

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on April 21, 2022;

I. Call to Order

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:00 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Members present: William E. Reichert , President; Walter M.O. Steere, III, Vice President; Stephen Arnold; William A. Worthy, Jr.; David Laplante

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliazzi, Town Solicitor; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Adam Muccino, Finance Director; Chief Joseph Delprete; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Gary Treml, Director of Public Works; Melissa Bouvier, Senior Center Director and Ken Johnson, Building and Zoning Official

III. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to:

A. Executive Session. Discussion by Council, Vote or Other Action on RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) Any discussion or consideration related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public.

1. Discussion by Council, Vote or Other Action for acquisition of real estate including but not limited to Proposed Purchase and Sale Agreement and Authorization of any and all other action required to complete the purchase of real estate and appropriating APRA Funds

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to: RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes,

1. Discussion by Council, Vote or Other Action for acquisition of real estate including but not limited to Proposed Purchase and Sale Agreement and Authorization of any and all other action required to complete the purchase of real estate and appropriating APRA Funds; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk to poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Laplante -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye

MOTION PASSED

After Executive Session:

- V. Reconvene Open Session - Disclosure of votes take in Executive Session & Consideration of the Sealing of Minutes - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to Reconvene Open Session; Disclose zero (0) votes were taken in Executive Session; and to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- VI. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

Councilor Reichert asked if anyone wished to speak in open forum regarding an agenda item.

None

- VII. Proclamations - Discussion and/or Action

- A. Earth Day - April 22, 2022

Councilor Reichert stated that each year Council posts a proclamation at Town Hall for Earth Day which he read as follows:

Proclamation of the Town of Gloucester
#2022-01 Earth Day

WHEREAS, The Town of Gloucester recognizes that the First Earth Day in 1970 was the beginning of the modern environmental movement which helped shape the values and priorities of an entire generation. As a result of citizen demand, Congress passed the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, as well as superfund legislation thereby putting a lasting framework for our future in place; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Islanders, and Gloucester residents in particular, have demonstrated leadership in environmental action and awareness, and expect sound environmental action from their leaders; and

WHEREAS, in observation of Earth Day, April 22nd, the Town of Gloucester has events planned to clean up and beautify our town as follows: the 5th Annual Earth Day Celebration Clean-Up will be held on Saturday, April 23rd where volunteers, including the Conservation Commission, will meet at the Pavilion at Kent Field at 9:00 a.m. for a town wide clean up; and the Gloucester Land Trust is working on Monarch Butterfly, wildflower and pollinator habitat/gardens this year; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council supports activities celebrating Earth Day in Gloucester, statewide, nationally, and on a global level, and we encourage our youth and adults alike to take a pledge to help to keep our earth "Clean and Green"; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that the Town Council and Town Clerk encourage Gloucester residents to participate in neighborhood clean-ups and support all efforts to do our part for the celebration of Earth Day and every day.

Councilor William E. Reichert, President
Councilor Walter M.O. Steere, III, Vice-President
Councilor Stephen W. Arnold
Councilor William A. Worthy, Jr.
Councilor David R. Laplante

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC , Town Clerk

seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Arbor Day - April 29, 2022

Councilor Reichert stated that Council will also acknowledge Arbor Day with a Proclamation which he read as follows:

**Proclamation of the Town of Gloucester
#2022-02 Arbor Day**

WHEREAS, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees. This holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska and is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, Trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife. Trees are also a renewable resource of wood for our homes and fuel for our fires. Trees in our Town enhance our property, beautify our community, and are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gloucester; its' Conservation Commission; its' Tree Warden; and our Land Trust have and will continue to work towards preserving and improving our green spaces as stewards of our towns' bounty of natural beauty and clean air; and

WHEREAS, There are many events planned statewide for the celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day this year that will help promote and teach our families the value of preserving our environment while providing a fun family experience; and

WHEREAS, this year, our Land Trust, in addition to its many on going projects is working on an American Elm Tree restoration project; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; That the Town Council and Town Clerk of the Town of Gloucester do hereby proclaim our commitment to Arbor Day on April 29th, 2022 in the Town of Gloucester, and urge all citizens to celebrate by supporting efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and we urge all citizens to plant trees and promote this celebration of nature for future generations.

Councilor William E. Reichert, President
Councilor Walter M.O. Steere, III, Vice-President
Councilor Stephen W. Arnold
Councilor William A. Worthy, Jr.
Councilor David R. Laplante

Jean M Fecteau, CMC , Town Clerk

Dated this 21st day of April 2022

seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Citations - Discussion and/or Action

A. Albert Danti - Mechanical Inspector

Councilor Reichert stated that our long time Mechanical Inspector is retiring. Councilor Reichert stated that the Council would like to acknowledge Al Danti for his commitment, expertise, and friendship to all and read the following citation:

Citation

Albert Danti
Gloucester Mechanical Inspector

Given with deep gratitude and appreciation for your 30 plus years of service to our Town as you retire.

You have served all the residents of Gloucester with your experience, honesty, integrity, patience, and most of all your kindness.

We appreciate your commitment and acknowledge your service to our community.

The Town Council wholeheartedly represents all of Gloucester residents when we say
“ Thank You”

Councilor William E. Reichert, President
Councilor Walter M.O. Steere, III, Vice-President
Councilor Stephen W. Arnold
Councilor William A. Worthy, Jr.
Councilor David R. Laplante

Jean M Fecteau, CMC , Town Clerk

Adopted this 21th day of April 2022

seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

Discussion: K. Johnson, Building / Zoning Official, accepted the citation on behalf of A. Danti and offered thanks from A. Danti. K. Johnson described A. Danti as an even handed guy who treated everyone fairly.

IX. Resolution - Discussion and/or Action
 A. Blackstone Valley - ZAP Program

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has been asked to support efforts by the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council to celebrate past efforts to clean up the Blackstone River and to join an upcoming event to continue that work and he read the resolution in support of the efforts as follows:

Resolution #2022-03
Blackstone Valley Tourism Council - Operation Zap

Whereas; the Blackstone River became the first industrialized river as well as the first polluted river way in the Western Hemisphere, and

Whereas; Samuel Slater, on the Blackstone River in 1790, launched the American Industrial Revolution, and initiated economic freedom for the United States where the use of the Blackstone River’s waterpower offered the strength needed to power hundreds of textile mills along its 48 mile length and these mills employed thousands of people that arrived from all over the world, in search of their American Dream, and

Whereas; while this economic opportunity catapulted the Blackstone Valley businesses into a world economy for almost 200 years, it also left a legacy of environmental degradation, an environmental condition that has denied ten generations the use of the Blackstone River for drinking, swimming or eating its aquatic life, and

Whereas; *Operation ZAP*, an environmental movement in the Blackstone River Valley, was organized in 1972, with a mission to clean the Blackstone River making it possible for future generations to enjoy living along a clean river way, and

Whereas; *Operation ZAP* coincided with the founding of *Earth Day* and in the United States Congress' passage of the *Clean Air* and *Clean Water Acts*, and the founding of *Save the Bay*, and was conceived and organized by David M. Rosser of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, the then President of the *Blackstone River Watershed Association*, where on September 9, 1972 Mr. Rosser, with the help of hundreds of community leaders and businesses, organized more than 10,000 people to remove tons of refuse from the banks of the Blackstone River and begin the creation of riverfront parks, and

Whereas; since that time the Blackstone River has seen millions of dollars of federal, state and local money spent on continuing the clean-up efforts, and has become cleaner for fish and wildlife, and

Whereas; the *Blackstone Valley Tourism Council* is organizing an effort, with dozens of local volunteer groups and individuals, with the goal of organizing 10,001 people, to celebrate the people and groups that have helped clean the Blackstone River, and

Whereas; it is time to be a part of this environmental movement, this time through out the entire Blackstone River Watershed, to clean up and green up the 25 Blackstone River Watershed communities from Worcester, Massachusetts to Providence, Rhode Island, and

Whereas; the Rosser family, is working with the local organizers of ZAP50 to insure the environmental legacy is continued, and is a time to celebrate the people who worked on *Operation ZAP* in 1972 and the organizations and people who continue the work to bring the Blackstone River back to health, and therefore

The Town of Gloucester joins *ZAP 50*, to be with the 10,001 people that will assemble on August 27, 2022 to clean the Watershed and will assemble again on September 10, 2022 at the Old Slater Mill National Historic Site in Pawtucket, to celebrate.

The Town of Gloucester commits its leadership and will promote participation to assist in mobilizing its citizens to "turn out" to join the 50th Anniversary of *Operation ZAP*. We call upon all to honor the work performed in 1972, honor the groups and agencies for the past and current ongoing efforts, and ensure that the *Operation ZAP of 1972* goals are realized.

Councilor William E. Reichert, President
Councilor Walter M.O. Steere, III, Vice-President

Councilor Stephen W. Arnold
Councilor William A. Worthy, Jr.
Councilor David R. Laplante

Jean M Fecteau, CMC , Town Clerk

Dated this 21st day of April 2022

seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

X. Public Hearings

 A. Camping & Travel Trailer License (Existing campground, new owners)

 Applicant: Ann Frances Hamill, Trustee of Hamill Trust
 d/b/a/: Camp Ponaganset
 Property Owner: Ann Frances Hamill, Trustee of Hamill Trust
 Location: 100 Rustic Hill Road

Councilor Reichert stated that this Public Hearing was advertised in the Valley Breeze Observer on March 31st, April 7th and April 14th.

Councilor Reichert DECLARED the Public Hearing OPEN.

Councilor Reichert asked if the applicant was present to give an overview of the plan.

Discussion: Ann-Frances Hamill, Trustee, and applicant, explained that this is the family campground; and that there are no plans to make any changes. Councilor Steere asked Chief Delprete, Gloucester Police Chief, if there were any issues. Chief Delprete stated that there have not been any issues. K. Johnson, Building Official stated that this is a well run small campground and he has had no issues either.

Councilor Reichert asked if anyone wished to speak and if so to please step to the microphone and state your name for the record.

None

Councilor Reichert DECLARED the Public Hearing CLOSED.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to GRANT the Camping & Travel Trailer License for Applicant: Ann Frances Hamill, Trustee of Hamill Trust, d/b/a/: Camp Ponaganset; Property Owner: Ann Frances Hamill, Trustee of Hamill Trust; Location: 100 Rustic Hill Road; contingent upon: completion of requirements as described in Code of Ordinance, Chapter 151-3. C.; payment of all town fees & taxes; approval by Chief of Police and inspections, as needed, by Building/Zoning Office and Fire; this license is effective to October 31st, 2022; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Victualing License (New License)

Applicant: Meshell Adamo

Corp.: Purple Cow Ice Cream Company, LLC
d/b/a Purple Cow Ice Cream Company

Location: A.P. 10A, Lot 45 (Approximate Location: 1-5 Money Hill Road)

Councilor Reichert stated that this Public Hearing was advertised in the Valley Breeze Observer on April 7th, 14th, and 21st, 2022.

Councilor Reichert DECLARED the Public Hearing OPEN

Councilor Reichert asked if the applicant is present to give a brief description of what they propose at that location.

Discussion: A. Costantino, co- owner , gave a brief history of how they hope to develop the property to include an ice cream parlor as one of the business entities and how the proposed ice cream parlor came about . A. Costantino explained that the intent in this application was to make sure the name of Purple Cow Ice Cream Company, LLC was reserved. Councilor Steere asked about the opening date. A. Costantino stated that the opening is most likely in the Spring of 2023 as they need to apply to Zoning, Planning and the Historic District. Councilor Steere stated that the Council does not usually get applications for a year out. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that victualing licenses are usually heard and given out at the end of November. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated the two options available to the Council. D. Igliazzi stated that option one is to continue the matter for 6 months ; or , option two is to grant the application subject to conditions. J. Fecteau suggested that the applicant can apply for a renewal in November.

Councilor Reichert asked if anyone wished to speak and to please step to the microphone and state their name for the record.

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert DECLARED the Public Hearing CLOSED.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to GRANT a Victualing License to Applicant: Meshell Adamo; Purple Cow Ice Cream Company, LLC d/b/a Purple Cow Ice Cream Company; Location of business: A.P. 10A, Lot 45 (Approximate Location: 1-5 Money Hill Road) contingent upon: 1) payment of all Town taxes; 2) Building/Zoning approval as needed; 3) Fire and/or Police approval as needed; 4) current Health Department approval; 5) current Food Manager Certificate; and 6) current Rhode Island Permit to Make Sales; this license shall be for the interior of the premise only and is valid to November 30, 2022; seconded by; Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert

NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

- C. Victualing License (New License)
Applicant: David Silva
Corp.: Who Cut The Cheesecake, LLC
d/b/a: Who Cut the Cheesecake
Location: 1195 Putnam Pike

Councilor Reichert stated that this Public Hearing was advertised in the Valley Breeze Observer on April 7th, 14th, and 21st, 2022.

Councilor Reichert DECLARED the Public Hearing OPEN

Councilor Reichert asked if the applicant is present to give a brief description of what they propose at that location.

Discussion: D. Silva, applicant, explained that he lives in Gloucester and has his main cheesecake business currently in Worcester. D. Silva explained that he makes cheesecakes for retail and wholesale to restaurants; that the menu varies monthly; and he has a limited number of seats (8). Councilor Reichert asked if anyone wished to speak to please step to the microphone and state their name for the record.

None

Councilor Reichert DECLARED the Public Hearing CLOSED.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to GRANT a Victualing License to Applicant: David Silva; Who Cut The Cheesecake, LLC, d/b/a: Who Cut the Cheesecake; Location of Business: 1195 Putnam Pike; contingent upon: 1) payment of all Town taxes; 2) Building/Zoning approval as needed; 3) Fire and/or Police approval as needed; 4) current Health Department approval; 5) current Food Manager Certificate; and 6) current Rhode Island Permit to Make Sales; this license shall be for the interior of the premise only and is valid to November 30, 2022; seconded by; Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XI. Consent Items - Discussion and/or Action

- A. Approval of Town Council Minutes : Regular meeting of April 7, 2022
- B. Tax Assessor's Additions and Abatements - March 2022
- C. Finance Director's Report - March 2022

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of April 7, 2022; to APPROVE the ABATEMENTS to the 2021 Tax Roll in the amount of \$607.89; the 2016 Tax Roll in the amount of \$256.43; the 2020 Tax Roll in the amount of \$196.78; NO ADDITIONS to the 2021 Tax Roll; and to APPROVE the Finance Director's Report for March 2022; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XII. Unfinished Business

A. Boards and Commissions

1. Appointments- Discussion and/or Action

a. Recreation Commission

1. Position # 1- One unexpired term to expire 12/31/22

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation, Council can table.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Recreation Commission, Position #1 ; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Position # 5- One unexpired term to expire 12/31/22

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Recreation Commission, Position #5 ; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Economic Development Commission

1. Position #2 - Two year term to expire 12/31/2022

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation Council can table.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Economic Development Commission, Position #2; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Position # 4- Two year term to expire 12/31/2022

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Economic Development Commission, Position #4; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

c. Budget Board

1. Position # 3- One unexpired term to end 12/31/2023

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation Council can table.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE the appointment to the Budget Board, Position #3; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

d. Parade Committee

1. Alternate #1
2. Alternate #2
3. Position # 8
4. Position # 9

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation from Chair.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere TO TABLE the open positions: Alternate 1 & 2; and Positions 8 & 9 on the Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: Councilor Reichert stated that he was informed by the Parade committee chair that the committee had voted that afternoon to hold the July 4th parade on July 2nd. Councilor Steere asked why the parade would not be held on the 4th as it historically has always been done. K. Bonoyer, Parade committee member stated that the costs would be less.

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. American Rescue Plan Act Funds

1. INTERNAL PROGRAMS - Discussion and/or Action

a. Police Department & EMA - Gator 4x4 ATV and trailer

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has received quotes from Gerry Mosca, in the packet. Councilor Reichert stated that G. Mosca, EMA Director, has indicated that the ATV has an MPA vendor but he is still searching for a trailer dealer.

Discussion: G. Mosca, EMA Director, explained that the price he has received is above the \$5000

limit so he is still looking for a trailer that could be purchased on the MPA list. G. Mosca explained that this is more of a standard trailer rather than the specialized trailer for MED Pods. G. Mosca stated that if he can't find a trailer on the MPA list then he will have to go out to bid. G. Mosca stated that the gator cost is now higher as none are available until spring and the prices will be higher in the spring depending upon the timing of the purchase order. G. Mosca feels that the combined price for both pieces will be approximately \$35,000 and not the previously estimated \$50,000.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to set aside from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds an amount, not to exceed \$35,000, for the purchase of a Gator 4X4 ATV and trailer for the EMA Department;

There was no second to the motion.

Discussion: D. Igliozzi verified that G. Mosca would try to obtain a quote under the limit for going out to bid regarding the trailer. D. Igliozzi stated that for clarification that the two items should be separate in the motion.

Councilor Worthy withdrew his motion.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to set aside from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds an amount not to exceed, \$ 30,000 for the purchase of a Gator 4X4 ATV and \$5000 for the purchase of the trailer for the EMA Department; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Land Acquisition

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE consideration of a set aside from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds for the acquisition of land, and fees related to said acquisition, for the Town of Gloucester; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. EXTERNAL PROGRAMS - Discussion and/or Action

a. Economic Development Commission – Marketing Materials.

Councilor Reichert asked A. Sarje to come forward to present her information. A. Sarje had technical difficulties .

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to move to the next item on the agenda ; XIII. New Business- A. Request from Town of Foster -RE: Assistance with Animal Control; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XIII. New Business

- A. Request from Town of Foster - RE: Assistance with Animal Control - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that the Chief has received a request from the Town of Foster.

Discussion: Chief Delprete explained that he received a request from the Town of Foster for Gloucester to consider taking over the management of the Foster Animal Control Office for a payment of \$30,000 per year. Chief Delprete explained that Scituate is currently handling the Town of Foster and has proposed a large increase in the fee from Foster.

Chief Delprete outlined the potential challenges if Gloucester were to take on that responsibility including but not limited to the large area of Foster; the fact that the Gloucester Animal Control Officer is new to the position and still learning ; that additional personnel would have to be hired; that a Gloucester Police Officer may need to accompany the Gloucester ACO to calls in Foster if a Foster officer were not available; and, the different types of animals that may be involved. Councilor Arnold stated his opinion that the money was low. Councilor Reichert stated that the Town Council President of Foster called him to discuss the matter . Councilor Reichert stated that the \$30,000 seemed low for the job. Councilor Laplante asked why Scituate no longer wants to continue to manage the Foster animal control office. Chief Delprete stated that the money was too low and if Scituate were to continue to manage the Foster animal control office then they would be asking for \$51,000 per year. Councilor Worthy stated he feels uncomfortable making a motion due to the fluctuations in costs he has received but stated that if they were to consider this request, more due diligence would be required. Chief Delprete stated that Foster would want a three year commitment. Councilors Laplante and Steere also stated their opinion to not take on this responsibility at this time.

MOTION was made by Councilor Laplante to authorize the Chief to notify the Town of Foster that the Gloucester Town Council does not wish to consider their inquiry regarding shared ACO duties at this time; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Adoption of 2022/2023 Budget - Discussion and/or Action

1. Final amendments to proposed budget prior to adoption, if needed

A. Muccino, Finance Director, informed Council that there were three proposed changes as expressed at the Public Hearing and contained in his monthly report to Council. A. Muccino stated that the three proposed changes as to the Town are as follows: increase revenue line for non business license fees for a proposed total of \$400,000; increase amount as to delinquent taxes for a total of \$90,000 and; a proposed increase to the HR consultant salary of \$5000. A. Muccino stated that he corrected the numbers on the school side as to expenses in order to accurately reflect the audit. Councilor Steere asked about the proration amount set aside for the Regional School. A. Muccino asked for clarification as to Council's intent regarding this item at the public hearing as to whether it was a total of \$100,000 to set aside or \$ 150,000. Councilor Arnold, Reichert and Steere stated they all recalled the total amount of \$100,000 to be proposed for the proration. J. Fecteau stated that if Council wanted to amend the budget then procedurally each item would be a separate motion and vote.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to increase the "Personnel Services" line item by \$5000 to \$25,000; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to increase "Revenue amount- non business licenses and fees" by \$74,000 to a total of \$400,000; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to increase the revenue amount for "Interest on delinquent taxes" line item from \$75,000 to a total of \$90,000; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

RETURN TO REGULAR AGENDA ITEM

2. EXTERNAL PROGRAMS - Discussion and/or Action

a. Economic Development Commission – Marketing Materials.

Councilor Reichert asked A. Sarje to come forward to present her information .

A. Sarje gave a PowerPoint demonstration in support of the process to “brand” Gloucester in order to showcase and attract business to Gloucester. A. Sarje explained that a separate marketing company would be necessary to complete the branding as there are many moving parts to this type of task. Councilor Arnold asked if this would be a one time marketing hire . A. Sarje answered yes. Councilor Arnold asked how long the process would take. A. Sarje estimated approximately 6 months depending upon community involvement.

Councilor Steere stated that he likes the idea but has questions on the mechanics of the project especially as to who would oversee it. Councilor Steere stated that K. Scott, Town Planner , has many items on her plate and may not have the time to take this project on. A. Sarje stated that EDC would help but that this is not something they want to own. A. Sarje stated that currently no one on the EDC is qualified to take on such an involved project which is why a marketing company is needed. Councilor Worthy suggested tabling this matter because we have time to get more information as the ARPA funds can take up to three years to use. Councilor Laplante asked if A. Sarje had an estimate as to the cost of the outside marketing company. A. Sarje stated that based on the couple of conversations she had with companies in doing her research that it would be about \$25,000. Councilor Laplante feels that estimate is low. A. Sarje suggested the possibility that EDC manage the branding of Gloucester after the initial setup.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE from American Rescue Plan Act Funds the proposal for Economic Development Commission-Marketing Materials to May 5, 2022; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to move to New Business Item C. Consideration /Adoption of Policy- Senior Center iPad Loaner Program; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

C. Consideration/Adoption of Policy - Senior Center iPad Loaner Program - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has received a request regarding the Senior Center iPad Loaner Program which he read as follows:

4/18/2022

To The Honorable Town Council,

Attached is a proposed draft copy of the Gloucester Senior Center's iPad Loan Program Guidelines, Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement. The iPads have now come in and we are currently on the wait list for Apple Business Manager, which is used to import the iPads into the Verizon Wireless mobile device management (MDM). Matt Floor is currently looking over the documents from an IT standpoint and says that we are looking at a realistic program deployment date for the second week in May. This gives us some time to finalize these policies.

One of the main questions that I have is in regards to the iPads that may sustain damage, or are never returned. I would assume there would be some sort of repercussion put into place. In this agreement, I have stated that they would need to be repaired or replaced at the expense of the borrower, but I am not sure what direction the Town Council would choose to take.

I also stated that this program is available to members of the Gloucester Senior Center who are in good standing. That would also include members who live out of town. Is this a direction that the Council is comfortable with? Should we also make it available to residents of Gloucester who are not members of the Gloucester Senior Center? I would like to include an announcement about this program in our May newsletter that goes out next week, therefore I was hoping for Council to come to a definite conclusion at this meeting as to whom will be eligible to participate in this iPad Loan Program.

I am open to any other suggestions that I may have overlooked. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Melissa Bouvier
(end of memo)

Discussion: Councilors discussed restricting the program to only Gloucester residents or to members of the Senior Center in good standing. M. Bouvier stated that about only about 1/3 of the members are from Gloucester and that there is a fee to be a member. Councilor Arnold feels a security deposit would not be a good option as it defeats the purpose of the program as these people do not have computers. M. Bouvier stated she could find out if the ipads are insured. M. Bouvier stated that the ipads are in secure Otter boxes for protection. Councilor Arnold stated his opinion that the ipads should be accessible to all members and not just Gloucester residents. Councilor Laplante agreed. M. Bouvier stated that the insurance issue did not need to be decided tonight.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy for the use policy to apply to all Gloucester Senior Center members in good standing as being eligible to use the devices; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

RETURN TO REGULAR AGENDA

B. Adoption of 2022/2023 Budget - Discussion and/or Action

1. Final amendments to proposed budget prior to adoption, if needed

Discussion: A. Muccino stated that there was one more proposal to the final amendments regarding the capital projects final number. A. Muccino stated that the number changed from the public hearing due to the changes approved in motions tonight.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to fund the capital expenses from the “Unrestricted Fund” balance of \$802,143

No second was made

Discussion: A. Muccino stated that the proposal is to amend the budget as to the appropriate capital expenses amount from the unrestricted fund.

Councilor Arnold withdrew his motion.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to change the amount in the budget on capital expenses from \$815,653 to \$ 802,143; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Adoption of Budget to present to voters

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to ADOPT the 2022/2023 Budget presented at Public Hearing on April 19th , 2022, as amended by Town Council, for presentation to the voters at the Financial Town Referendum to be held on May 24, 2022; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: A. Muccino stated this budget would be posted on the town website tomorrow with no further changes.

3. Adoption of 2022 Ballot Questions

Councilor Reichert stated that the Clerk has prepared the Ballot Questions in final format for the Financial Town Referendum and this action is to approve the ballot language which was read as follows:

Question #1 is the result of the entire budget as amended and approved by Council:

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to ADOPT the language for Question #1 which he read as follows: :

Shall the Town Budget for fiscal year 2022/23 appropriate a sum of \$ 33,093,414 which includes Municipal Services & Capital Expenses; Gloucester School Dept. Operating & Capital Expenses; Gloucester' s share of the Foster/Glocester Regional Operating & Capital Expenses; and includes a Levy of Property Tax (not including Motor Vehicle taxes) of not less than \$ 22,082,881 or more than \$ 25,630,611

Seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

Councilor Reichert stated that the proposed 2022-2023 budget contains one special appropriation regarding a reserve for student population proration.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to ADOPT the language for Question #2 which he read as follows:

Shall the Town Budget include an appropriation of \$100,000 as a reserve for future student population proration for the Foster/Glocester region ? (This appropriation will come from existing unrestricted surplus and will not increase the amount to be raised by taxes, in the coming fiscal year).

seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

D. Personnel

1. Appointment

a. Police Department

1. Assistant Animal Control Officer - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that the Chief requested in his memo of April 7, 2022 which he read as follows:

Over the past four months the current Assistant Animal Control Officer Victoria Kramer has put in numerous hours in the cleaning and rehabbing of the Animal Control Shelter. Victoria Kramer

is nationally certified, lives in Gloucester and has been a dedicated employee at the Gloucester Animal Control Shelter for 22 years.

I am requesting that Vicky Kramer's title be officially elevated to Assistant Animal Control Officer and her pay rate change to \$19.50 per hour from \$16.50.

(End of memo)

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has also received a memo from Don Zimmerman, Acting Director of Human Resources, which he read as follows:

Jean,

Please pass along my comments to the members of the Council.

As Chief DelPrete notes, Ms. Kramer has served the animal shelter as an on-call worker for 22 years, and has been of great value working with Ms. Grundy and Captain Fague during the recent period in which the animal Control Officer position was vacant. She is certified and has expressed a willingness to assume additional responsibility at the shelter, so I support the chief's recommendations.

Don Zimmerman, Acting Director of Human Resources
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPOINT Victoria Kramer to the position of Assistant Animal Control Officer at a pay rate of \$19.50 per hour, effective 5/02/2022 ; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Dispatcher - Part time - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that the Chief has submitted the following request to Council which he read as follows:

TO: Don Zimmerman, Human Resource
From: Chief Joseph DelPrete
Date: April 18, 2022

Subject: Police Department Full Time Dispatcher Appointment

I would respectfully request to make the following employment appointment to the Gloucester Police Department.

Appoint James Greenhalgh of Harrisville to a permanent part-time dispatcher position within the Gloucester Police Department. It is requested that Mr. Greenhalgh begin training the week of Sunday April 24, 2022. He will be paid \$14.00 per hour during a three to four-month training period.

Mr. Greenhalgh will not be part of the Dispatcher collective bargaining unit and will only be a part-time employee 16 hours per week once he successfully completes training.

Mr. Greenhalgh's hourly rate will increase to \$18.51 per hour once he is fully trained and placed on the part-time schedule. His employment is contingent on a police department criminal and background investigation. Seven candidates were interviewed for this position.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police
(End of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor Laplante to APPOINT James Greenhalgh to a permanent part-time dispatcher position within the Gloucester Police Department to begin training the week of April 24, 2022 at the rate of \$14.00 per hour during a three to four-month training period. Said position will not be part of the Collective Bargaining unit and will be a part-time employee for 16 hours per week when training is complete at which time employee will be placed on the part-time schedule and pay rate will increase to \$18.51 per hour. This appointment is contingent on a police department criminal and background investigation; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

E. Authorization to sign Contracts

1. Town of Gloucester & Beausoleil Brothers (IFB #2022-02 Gloucester Memorial Park Improvements- previously awarded)- Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that Karen Scott has requested the Council President sign the contract for the site work at Gloucester Memorial Park.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign a contract between the Town of Gloucester and Beausoleil Brothers for Gloucester Memorial Park improvements; terms as awarded in IFB #2022-02; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. PMA Industries & Town of Glocester (Previously approved for audio/video systems for Town Hall meeting space. Vender from State MPA) -
Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that the IT Director and Town Clerk have met with PMA Industries regarding the audio/video upgrades to town meeting rooms. Councilor Reichert stated that the Director and Clerk received multiple quotes and ultimately chose PMA Industries, a State of Rhode Island Master Price Agreement vendor. Councilor Reichert stated that the quote from vendor came in less than amount allocated for the equipment and labor.

Councilor Reichert stated that the IT Director has reviewed the quote and recommends the signing of a contract to begin the work.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the contract between the Town of Glocester and PMA Industries for the amount of \$65,292.50; said price to include equipment, labor, and furniture for the audio/video upgrades to Council Chambers; Meeting Room #6, and Meeting Room #9; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- F. Discussion / action regarding the new DEM property on Echo Lake.

Councilor Reichert stated that Councilor Arnold has submitted a resolution for Council consideration.

Discussion: Councilor Arnold explained that DEM purchased a campground on Echo Lake last year. Councilor Arnold explained that there are numerous dilapidated docks on the campground property and that some are falling apart and into the lake. Councilor Arnold explained the current safety hazard to the public of these docks breaking off and floating, in pieces, on the lake. Councilor Arnold explained the various conversations he has had with others trying to help. Councilor Arnold read the resolution he drafted requesting the DEM repair, remove or replace these dilapidated docks. Councilor Steere asked if the Burrillville Town Council would get involved. Councilor Arnold stated that the town council of Burrillville agreed to put this item on their agenda if Glocester takes action by resolution. Councilor Arnold read the proposed resolution.

THE TOWN OF GLOCESTER

**RESOLUTION #2022 -04 OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
REQUESTING THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT (DEM) TO REPAIR, REPLACE OR DEMOLISH AND REMOVE ALL
DOCKS OWNED BY DEM AND/OR STATE OF RHODE ISLAND LOCATED AT THE
FORMER ECHO LAKE CAMPGROUND ON ECHO LAKE LOCATED IN THE
TOWNS OF GLOCESTER AND BURRILLVILLE**

WHEREAS; Echo Lake is located in the Towns of Gloucester and Burrillville; and

WHEREAS; several hundred residents of the Town of Gloucester and Burrillville reside around and utilize Echo Lake; and

WHEREAS, on or about January 8, 2021, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) purchased the former Echo Lake Campground and own, possess and control the existing docks located at the former Echo Lake Campground; and

WHEREAS; the existing docks located at the former Echo Lake Campground are dilapidated and pieces of the dock structures (with nails protruding) are breaking free and creating a dangerous hazard to anyone (especially children) who may enter or reside around Echo Lake; and

WHEREAS; the repair, replacement or removal of the existing docks located at the former Echo Lake Campground is immediately necessary before the 2022 lake season begins to ensure the public safety of anyone (especially children) who may enter or reside around Echo Lake.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT; the Honorable Gloucester Town Council requests:

1. That the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) immediately repair, replace, or remove of the existing docks owned by DEM and/or the State of Rhode Island located at the former Echo Lake Campground before the 2022 lake season begins to ensure the public safety of anyone (especially children) who may enter or reside around Echo Lake; and
2. A copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Gloucester Town Clerk to His Excellency. Governor Daniel McKee, to all of the Honorable Representatives and Senators representing the Town of Gloucester in the General Assembly, to the Honorable Rhode Island Speaker of the House and the Honorable Rhode Island Senate President, and to the Town Council of Burrillville, who are respectfully urged to join the Gloucester Town Council in passing a resolution in support of the immediate repair, replacement or removal of the existing docks.

The undersigned the duly elected Town Council of the Town of Gloucester have hereunto set their hands and caused this resolution to be adopted.

This resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Passed by the Town Council On April 21, 2022
(end of Resolution)

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to approve the Resolution of the Gloucester Town Council requesting the RI DEM to repair, replace, or demolish any/all docks on DEM or state owned property in the Towns of Gloucester and Burrillville; seconded by Councilor Laplante
Discussion: Councilor Arnold requested an edit to the Resolution, before mailing out, that the word “floating” be removed if it is before the word “docks” throughout the document.

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XIV. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion
No correspondence in packet

Discussion:

XV. Department Head Reports/Discussion
M. Bouvier, Senior Center Director, stated that 12 people have contacted her about volunteering for the Village Common Program as a result of the first ad.

XVI. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion
None

XVII. Open Forum
Councilor Reichert asked if anyone wished to speak to please come to the podium and state your name when called on.

Councilor Worthy stated that he has been working with the Matt Light Foundation for a youth turkey hunt. Councilor Worthy stated that a turkey hunt with ten young people will be held this coming Saturday on Land Trust properties. Councilor Worthy thanked the Gloucester Land Trust. Councilor Worthy described what the children had to do to qualify to participate in the turkey hunt.

Councilor Steere reminded everyone to come out on Saturday to pick up trash in support of Earth Day.

XVIII. Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to:

- A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining - Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining - Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

- XIX. Reconvene Open Session - Disclosure of votes take in Executive Session & Consideration of the Sealing of Minutes - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to Reconvene Open Session; Disclose zero (0) votes were taken in Executive Session & Seal the minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- XX. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor Laplante to ADJOURN at 10:15 p.m.; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Laplante, Arnold, Worthy, Steere and Reichert
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED