

At a Special meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on April 23, 2024

I. Call to Order

The meeting was Called to Order at 6:05 P.M. by Councilor W. Worthy, Town Council President.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Cheryl A. Greathouse (arrived at 6:45 P.M.); Jonathan E. Burlingame; Walter M. O. Steere, III; Stephen W. Arnold , Vice President (arrived at 6:40 P.M.); William A. Worthy , Jr. President

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Chief Joseph Delprete, Police Chief

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor W. Worthy asked everyone to please stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Police Station - Discussion and/or Action

A. Resolution: Bond Referendum Legislation - Gloucester Police Station

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council needs to vote on a resolution to move forward with the process in seeking a bond referendum.

Discussion: Chief Delprete reviewed the three grants that have been awarded. Chief Delprete stated that the \$490,000 COPS grant needs to be completed by the end of the year so he will start ordering equipment and furniture. Chief Delprete stated that this grant is not part of the bond proposal.

Chief Delprete stated that the \$1.0 million dollar FEMA grant and the \$3.85 ARPA state grant will be used towards the renovation so they are not part of the bond proposal.

Chief Delprete stated that he met with Saccoccio Associates, architect, today to review the numbers. Chief Delprete stated that there is a question of whether the Council will consider amending the communications tower expense as it is not \$150,000 but will cost more about \$270,000. Chief Delprete stated that a grant has been applied for to replace the tower. After discussion, Councilors agreed to add the \$120,000 to the bond proposal as the bond proposal already included \$150,000 towards the tower.

Councilor W. Worthy, after back and forth discussion as to the most accurate figure, suggested the amount not to exceed \$10,700,000. Councilors W. Steere and J. Burlingame stated their agreement

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council needs to now vote on a resolution to move forward with the process in seeking a bond referendum which he read as follows:

The State of Rhode Island
Town of Gloucester

RESOLUTION #2024-02

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ENACT LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND/OR NOTES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,700,000 TO FINANCE THE RENOVATION AND/OR EXPANSION AT THE EXISTING GLOCESTER POLICE STATION AND INCIDENTAL FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT TO BE APPROVED AT REFERENDUM TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024 OR SUCH EARLIER DATE AS SELECTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

The Town Council of the Town of Gloucester hereby resolves as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town is in need of renovation and additional space for police and emergency operations and related equipment to adequately perform its functions for the citizens of the Town of Gloucester (“Town”); and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has determined that such need can be best addressed with the renovation and/or expansion of the existing police station on Chopmist Hill Road (the “Project”);

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Gloucester hereby requests the General Assembly to enact legislation to authorize the Town to issue general obligation bonds and/or notes in an amount not to exceed \$10,700,000 to finance the renovation and/or expansion at the Gloucester Police Station, on Chopmist Hill Road, including incidental furnishings and equipment and costs of issuance, substantially in the form presented to the Town Council with such changes as the Town Solicitor or bond counsel may deem necessary or appropriate, such legislation and bond issuance to be subject to voter approval at a referendum to be held on November 5, 2024 or such earlier date as may be determined by the Town Council.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Taft & McSally LLP is hereby engaged as bond counsel to the Town.

By Order of the Gloucester Town Council

William A. Worthy
Town Council President

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby attach my hand and the official seal of the Town of Gloucester this 23rd day of April , 2024.

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- J. Burlingame, W. Steere, W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council will now seek to convene into Executive Session:

- V. Seek to Convene to Closed Executive Session Pursuant to:
 - A. RIGL 42-46- 5(a)(2) 1.Collective Bargaining - Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council regarding proposed Agreement : Between the Town of Glocester & National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) and 2.Potential Litigation;

MOTION was made by Councilor W.Steere to Seek to Convene to Closed Executive Session Pursuant to:

- A. RIGL 42-46- 5(a)(2) 1.Collective Bargaining - Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council regarding proposed Agreement : Between the Town of Glocester & National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) and 2.Potential Litigation; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

Councilor W. Worthy asked the Clerk to Call the Roll
Councilor Steere- Aye
Councilor Burlingame- Aye
Councilor Worthy- Aye

MOTION PASSED

AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- VI. Reconvene Open Session, Disclose votes taken in Executive Session & to Seal the Minutes of Closed Executive Session

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere , Disclose that zero (0) votes were taken in Executive Session & to Seal the minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Councilor W. Worthy asked the Clerk to Call the Roll
Councilor Greathouse-Aye
Councilor Steere- Aye
Councilor Burlingame- Aye
Councilor Arnold-Aye
Councilor Worthy- Aye

MOTION PASSED

VII. Discussion , Vote or other Action by Town Council regarding Agreement : Between the Town of Glocester & National Association of Government Employees (NAGE).

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to RATIFY the Tentative Agreement, signed by the NAGE RI-789 Union President and notarized by Susan Harris on April 16, 2024, between NAGE Local RI-798 and the Town of Glocester for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold, W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Authorization to Sign - Discussion and/or Action

A. M.O.U. Between Town of Glocester & R.I. Dept. of Business Regulations
Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk has contacted the State of RI Dept. of Business Regulations regarding assistance with signing all building documents in accordance with the State Building Code. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the State Building Commissioner has sent an MOU to be signed by the Town if they so desire to enter into agreement.

Discussion: Councilor J. Burlingame stated that Council is not ready to sign. Councilor J. Burlingame asked if the Trust had reviewed the document. J. Fecteau stated it had not been reviewed by the Trust but had been reviewed by the Solicitor. J. Fecteau stated that she would forward the memorandum to the Trust tomorrow for their review.

No Action Taken

IX. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to ADJOURN at 7:10 p.m. ; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold, W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED