Director - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Forgue requested this item be placed on the agenda. Councilor Forgue stated that the Town is very fortunate to have our EMA Director and that this is a part time position but since March of last year our EMA Director has put in 50- 60 hours a week. Councilor Forgue stated he would like to open up a conversation regarding the possibility of paying a stipend to the EMA Director in an executive session and then bring it back to the Council at the next meeting for a vote as this would give the public an opportunity to speak.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to bring the stipend up in Executive Session for the next meeting, under Personnel, which would be March 4, 2021; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Appointments

1. Temporary Mechanical Inspector- Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Forgue stated we have received the following request from the Building Official:

I have spoken with Bert Ferragamo who currently does mechanical inspections for the Town of Scituate. Al Danti, (Glocester Mechanical Inspector) will be out for approximately another two weeks before he is ready to do inspections again. Mr.

Ferragamo will be paid on a per inspection basis at the same rate the Town of Gloucester currently pays for our inspections.

(End of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to APPOINT Bert Ferragamo to the position of Temporary Mechanical Inspector, on an as needed basis during the period Gloucester's Mechanical Inspector is unavailable to work, and shall be compensated on a per inspection basis at the same rate currently paid for Gloucester inspections; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: Councilor Steere asked A. Muccino, Finance Director , if he needed any information. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated he will obtain any necessary information.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- E. Boards and Commissions
 - 1. Resignations - Discussion and/or Action
 - a. Parade Committee
 - 1. Position #1
 - 2. Position #3

Councilor Forgue stated the Council has received the resignations of Kris Contrino and Gerry Drouin from the Parade Committee. Councilor Forgue stated the Council can accept the resignations but the Clerk has not put appointments on this agenda. Councilor Forgue stated Council will receive a listing of interested parties for the next Council meeting.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to ACCEPT, with thanks, the resignations of Kris Contrino, position #1, and Gerry Drouin, position #3, from the Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Economic Development Commission - Position #6

Councilor Forgue stated the Council has received the resignation of Diane Seaver from the Economic Development Commission.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to ACCEPT, with thanks, the resignation of Diane Seaver from the Economic Development Commission; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: Councilor Worthy thanked Diana Seaver for her dedication.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Appointments - Discussion and/or Action

a. Historic District Commission - Alt. Position to expire 11/2021

Councilor Forgue stated the Chair has recommended Barbara Waterman to fill the Alternate position on the Historic District Commission.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to APPOINT Barbara Waterman to the Historic District Commission to fill the Alternate position to expire 11/2021;

seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. Economic Development Commission - Position #6 to expire 1/1/2023

Councilor Forgue stated the Council has received a talent bank listing for the Economic Development Commission and has received no recommendations at this time. Councilor Forgue stated the Chair has asked that Council table this item to the March 4th meeting so they can review talent bank applications.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Economic Development Commission to the March 4th Town Council Meeting; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

F. Earth Day Clean-Up - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Arnold stated he was asked to put this on the agenda by P. Henry, resident. Councilor Forgue asked if P. Henry, resident, was present and she was not. J. Colaluca, resident, spoke on behalf of P. Henry, resident, and stated that the committee was requesting permission to set up Earth Day as they have in the past which includes the use of Kent Pavilion on Saturday, April 24, 2021. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that J. Colaluca or P. Henry should contact R. Shields, Recreation Director for permission to use the Pavilion. R. Shields, Recreation Director, stated he has received a text from P. Henry, resident, and she has requested to use the Pavilion and that permission is granted.

No action was taken by the Council

G. Sand Dam Association - Discussion and/or Action on funding

Councilor Arnold stated that he has spoken with J. Colaluca and E. Perrin (sp?) from URI. Councilor Arnold stated he has nothing new to report other than the group is continuing to work on ways to help all the lakes in Gloucester. Councilor Arnold stated they are trying to assemble a group that can contact our State Senator or Representatives for some help and he recommended this item be tabled for two meetings. J. Colaluca, resident, thanked Councilor Arnold for his hard work and stated that when they all work together great things can be accomplished. J. Baker, Sand Dam Association, thanked the Council for listening and added that Deb Silva and herself met with a contractor this morning regarding treatment for the milfoil on the lake. J. Baker, Sand Dam Association, stated that in the budgeted time frame they would need to make payment by June 21st and she understands that the Council may not be in a position to give any assistance. J. Baker stated she added the date in case there is a possibility of any aid and thanked the Council for their time and attention. Councilor Forgue stated that this may be something for the Budget Board to consider and suggested placing this on the agenda.

No action was taken by the Council

H. Authorization for signature on the 2020 Rhode Island Pollutant Elimination System (RIPDES) Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Annual Report - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Forgue stated that Karen Scott, Planner, has requested the signing of the RIPDES Annual Report.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to AUTHORIZE the Town Council

President to sign the 2020 R.I. Pollutant Elimination System (RIPDES) Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Annual Report; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

I. 2021 Financial Town Referendum: Set Dates, Discussion and/or Action
Councilor Forgue stated the Clerk has prepared a preliminary budget adoption calendar.

Councilor Forgue read the following outline:

At this time, Council needs to set the date for the 2021 Financial Town Referendum. The dates are:

March 18:	Final day to receive proposed budget from Budget Board -Per Town Charter
April 1 st :	Final day to APPROVE the budget for Public Hearing (if amendments are needed before approval they would need to be done at that meeting or prior with a special meeting)
April 22 nd :	Public Hearing April 17- April 22
May 6 th	Adopt Budget for Referendum & Adopt Referendum Ballot questions - May 2- May 7 th
May 25 th	Financial Town Referendum

Council has some leeway where date ranges are given but the Clerk needs to start

the process with the Board of Canvassers for the Referendum, which includes the equipment, pollworkers, and voter advertising .

Councilor Steere asked J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, if she needed specific dates tonight or for the next meeting in regards to the 2021 Town Financial Referendum. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that she would like the Council to set the Referendum date due to the ads that need to run. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that she made a chart that covers the referendum dates for the next ten years and it is in conjunction with the Charter. J. Fecteau stated she spoke with A. Muccino, Finance Director, to make sure he has enough time to get his ad to the state and the May 25th date works with the deadline stated in the Charter of requiring a budget be passed by May 30th. J. Fecteau stated that she needs ten (10) days prior to referendum to have ballots printed. Councilor Steere asked if it was Memorial Day weekend. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the meeting is the Tuesday before as Memorial Day falls on the 31st this year. A. Muccino, Finance Director, has not heard back from the state regarding the window of time that he needs to advertize.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to SET the 2021 Financial Town Referendum for Tuesday, May 25, 2021, seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

Councilor Forgue stated that Council has received a letter from the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council with their budget request. Councilor Forgue inquired if anyone was present from the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council sends their letter to the Council and once the Council has received the letter she forwards it to the budget board.

No action taken by the Council.

IX. Department Head Reports/Discussion

1. K. Scott, Town Planner, gave a summary regarding the Recreation Development Grant the Town received for Gloucester Memorial Park from the RI Department of Environmental Management. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that the grant was for \$400,000 with a town match of \$220,000. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated the money is to redo the playground and basketball court; add a bocce court; add a pedestrian access between the village and the park; and, for some new signs. K. Scott, Town Planner, summarized that she has worked with a surveyor regarding access between Putnam Pike in the back part of the park; she is working with Beta Engineering on a master plan of the work to be done; and, she is working with the private landowners to find an agreeable solution for access from the village. K. Scott, Town Planner, is expecting the completed master plan soon and it will be presented via zoom to the property owners. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that the plan is for demolition of the skate park, existing basketball courts, the fencing in the play area and that the park will be closed for most of the summer. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that R. Shields, Recreation Director, is working on getting the closed message out to the public and for alternatives. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that the Department of Public Works will try to relocate the playground equipment to another location in town. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that bids for work will go out once the demolition is completed. K. Scott, Town Planner, thanked Bob Shields, Recreation Director; Gary Treml, Department of Public Works Director; Melissa Bouvier, Senior Center Director; and, A. Muccino, Finance Director, for their work. K. Scott stated it has been a real team effort. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated she is very excited and will forward the master plan to the Council.
2. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, announced that early voting is currently going on at the Town Hall from 9 to 4 daily for the bond referendum on March 2nd. J. Fecteau stated that early voting will be open on Saturday 2/27 from 10 to 2 and on 2/26 until 7 pm. Councilor Forgue thanked J. Fecteau and stated his appreciation.
3. Councilor Forgue inquired if the Chief of Police had anything to report. Chief Delprete stated that he has planned for two detail officers at the Scarecrow Festival. The Chief also stated his department has put a lot of work into the gunshot complaint and, further stated, there have been no complaints since

February 1st.

X. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

1. S. St. Pierre, Land Trust Chair, stated that the Land Trust is planning an Earth Day event on April 24th. S. St. Pierre, Land Trust Chair, stated that there will be organized cleanups going on in three different locations and they will advertise for volunteers.

2. A. Sarji, Economic Development Commission (EDC) Chair, stated that marketing will be their focus and that they will be soliciting RFP'S. for a stand alone website. A. Sarji stated that they will be working with Land Trust to post signs on the trails promoting businesses in town. Councilor Steere asked if a town board has the authority to start a website without Town Council approval. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that there are two issues: 1) access to creating a town website and 2) purchasing is to be done through the Town Finance office. A. Sarji stated she has consulted with the Finance Director and that the amount is over the \$1000 limit so they would get three (3) bids. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that the Council would need to authorize sending the request out to bid and the contract. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that he does not understand the website idea but assumed it would be connected to the town website. A. Sarji stated that the plan was to use the website to post a map. Councilor Steere asked if the map could be placed on the existing town website. Councilor Forgue stated that this topic could be an agenda item and that A. Sarji could check with A. Muccino, Finance Director. Councilor Steere stated that all contracts must follow the proper procedures which involves the approval of the Council. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated he spoke with A. Sarji and it was his understanding that the EDC was looking to spend within the town's purchasing policy ; that they would need three (3) quotes; and, that any contract would come before the Council. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated A. Sarji sent him a copy of the request and it was well written. Councilor Forgue suggested that A. Muccino, Finance Director, and A. Sarji could discuss the matter again and return to the Council. L. Gaddis-Barret, resident, stated that A. Sarji was just voted in as chair and the board has been working on the road map. L. Gaddis-Barret, resident, stated the charge of the EDC is to promote existing businesses and attract new businesses as well as to attract tourism. L. Gaddis-Barrett, resident, stated that the board decided to use a website which is not new information and was not withheld from anyone but rather a new and evolving idea and invited Councilor Steere to ask the board questions .

Councilor Steere stated that he appreciates L. Gaddis-Barret's comments; and that this is the first he's heard about a website. Councilor Steere stated that he just wants to be careful with everything. Councilor W. Steere acknowledged that the EDC members are working hard but that policies need to be followed. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated again that the RFP was below the limit which is why he gave tacit approval for the EDC Chair to move forward and that if there was a contract involved it would come before the Council.

XI. Open Forum

None

XII. Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to:

- A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to Collective Bargaining, Litigation or Work Sessions pertaining to Collective Bargaining or Litigation:

Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council

Town of Gloucester - Department of Public Works (employer) and National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) (petitioner): Case no. EE-3753 - Approval of Agreement for Consent Election by comparison of signatures and Authorizing the Town Council President to execute said Consent Agreement

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy CONVENE to Executive Session pursuant to: R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to Collective Bargaining, Litigation or Work Sessions pertaining to Collective Bargaining or Litigation:

Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council

Town of Gloucester - Department of Public Works (employer) and National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) (petitioner): Case no. EE-3753 - Approval of Agreement for Consent Election by comparison of signatures and Authorizing the Town Council President to execute said Consent Agreement;

seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye

Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIII. Reconvene Open Session

MOTION was made by Councilor Forgue to Re-Convvene Open Session; Disclose zero (0) votes were taken in Executive Session; and to SEAL the minutes of Closed Executive Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-7.c; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

BACK IN OPEN SESSION

XIV. Consent Agreement - Discussion, Vote, or other Action

1. Authorize Town Council President to Execute Consent Agreement
Between: Town of Glocester - Department of Public Works
(Employer) and National Association of Government Employees
(Nage) (Petitioner):
Case No. Ee-3753

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign a Consent Agreement between the Town of Glocester- Dept. of Public Works (Employer) and the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) (Petitioner) Case No. Ee-3753 and to authorize Attorney Jeffrey Kasle to authorize Council President's signature; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye

Councilor Worthy -Aye

Councilor Steere -Aye

Councilor Reichert -Aye

Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

XV. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to ADJOURN at 9:50 PM ; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye

Councilor Worthy -Aye

Councilor Steere -Aye

Councilor Reichert -Aye

Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY