

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on January 5, 2017:

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: George O. (Buster) Steere, Jr., President; Edward C. Burlingame, Vice-President; Walter M. O. Steere, III; William E. Reichert and Patricia Henry.

Also present: Tim Kane, Town Solicitor; Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; Susan Harris, Deputy Town Clerk; Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police; Diane Brennan, Finance Director; Jane Steere, Tax Collector; Anthony Parrillo, Recreation Director; and Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

None.

V. Public Hearing

A. Gloucester Code of Ordinance

1. Chapter 174. Special Event Licenses, 174-1. Special Event Licenses for Class B Establishments - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that the first reading for this proposed amendment was held on December 1, 2016 and this Public Hearing was advertised in the Observer on December 22, 2016.

Councilor G. Steere DECLARED the Public Hearing OPEN and stated that anyone wishing to speak for or against the ordinance amendment may come forward to the microphone and state their name and address.

Discussion:

1. Attorney David D'Agostino, on behalf of Ana Iannuzzi of Sticks Tavern, expressed concern regarding the language of the proposed Ordinance, in particular the definition of Special Events. D. D'Agostino stated that his concern is that it appears to be all-encompassing and he feels that the language is not clear enough, given the history of licensing by this Council. D. D'Agostino stated that the wording indicates that Special Events are held outside with entertainment, however they could also be held without entertainment, raising the question of what exactly does this apply to. D. D'Agostino expressed another concern as there are blanks left in the application with regard to fees and asked if an applicant is to supply, in November, the number of events planned and pay the application fee of \$10.00 each for events that will not take place until May to October, is there a mechanism by which the applicant can be reimbursed if the events do not take place.

D. D'Agostino urged the Council to table this second reading until these important issues can be "drilled down". Lastly, D. D'Agostino addressed what he feels is an internal inconsistency in the application procedure; the Ordinance suggests that Special Events be delineated by the applicant at the time they renew their application, but also it provides that "in no event less than 30 days prior to the date of the Special Event". D. D'Agostino stated that some consideration needs to go into making the Ordinance more workable and realistic for business owners.

Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, responded to some of D. D'Agostino's concerns. T. Kane stated that the application fee pertains to the advertising cost when the applicant comes in annually. T. Kane stated that the license fee will be a nominal fee which is paid when the application for the event is filed. Councilor G. Steere agreed that the license fee is paid at the time the license is issued and pointed out that they will only be paying for the events that take place. T. Kane concurred and stated that the application fee is paid up front to cover our advertising costs. J. Fecteau noted that the cost for the ad is split up among the establishments and she sends a bill prior to the Public Hearing.

Tim Kane stated that the Council will work on definitions of Special Events and the number of days prior to an event that an application must be filed.

Councilor G. Steere asked if anyone else wished to speak.

2. Steve Tyo, of Cady's Tavern, also expressed concerns regarding the definitions because they have the outside area that is used for tailgate parties, cookouts, etc. S. Tyo asked what is a Special Event. S. Tyo stated that in his opinion these things as well as weddings and birthday parties are normal business.
3. Dan Ribiero, of the Purple Cat Winery, stated that he also has concerns with the definitions in the Ordinance. D. Ribiero stated that the Ordinance pertains to Class B establishments and noted that their license is a Farmers Winery License, which is governed by the State. As far as events, D. Ribiero stated that we have to establish what constitutes an event. D. Ribiero noted that his establishment is inside the Village Overlay District, which has a different set of regulations. D. Ribiero stated that as a business owner, he is concerned because he spent a considerable amount of money preparing an outdoor field for weddings, corporate events and things of that nature. D. Ribiero stated his opinion that this Ordinance would make the process more difficult and would be bad for business. D. Ribiero stated that the proposed Ordinance is not workable business-wise and asked the Council to table the matter and discuss it further.

Councilor Henry asked Mr. Ribiero, of the events listed in the Ordinance, what does he feel are not Special Events. D. Ribiero stated that in the Overlay District, he should be able to do outdoors whatever he is allowed to do indoors, with the exception of having a large number of people which would require safety measures. D. Ribiero stated that it is a gray area and nobody really has a grasp on what a Special Event is.

Councilor Henry asked D. Ribiero if the event sponsored by the GBA at Halloween which originated at the Purple Cat was viewed as a Special Event. D. Ribiero stated that he considered that a Special Event because public safety came into play. Councilor Henry expressed her opinion that a Special Event is something that brings in customers above and beyond what the normal realm of business would generate. D. Ribiero stated that the Christmas Village which was recently held was also a Special Event where everybody should be notified. Regarding notification, D. Ribiero stated that the 300 ft. radius puts roadblocks in front of getting something done successfully.

Councilor Reichert stated that one of the reasons for doing this is that we have a limited number of Public Safety personnel and if everybody has a large event at the same time, it creates a problem.

Councilor G. Steere pointed out that the 300 ft. radius for notification is for the Public Hearing in November, not every time an applicant comes in for a license.

D. Ribiero asked if he has a wedding in July with 150 people, is that a Special Event. Councilor Henry asked if the Purple Cat normally has weddings every week. D. Ribiero replied in the negative, stating that it is a part of the business that they want to get into. Councilor Henry stated that then they would no longer be a winery, they would be a bridal event area. D. Ribiero stated that they would still be a winery, noting that Newport Vineyards and other wineries have weddings. Councilor Henry stated that a wedding is an event that brings 100 cars into Town. Councilor G. Steere stated that if that is one of the number of events that have been approved in November, D. Ribiero just has to come in to get the license and pay the \$10.00 fee, and it would count as one of his approved events. D. Ribiero stated that he does not believe that he has any approved events.

Tim Kane explained that the intent of the Ordinance is to get a general idea in November of the number of events and the specifics come later when the license is applied for. T. Kane commented that this would “get it out of the way” and the neighbors would not have to keep coming back when a business decides they want to do something different. T. Kane noted that the mention of 30 days in the Ordinance was put in as a relief valve for someone who might open up a new business and miss the November deadline.

4. Robin Tyo, of Cady’s Tavern, stated that on Sundays, she is at capacity for most of the afternoon with music inside. Ms. Tyo stated if she is having a wedding outside and is still within her building capacity, R. Tyo asked what causes that to be a special event. T. Kane replied that a wedding is a private event that is not open to the public. T. Kane stated that it is difficult to enumerate a list of special events, for instance, there is debate over whether a car wash is a special event. R. Tyo asked about emergency fund-raisers, stating that if the community asks her to hold a fund-raiser for a situation, will she be in trouble for doing so. Councilor Burlingame replied that R. Tyo would come to the Council and say that this is an exception.

Regarding weddings, Councilor G. Steere stated that if there is a band or DJ outside, it would be considered a special event because of concern for the neighbors. Councilor W. Steere stated that the Council is trying to find a balance between helping businesses and protecting the neighbors. Councilor W. Steere noted that when he began serving on the Town Council nine (9) years ago, there was nothing in place and the Council has bent over backwards to help the businesses.

5. George Charette, Planning Board chair, stated that the Village Overlay District has no bearing on any business within the district. G. Charette stated that there is nothing in the bylaws that prevents a business from carrying whatever activity that was approved by the Council. G. Charette noted that a business has an indoor capacity, but when you bring the activity outdoors, there is a whole different outlook because the general public can see it. G. Charette stated that there has to be control over an outside event. T. Kane noted that the total of both outside and indoor capacity cannot exceed the indoor capacity due to the fire code. Councilor W. Steere stated that there was a Special Event last year that circumvented the capacity regulations by using indoor and outdoor capacity.

Councilor Burlingame asked R. Tyo if she typically exceeds the allowed capacity for a bike run. R. Tyo replied that sometimes there are runs of up to 200 people that stop in for a quick drink or something to eat but some people stay outside. Councilor Burlingame asked about bike runs that start or end at the establishment. R. Tyo stated that per the Fire Marshal, if she knows that she will be over capacity, the Fire Marshal can be hired to monitor the situation, especially with crowd control. Councilor Burlingame stated that if the event starts and ends at the establishment, it is the owner's responsibility to comply with the fire code.

6. Dave D'Agostino again spoke on behalf of his client, Sticks Tavern. D. D'Agostino expressed concern regarding the language which states that Special Events would include sporting events. D. D'Agostino stated that Sticks holds numerous volleyball activities which do not include entertainment. Councilor Burlingame stated that if the number of participants will not exceed the inside capacity of the establishment and there is no outside music, it is not a Special Event.

There was Council discussion regarding whether to close or continue the Public Hearing. Councilor W. Steere stated that the Council still has questions regarding some aspects of the proposed Ordinance. T. Kane stated that if the Council gives him direction, he can work on the definitions. Councilor Burlingame stated his opinion that a Special Event is something that takes it outside the norm, as music does. Councilor Burlingame noted that the establishments already have a license for outside liquor so that is already there. Councilor Burlingame suggested removing some of the events listed and if there is a problem, the Council acting as the Licensing Board can take care of it.

Councilor Burlingame asked what is the difference between a car wash at Dino's and a car wash at Sticks or Cady's. Councilor W. Steere replied that they serve alcohol at Sticks and Cady's. Councilor Burlingame stated that he does not see that as a big issue.

Councilor Henry stated that the Council cannot look to the businesses to give the definitions we are struggling with, however she feels that the businesses know clearly what is a Special Event and what is not. Councilor Henry stated that it is something that is not in the normal realm of business that will change the neighbors' day, which is what the Council is trying to protect.

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council members agree that a band, DJ or any type of amplification outdoors would be a Special Event because it is not what is done every day. Councilor Burlingame stated that we already have guidelines regarding the hours that these can take place. Councilor Reichert noted that the neighbors always complain about motorcycles and noise and we must find a balance that keeps both the neighbors and businesses happy. Councilor Henry stated that it is the Council's responsibility to protect that.

It was stated that there are some small matters that can be taken care of tonight. Regarding the advance notice required, T. Kane asked if six (6) business days would allow enough time. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, replied in the affirmative. Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police, stated that he would like seven (7) days if possible, because it must also be reviewed by the Fire Chief. Councilor Henry asked if it is noted in the Ordinance whether the business is liable for the cost of a Police detail if it is required. T. Kane stated that he will add that language. Councilor W. Steere stated that the Ordinance requires that the application be examined by the Chief of Police and asked if it should also state that the Fire Chief will review the application. Jean Fecteau stated that she always sends the application to both. There was Council consensus to add this to the Ordinance. There was discussion concerning the license fee of \$10.00 per event. Councilor Henry asked how much is the advertising fee. J. Fecteau replied that it is shared among the applicants and is usually approximately \$80 to \$90 per applicant. P. Henry stated that the fee for a resident to have a yard sale is \$5.00. J. Fecteau noted that only three (3) yard sales per year are allowed in consideration of neighbors.

Councilor Burlingame stated that if they are not exceeding their inside capacity with the combination of inside and outside, it narrows down what a Special Event is, adding that if there is outside music, that is a Special Event because it affects the neighbors.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to CONTINUE the Public Hearing, Gloucester Code of Ordinance; Chapter 174. Special Event Licenses, 174-1. Special Event Licenses for Class B Establishments, until the Town Council meeting of January 19, 2017; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

VI. Consent Items - Discussion and/or action

- A. Approval of Town Council regular meeting minutes of December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 & Special Meeting of January 3, 2017

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to APPROVE the Town Council regular meeting minutes of December 15, 2016 and the special meeting minutes of January 3, 2017; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere and Reichert  
NAYS - 0  
ABSTAIN - Henry

MOTION PASSED

VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Boards & Commission

- 1. Appointments - Discussion and/or action

- a. Senior Center Board of Directors

One five year term to expire 10/2021

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Clerk has advised the Council that James Houghton (who previously filled out a talent bank application) would like to be considered for the Senior Center Board of Directors.

Discussion: None.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to APPOINT James Houghton to the Senior Center Board of Directors for the five year term to expire 10/2021; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

- b. Budget Board

One three year term to expire 01/2018

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council has not received any new applications for this position. Councilor Henry stated that she has a potential candidate that she has been trying to contact.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to TABLE the appointment to the position on Budget Board for a three year term to expire 1/2018; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry

NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. New Business

A. Boards & Commissions

1. Resignation

a. Gloucester Housing Authority

One 5-yr term to expire 07/2017

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Clerk has received the resignation of Bonnie Cotter from the Housing Authority.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to ACCEPT, with thanks, the resignation of Bonnie Cotter from the Housing Authority; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry

NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

2. Appointment

a. Board of Tax Assessment Review

One six year term to expire 12/2020

Councilor Burlingame explained that this position is the term previously held by Tom Cash, whose resignation was accepted at the last meeting.

Councilor G. Steere noted that we have a volunteer for this position.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to APPOINT Eric Croft to the Board of Tax Assessment Review for the remainder of a six year term to expire 12/2020; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry

NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

The Council expressed appreciation to E. Croft for stepping up to serve.

b. Budget Board

(3) Three year terms to expire 1/2020

Councilor G. Steere stated that these appointments are for the expired three year terms of Eric Croft, Kevin LaVoie and Michael Morgan and all have indicated they would like to be reappointed.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to REAPPOINT Eric Croft, Kevin LaVoie and Michael Morgan to the Budget Board for three year terms that expire 1/2020; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

c. Conservation Commission

(2) Three year terms to expire 1/2020

Councilor G. Steere stated that these appointments are for the expired term of Gregg Ponte & James Houghton. G. Steere stated that Mr. Houghton has indicated that he would like to be reappointed. G. Steere stated the Clerk's office has reached out to Mr. Ponte and the Chair but there is no recommendation at this time.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to REAPPOINT James Houghton to the Conservation Commission for a three year term to expire 1/2020; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to TABLE the APPOINTMENT for position #7 on the Conservation Commission to the Town Council meeting of January 19, 2017; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

d. Zoning Board of Review

(2) Alternate One year terms to expire 1/2018



Councilor G. Steere stated that these appointments are for the expired terms of the Zoning Board Alternates.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to REAPPOINT Tracey Donnelly and Joseph Trunzo for one year alternate terms on the Zoning Board of Review; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry

NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

3. Disband

a. Kent Property Oversight Committee- Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that the charge of this committee was to give Council a recommendation for the use of the Kent property. G. Steere stated as the Committee has done the job asked of them, the chair of the committee has asked that the Council formally disband that committee.

Discussion: Councilor G. Steere stated that the project is moving along and thanked the members for their service.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to DISBAND the Kent Property Oversight Committee and extend the Town Council's thanks to all the members that served; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry

NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

B. Personnel

1. Union Contract ratification: Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that the members of the Council have been negotiating contracts with the bargaining units employed by the Town. G. Steere stated both the Dispatchers & the Clerks contracts have been successfully negotiated and tonight Council would like to ratify those agreements:

Local 1322 Police Dept. - Civilian Employees

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to RATIFY the Agreement between the Town of Gloucester & the Local 1322 Police Dept. - Civilian Employees for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019, said contract to be dated January 5, 2017; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

#### Local 1322 Town of Gloucester Clerks

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to RATIFY the Agreement between the Town of Gloucester & the Local 1322 Town of Gloucester Clerks for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019, said contract to be dated January 5, 2017; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

2. Retroactive pay increase: Town Dept. heads & Public Works employees - Discussion and/or action

Councilor Burlingame explained that two (2) of the contracts were negotiated for a 2% increase and are retroactive to July 1. Councilor Burlingame stated that this past year, we budgeted for 1½% increases for non-union employees and to make everything equitable, the recommendation is to make up the ½% retroactive to July 1 for all Department Heads and Public Works employees. Councilor Burlingame noted that it is less than \$10,000 and we have sufficient funds to cover this due to the fact that some people have left.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to put forward a retroactive pay increase of ½% for all non-union people which includes Public Works and all Department Heads retroactive to 7/1/16; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

Councilor Burlingame commented that in these negotiations, it was found that Gloucester is not really competitive with other cities and towns and stated that in the last four (4) years, there has been significant turnover of employees, both retirees and those that decided to move on to do other things. Councilor Burlingame stated that although we are a small town and do not have the big payrolls and number of employees as the larger cities, the responsibility for the management and integrity of all operations is no less significant. Councilor Burlingame further stated that Gloucester has received awards for being the safest community in the State, and for the last several years has

received an award for our financial accounting. Councilor Burlingame stated that our cost per employee for Town residents is low for the non-school area. Councilor Burlingame stated that we have new people coming in that have higher expectations and we are competing with other cities and towns. Councilor Burlingame expressed concern that as we hire new people, they may look at this as an entry level position and then move on once they get the experience for a higher level position for another city or town that could very well pay them \$10,000 to \$15,000 more. Councilor Burlingame stated that some people may say that we gave away a little too much, but there are many cities and towns around us that pay a lot more. Councilor Burlingame stated that these contracts will help to ease some of that problem, but this is something that we must think about going forward because we have some vacancies to fill and there are some people that may be approaching retirement age. Councilor Burlingame stated that this will be the Council's challenge, but these contracts address that and for those who want to know why the Council did what they did, that's why.

C. Ratification: R.I. D.E.M. - Amendment #2 Recreation Grant Agreement  
Project #2013-10-06 - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere explained that this item is to address the D.E.M. Recreation grant being utilized for the pavilion work currently underway. Councilor G. Steere stated that after the last Council meeting in December, the Town was told that a request to extend the grant agreement would have to be received before December 31, 2016. Councilor G. Steere stated with consensus of the Council, the Planner forwarded a request to D.E.M. to extend for six months and Council now needs to now ratify that request.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to RATIFY the request to extend the agreement terms of R.I.D.E.M. Recreation Grant, Project #2013-10-06. Said request was for a six month extension for amend the completion date to June 30, 2017; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: Councilor Henry asked if there will be additional expenses because we did not come within the parameters of the original grant. Gary Treml, Director of Public Works, replied in the negative.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

Councilor G. Steere stated that we received the extension today.

D. Award of Bid

1. IFB #2017-01 Road Sand - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council has received the following recommendation from the Finance Director:

To: Honorable Town Council Members  
From: Diane L. Brennan, Finance/HR Director

Memo: **Winter Sand IFB 2017-01**

Date: January 5, 2017

The Town of Glocester advertised for IFB 2017-01 Winter Sand in the Providence Journal on December 16, 2016. Two sealed bids were received and opened on Tuesday January 3, 2017. The board of Contracts and Purchases made a recommendation on January 3, 2017 to award the bid to the low bidder **Barnes Concrete, of Putnam, CT** for the amount of **\$10.25 per ton picked up and \$13.95 per ton delivered**. The vendor was recommended by the DPW director, Gary Treml. The award complies with the bid requirements and meets all specifications of the bid.  
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to AWARD IFB 2017-01 Winter Sand to Barnes Concrete for the bid amount of \$10.25 per ton picked up and \$13.95 per ton delivered; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

E. DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS: Terms Concurrent with Town Council  
Councilor G. Steere stated that tonight we have the appointment of our Department Heads for the next two years.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to APPOINT:

1. Chief of Police: **Joseph DelPrete**
2. Director of Finance: **Diane Brennan**
3. Director of Public Works: **Gary Treml**
4. Tax Collector: **Jane Steere**
5. Deputy Town Treasurer: **Jane Steere**
6. Zoning Official: **Ken Johnson**
7. Building Inspector: **Ken Johnson**
8. Deputy Town Clerk: **Susan Harris**
9. Town Planner: **Karen Scott**
10. Director of Human Resources: **Diane Brennan**
11. Town Solicitor: **Timothy Kane**
12. Assistant Town Solicitor: **William Bernstein**
13. Electrical Inspector: **James Clarke**
14. Plumbing Inspector: **Gary Coyne;**
15. Mechanical Inspector: **Albert Danti**
16. Animal Control Officer/Appraiser of Dog Damage: **Penny Silvia**
17. Asst. Animal Control Officers: **Victoria Totman Kramer & Melissa White, Assistants**

18. Director of Emergency Management: **Jason Rhodes**
19. Probate Judge: **Jane Gurzenda**
20. Recreation Director: **Anthony Parrillo**
21. Deputy Tree Warden: **Todd Anderson**
22. Sealer of Weights & Measures: **Robert Salley**
23. Honorary Town Historian: **Edna Kent**

seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
 NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

The Council members thanked the Department Heads for their service over the past year and wished them good luck.

F. Annual Appointments - 2017

1. Tree Warden - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that our current Tree Warden, Sandra Shepard, has stated she would like to be reappointed.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to REAPPOINT Sandra Shepard to the position of Gloucester Tree Warden for a one year term to expire January 2018; seconded by Councilor Henry.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
 NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

G. Town Council Liaisons for Boards, Comm. & Depts.-

Councilor G. Steere stated that we also have the Council & Department Liaisons to assign for 2017-2018.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to ASSIGN the following liaisons:

1. Affordable Housing Advisory Board: **Councilor W. Steere**
2. Building/Zoning Office (to include Zoning Board): **Councilor G. Steere**
3. Budget Board: **Burlingame**
4. Community Resource and Wastewater Advisory Commission: **Councilor W. Steere**
5. Conservation Commission: **Councilor Henry**
6. Finance: **Councilor Burlingame**

7. Gloucester Home Repair Program: **Councilor Burlingame**
8. Historic District Commission : **Councilor Henry**
9. Honorary Town Historian: **Councilor Henry**
10. Housing Authority: **Councilor Reichert**
11. Human Resources (Personnel): **Councilor Burlingame**
12. Human Services : **Councilor G. Steere**
13. Land Trust Trustees: **Councilor W. Steere**
14. Parade Committee : **Councilor G. Steere**
15. Planning Office & Planning Board: **Councilor Reichert**
16. Public Safety: to include Police, Fire Safety Commission, Animal Control, Emergency Management, & Harmony Hill School: **Councilor W. Steere**
17. Public Works: **Councilor Reichert**
18. Recreation Director & Commission: **Councilor Henry**
19. School Department: **Councilor Henry**
20. Scituate Watershed Commission: **Councilor Reichert**
21. Sealer of Weights & Measures: **Councilor Reichert**
22. Senior Center: **Councilor Burlingame**
23. Town Clerk: **Councilor G. Steere**
24. Zoning Office & Zoning Board : **Councilor G. Steere**

seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
 NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

H. Boards & Commissions - Terms concurrent with Town Council, to expire 1/2019

Councilor G. Steere explained that we have certain Boards and Commission whose terms run along the Town Council's and these appointments are on the agenda tonight.

Councilor G. Steere stated that before we make appointments, the Clerk has discussed with Councilor Burlingame tabling appointments to the Personnel Board, the Recreation Commission, and the Community Resource and Wastewater Advisory Commission and to plan future discussion regarding these boards.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to TABLE the appointments to #2 Personnel Board; #3 Recreation Commission; & #8 Community Resource and Wastewater Advisory Commission to a future meeting; seconded by Councilor Henry.

Discussion: Councilor Burlingame explained that there has been some frustration with regard to the Personnel Board because the Council appoints them but they don't get used as part of the hiring process. Councilor Burlingame stated that this board was established many years ago when we did not have a HR Director. Councilor Henry stated that she was on the Personnel Board back then when they

were creating job descriptions but it has since changed. Councilor G. Steere stated that he thought it was in the Town Charter that this board was required. Councilor Burlingame stated that if it is, we can take it out the next time Charter amendments are made. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the Personnel Board is in the Code of Ordinance and not in the Charter. Councilor Burlingame stated that we can change the Code.

Regarding the Recreation Commission, Councilor Burlingame stated that they haven't met in years and we have a Recreation Director who is responsible for the coordination of all of the activities.

Councilor Burlingame spoke about the Wastewater Advisory Commission and asked what has been accomplished and what is going to be accomplished. Councilor Burlingame expressed his concern that there is a duplication of effort with regard to solar applications. Councilor Burlingame stated that he has a frustration that this board has spent a lot of time and energy on things such as water power on properties to which the Town could never obtain water rights. Councilor Burlingame stated that a lot of time has also been spent on solar power when we do not have three-phase electricity and it would not be economical to do so. Councilor Burlingame stated that the Community Resource Commission should not be soliciting proposals for solar energy on the Council's behalf without talking to them first. Councilor Burlingame stated that the Council should consider whether or not to have this commission going forward.

Councilor W. Steere asked if there is still a need for the Wastewater Advisory Commission due to State law. Councilor Burlingame stated that this would fall within Planning and Public Works to deal with drainage issues. Councilor Burlingame noted that the State took care of many of the drainage problems with the Village Enhancement Project over the last ten to fifteen years. Councilor Burlingame commented that if the Commission wants to continue, they must justify their existence and tell the Council what their plan is.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

1. Board of Contracts & Purchases  
Two (2) expired terms  
One (1) expired Ad Hoc term

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to APPOINT Diane Brennan, Finance Director, Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, and to authorize the Ad Hoc member as a Department Head, not initiating the bid process, to the Board of Contracts & Purchases for a term to expire 1/2019; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

2. Personnel Board  
Three (3) expired terms

Tabled previously

3. Recreation Commission  
Five (5) expired terms

Tabled previously

4. Safety Commission  
Seven (7) expired terms  
Three (3) expired At Large Members

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to APPOINT **Joseph DelPrete**, Police Chief; **Jason Rhodes**, Emergency Management Director; **Gary Treml**, Public Works Director; **Stuart Pearson**, Harmony Fire Chief; **Robert Dauphinais**, Chepachet Fire Chief; **Christopher Labutti**, West Glocester Fire Chief; **Lisa Santamaria**, School Bus Coordinator; & Members at Large; **Earl Newman**; **Russell Gross**; & **Darlene Shields** for terms to expire 1/2019; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

5. Scituate Watershed Commission  
Two (2) expired terms

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to REAPPOINT Karen Scott and Roy Najecki to the Scituate Watershed Commission for a term to expire 1/2019; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

6. Blackstone Valley Watershed Commission  
One (1) expired term

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to REAPPOINT Elizabeth Tetreault to the Blackstone Valley Watershed Commission for a term to expire 1/2019; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry



NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

7. Woonasquatucket River Committee  
One (1) expired term

MOTION was made by Councilor to REAPPOINT Karen Scott to the Woonasquatucket River Committee for a term to expire 1/2019; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

8. Community Resource and Wastewater Advisory Commission  
(7) Seven expired terms  
(2) Alternate term

Tabled previously

9. Affordable Housing Advisory Board to 01/2017  
(5) Five expired terms

Councilor G. Steere stated that this Board has 5 positions, only 4 are currently filled. Councilor G. Steere stated of the four, Kevin Kitson, does not wish to be re-appointed.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to REAPPOINT Michael Kopeski, Daniel Nardelli, & Cathleen Griffeth to the Affordable Housing Advisory Board for terms to expire 1/2019; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to TABLE two of the positions on the Affordable Housing Advisory Board to the Town Council meeting of January 19, 2017; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

IX. Town Council Correspondence and/or Discussion

- A. Councilor G. Steere stated that he received a phone call from a member of the Foster Town Council asking if we would be interested in chipping in on a regional Police station, along with the town of Scituate, and/or if we are interested in a regional dispatch with them when they build their new Police station.
- B. Councilor G. Steere stated that a letter was received from the RI EMA regarding a half-day Public Assistance Awareness Workshop on Wednesday, February 15, 2017.

X. Department Head Reports/Discussion

- A. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that she is working on dates for the Financial Referendum and will have more information by the next Council meeting.
- B. Gary Trembl, Director of Public Works, reported again to Council that dumping fees will be going up \$750 per ton at Resource Recovery which will result in an extra cost of roughly \$21,000. G. Trembl noted that it will go up \$750 again the following year. G. Trembl stated that fluorescent bulb disposal is also going up. There was discussion concerning implementing a “pay as you throw” program, which is recommended by Resource Recovery.

Councilor Henry stated that she attended the School Committee meeting last night where it was stated that they are now getting charged the commercial rate for trash disposal. Councilor Henry suggested that we put together people to discuss ideas and educate the community about doing a better job with recycling. G. Trembl stated that people know what they have to do but the only way to force them to is if it costs money.

Councilor Burlingame stated that if we did go with “pay as you throw”, we would eliminate all of the out-of-town dumping which would reduce our costs by a third, and it would cause people to recycle more, which would cut our costs further. Councilor Burlingame stated that another approach would be to re-issue stickers to Gloucester residents at \$35.00 each which would cover the increase. Councilor G. Steere commented that this would not address the issue of recycling.

Councilor Henry asked G. Trembl what he wants. G. Trembl replied that he has been suggesting a “pay as you throw” program since he has been here, stating that if we had implemented it years ago, we would not be in this situation now.

Councilor G. Steere stated that he and Councilor Burlingame met with G. Trembl to discuss the matter, and that everything is separated and itemized in the Budget so we know what it costs to operate the Transfer Station. Councilor Burlingame stated that at the last Department Head meeting some figures were put together to show the theoretical savings if we had “pay as you throw”, and it would more than offset the fee increase from Resource Recovery.

Councilor Henry stated that many people would prefer curbside trash pickup. Councilor Burlingame commented that it would cost a half-million dollars a year.

Gary Treml asked the Council to think about establishing rules regarding the pavilion, such as how it will be used, who will use it, etc.

- C. Diane Brennan, Finance Director, stated that the audits came in this afternoon and she gave the Council members copies for their review. D. Brennan stated that she will put the audit online tomorrow.
- D. Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official, spoke about a house on Cedar Trail which has been condemned. K. Johnson noted that the owner, who lives in California, has been notified that the house has to be taken down, which is planned for the Spring. K. Johnson stated, in the meantime, the house has been boarded up and is causing an issue for a neighbor. Councilor W. Steere suggested that the owner be given a date certain by which the demolition must take place. K. Johnson replied that it will be a struggle for the owner to pay for it, however he cannot offer assistance.

Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, stated that the Town could demolish the structure and place a lien on the property, but the property does not have much value. Councilor G. Steere suggested that the Town Solicitor send a letter to the property owner. K. Johnson noted that the owner has the property for sale, but is asking an unreasonable amount for it. T. Kane stated that he will work with K. Johnson on this matter.

#### XI. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion None.

Councilor W. Steere stated that he wanted to mention something in Council Correspondence. Councilor W. Steere wished to recognize several employees for helping some people in Town who did not know where else to go. Councilor W. Steere commented that the employees went out of their way, above and beyond, to help them out. Councilor W. Steere stated that if the Council is made aware of these situations, perhaps they could also help. Councilor G. Steere stated that this could be placed on a future agenda for discussion. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the Human Services Director currently has two (2) funds set up, but they are very specific; one is for food and the other for fuel. J. Fecteau stated that the Director is willing to establish a third fund which would be for emergencies, and suggested that the Council donate the first \$500 from their Contingency Account. There was Council consensus to place this on the agenda.

#### XII. Open Forum

Charlie Wilson, chair of the Candlelight Shopping Committee, thanked the Chief of Police and his Department and the Town Council for their financial help with this year's event. C. Wilson stated that it was a success and we are getting more people from farther away to recognize that we have a nice village with a lot of potential.

XIII. Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to:  
MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to Convene to Executive Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining: Contract Negotiations; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

XIV. Reconvene Open Session (Disclose votes taken in Executive Session)  
MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session and to disclose that no votes were taken; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

XV. Union Contract ratification:  
Local 638, I.B.P.O. (Police Dept.)

NO ACTION

XVI. Adjourn  
MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ADJOURN at 10:04 p.m.; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere, Reichert, & Henry  
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED