

At a meeting of the Gloucester Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on February 16, 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; Gary Treml, Director of Public Works; Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official, and Jane Steere, Tax Collector

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

- A. Linda Nichols read a letter into the record regarding her reappointment to the Community Resource Commission. L. Nichols stated she had forwarded this letter to the Council but wanted the public to hear it:

To: Gloucester Town Council

I, Linda A Nichols, Chair of the Gloucester Community Resource and Waste Water Advisory Commission am very angry and very disappointed that you did not reappoint me to the commission. I would like an explanation on why I was not reappointed and to make such a decision when I wasn't even there to defend myself that is beyond morals.

This council should be so grateful to have a commission that has done so much and given back so much to the town and the community, we have followed our mission statement, if you did not believe in my leadership then why was this commission so successful? It would not have lasted all these years.

When any person resigned from the commission it was on personal reasons never was it because of my leadership.

I have a copy of every resignation from every member they all had personal reasons over the years and it had nothing to do with me.

The work that we have done for this commission has been above and beyond the call of duty to help the community and the town. And everyone has benefitted from it.

Why in gods name would you want to take someone that has done so much for her town and has given back so much not to let her continue to help her community?

If you don't want me as chair then just appoint me as a member, I have put a lot of hard work and dedication into this commission.

To cast your stones on someone that has been so dedicated to this town and has stood up and fought for the town on different issues.

When a big company like Amica Insurance Company did a story on the commission and its dedication to the town I would say that is very inspiring.

This is someone that has given so much, and has been such an inspiration to so many. And to be recognized by our State Representative Mr. Mike Chippendale for such dedicated service and given a citation was an honor, and please read the letter from Mr. Chippendale, then see if you still want to cast your stones.

Its is fond hope that we can work together and make our town a wonderful place to live for our children and future generations to come.

Thank you
Linda A. Nichols
(end of letter)

V. R.I. Attorney General's Office - Presentation regarding the current state of marijuana in Rhode Island & related issues

Captain Mattera introduced the representative from the state Attorney General's Office, Joee M. Lindbeck, Assistant Attorney General from the Legislation and Policy Unit of the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General.

Discussion: Joee Lindbeck gave a power point presentation to all explaining the current law regarding the growing and use of marijuana. J. Lindbeck explained the different categories of legalized growers, how much a person could grow in each category, and the ramifications of widespread growing statewide. J. Lindbeck asked if anyone had any questions.

Atty. Kane stated that he has reviewed many of the ordinances and the only one he saw that bans every category is Lincoln. T. Kane asked J. Lindbeck for her opinion. J. Lindbeck replied that she cannot give legal advice, but feels that there are two approaches; the one that Lincoln took in saying "no" to cultivation, and the way that Westerly went, saying okay to patients and care givers, conducting Town inspections and placing them in a sealed confidential list so they won't be targeted for breaking and entering.

Atty. Kane questioned if state law gives protection to people that have a card and are growing for their own personal use. J. Lindbeck replied there were no special protections in state law other than the current medical marijuana legislation.

Councilor Reichert stated in his profession he sees a large number of people actively growing marijuana in their homes. J. Lindbeck thanked Councilor Reichert for pointing that out, stating that people do not realize how much marijuana cultivation takes place. J. Lindbeck stated that the local government should have some control because of the safety hazards that are involved.

Councilor Burlingame explained that we have sent a proposed ordinance for recommendation to the Planning Board which basically says no to compassion centers, stores, co-op cultivators, and residential cultivators. Councilor Burlingame questioned if restrictions can be put on care giver cultivation.

J. Lindbeck replied that if you are not a cooperative, twenty-four plants is the most you can have in a dwelling unit, which could reap 24 pounds. J. Lindbeck stated that licensed care givers can serve five people.

Councilor Reichert stated that the bigger picture is that the State is going to issue three types of licenses for big cultivators; at fees of \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$15,000, which are non-refundable. Councilor Reichert stated that people will be looking to put up a 100' by 100' steel building in this area for this purpose.

Councilor Burlingame asked if a possible solution is to require a permit with an electrical inspection. J. Lindbeck replied that this would be an option to consider.

T. Kane stated that there will be a full discussion when the matter comes up for Special Hearing. J. Lindbeck stated that she will send the Council an Excel spreadsheet which includes every license category the Council would need to consider and what other Towns have done.

Councilor Henry questioned if the Town can say no to personal and care giver categories. Councilor Henry noted that in the Council's last discussion, they were going to say yes to just those two, but she feels that the care giver category is very ambiguous and could open up to something much bigger.

Councilor Burlingame stated that Lincoln does and it is his opinion that if it is illegal from a federal point of view he would say no to everything. Councilor Burlingame stated that he doesn't want any part of it until the Federal government says it's okay.

Councilor Henry questioned if the State would be able to override the Town's decision if we say no to everything. J. Lindbeck replied that for retail, that is what the Legislation says, however for medical, she doesn't know what they would do. Councilor Burlingame stated that he is willing to take that chance.

Councilor Reichert referred to H.I.P.A.A. laws, stating that some people are genuinely sick and are using it, but others become care givers for elderly relatives and grow the product to sell.

Councilor Henry asked if the Town said no across the board, would we open ourselves up to lawsuits.

Atty. Kane stated that he would be taking a closer look at the medical marijuana law to see if there is protection for the two categories we are struggling with.

Councilor Reichert stated that the cities such as Providence want it out and it will drive the people that want to grow it out here to Glocester, Scituate and Foster.

Councilor Burlingame stated that his daughter is in the real estate business and she has been asked by developers if there are any big vacant buildings for sale in our Town for the purpose of growing marijuana. Councilor Burlingame stated his opinion that we have to do something and put in regulations.

Councilor G. Steere asked J. Lindbeck if there is a bill in the House. J. Lindbeck replied that it was introduced today. Councilor G. Steere asked if the proposed bill would prohibit a Town from doing this unless they brought it to the voters. J. Lindbeck stated that is correct for retail marijuana, but not for medical (care givers or personal).

The Council members thanked J. Lindbeck for her presentation.

VI. Consent Items - Discussion and/or action

- A. Approval of Town Council regular meeting minutes of January 19th & February 2, 2017
- B. Tax Assessor's Additions & Abatements - January 2017
- C. Finance Director's Report - January 2017

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to APPROVE the Town Council regular meeting minutes of January 19th & February 2nd, 2017; there are no Additions or Abatements for January 2017; and to ACCEPT the Finance Director's Report for January 2017; seconded by Councilor Burlingame

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Boards & Commission
 - 1. Appointments - Discussion and/or action
 - a. Gloucester Housing Authority
One 5-yr term to expire 07/2017

Councilor G. Steere stated the Clerk's office checked with the Housing Authority secretary and has received an email from the Chair recommending the latest talent bank applicant, Steven Theriault.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to APPOINT Steven Theriault to the Gloucester Housing Authority for one 5 year term; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

- b. Conservation Commission
One Alternate term to expire 2/2018

Councilor Henry stated she had heard from the Chair of that Commission and he has requested more time to reach out to Talent Bank applicants.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to TABLE the appointment to the Conservation Commission for a one year Alternate term; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

- B. Boards & Commissions - Terms concurrent with Town Council- Discussion and/or action

- 1. Personnel Board - Two expired terms

Councilor Burlingame explained when this board was created the Town didn't have personnel policies or a personnel director. Councilor Burlingame stated that we use department heads and/or Council members for interviews and we have a Human Resource Director. Councilor Burlingame stated it is his opinion that the Personnel Board has served its purpose and he suggested that we suspend that board and we vote on removing that reference from the Town Charter at the next General Election.

Councilor Henry concurred, stating that she was appointed to the Personnel Board when it was established and their work was completed.

Councilor G. Steere commented that we haven't used the Personnel Board often, but it is in the Charter so it would have to be changed. Councilor Burlingame recommended that we defer the appointments of two expired terms and to modify the Charter at the next General Election.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame TABLE, indefinitely, the appointments to the Personnel Board for two year terms and to propose an amendment to remove the Personnel Board from the Town Charter at the next election; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

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

MOTION PASSED

- 2. Recreation Commission - Five expired terms

Councilor G. Steere noted that four (4) positions were filled at the last Town Council meeting, leaving one (1) vacancy. Councilor Henry stated that there are several applications in the Talent Bank, but she recommended that the Council table the appointment until the next meeting. Councilor Henry stated that the Recreation Commission posted an agenda and will be having their

first meeting on February 28th.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to TABLE the appointment to the Recreation Commission for a two year term; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

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

MOTION PASSED

3. Community Resource and Wastewater Advisory Commission - Three expired terms & Two Alternate terms

Councilor G. Steere stated that at the last meeting, Council tabled further appointments and discussed redefining the charge of this commission.

Discussion: Councilor Burlingame stated that there is no need for this Commission to have anything to do with wastewater as this falls upon the Planning Office and Public Works, with directives from the State. Councilor Burlingame further stated that the Community Resource Commission should not be soliciting for solar applications. Regarding the Community Garden, Councilor Burlingame stated that it should be something that people can participate in, and the Town should not be spending any resources to promote it.

Councilor W. Steere noted that the Commission did bring in a lot of grant money and suggested that they look out for other grants for the Town.

Councilor G. Steere commented that the Lighting Fair was successful and Councilor Burlingame agreed. Councilor W. Steere stated that they also got the energy engineering done for all of the Town buildings, which saved the Town money.

Councilor Burlingame stated that he would like to see a redefinition of their charge and what their focus should be if they are going to continue. Councilor G. Steere stated that we can table it and think about whether to eliminate the wastewater portion from the committee.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to TABLE the appointments to the Community Resource and Wastewater Advisory Commission until the next meeting and to come back with recommendations; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated that he will contact the members to see what their thoughts are.

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

MOTION PASSED

4. Affordable Housing Advisory Board - (1) Two year term

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated that Karen Scott, Town Planner, has been reaching out to the current members to try to get a meeting scheduled. Councilor W. Steere suggested that the Council table the appointment until the board has their next meeting.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to TABLE until the next meeting the appointment to the Affordable Housing Advisory Board for one 2 year term; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

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

MOTION PASSED

VIII. New Business

A. Ratification (Item discussed 02/02/2017 Town Council Meeting)

Correspondence and/or Actions re: Special Legislative Commission to study the Low and Moderate Income Housing Act - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that at the Town Council meeting of February 2nd, after discussion regarding a legislative committee that was formed to study the Low and Moderate Income Housing Act, the Council reached a consensus to forward correspondence to other communities asking for their support. Councilor G. Steere stated the commission has asked for input from rural communities on the housing act and the 10% goal. Councilor G. Steere stated the Gloucester Council would like to express their concerns as we feel the goal is unfair and unobtainable, therefore some of our Council members will attend the meeting of the Special Legislative Commission to express our concerns. Councilor G. Steere noted that the meeting was scheduled for today but was postponed until next Tuesday.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to RATIFY the decision to forward correspondence to other cities and towns requesting their support at a meeting of the Special Legislative Commission to study the Low and Moderate Income Housing Act to be attended by several Gloucester Town Council members; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

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

MOTION PASSED

Councilor W. Steere stated, his opinion, that the group that serves on that commission is not very favorable to cities and towns because it is about developers bypassing local zoning and not about helping people. Councilor Burlingame agreed, stating that a project that should bring in \$200,000 to \$300,000 in tax revenue will only generate about \$20,000 per year because the developer only has to pay 8% of the rent collected.

Councilor Henry stated that it speaks to how we are seeing the State move toward dictating to us on what we can and cannot do, just like with the medical marijuana issue. Councilor Burlingame commented that he has no problem with growth in the community as long as the people will get

something in return. Councilor G. Steere stated that hopefully we will get some support from other towns.

B. Gloucester Code of Ordinance - Discussion and/or action

First reading for proposed amendments related to Medical Marijuana:

1. Chapter 350, Article 1, Section 5 Definitions
2. Chapter 350, Article II, Section 11, subsections 1 & 8

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council is proposing an amendment to the code regarding the growing of marijuana.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to WAIVE the 1st reading of the proposed amendment: Chapter 350, Article 1, Sect.5 definitions & Article II, Sect. 11, subsections 1 & 8; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

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

MOTION PASSED

Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, stated that as a result of possible input at the Public Hearing, some definitions may be added to the Proposed Ordinance. T. Kane suggested that the Council schedule the Public Hearing and begin the advertising process.

Councilor G. Steere referred to the Bill that was introduced today and asked what would happen if it passes. T. Kane replied that the State would override the Town's Ordinance. Councilor W. Steere commented that it is still important for us to go forward and press the issue.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to SET a Public Hearing for the consideration of a proposed amendment to the Code of Ordinance: Chapter 350, Article 1, Section 5 Definitions & Chapter 350, Article II, Section 11, subsections 1 & 8 for March 16, 2017; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

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

MOTION PASSED

C. Sign Ordinance re: Historic District - Discussion and/or action

Discussion: Councilor Henry explained that she would like the Council to reopen an issue that the Council has been "kicking around" since 2004. Councilor Henry noted that the Sign Ordinance has been amended in 2009, 2010 and 2015, and it is now February 2017. Councilor Henry stated that there have been multiple extensions for the adherence to the Ordinance for the Village Overlay area. Councilor Henry commented that new businesses outside of the Village have put up the correct signage, but businesses in Town who have been here for some time are not in compliance

with the Sign Ordinance. Councilor Henry pointed out that the Town has done all of the sidewalks and period lighting in the Village and the businesses have benefitted from it. Councilor Henry stated that she would like the Council to discuss whether to put some teeth to this Ordinance and get it adhered to. Councilor Henry stated that when it was last discussed, it was left to Charlie Wilson, chair of the Historic Commission and business owner, to go to each business to try to have them adhere to the Ordinance, but she feels that you don't ask a volunteer on the Historic Commission to do that. Councilor Henry stated her opinion that the Council should empower the Zoning Official to enforce the Ordinance. Councilor Henry noted that we have so many metal signs, some of them empty or askew, which detracts from the historic nature of the Village.

Councilor G. Steere stated that after the sidewalks were done we gave the businesses a year to comply with the Ordinance, which was back in 2015. Councilor Burlingame concurred, stating that after that, there were to be no further excuses.

Charlie Wilson, chair of the Historic District Commission, stated that the business owners have told him that they are not complying because nobody is pushing them to. C. Wilson stated that we must step up and make it happen.

Councilor Burlingame asked if we have a list of those who are in violation. Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official, replied that there are not many, 5 or 6. Councilor Burlingame suggested that we tell those businesses that the grace period is over and they must now conform. K. Johnson stated that the last time he sent a letter out was March of 2015 telling them they had to comply by June 30th. K. Johnson stated that he received no responses and it was decided that Charlie Wilson, as a fellow businessman, would go to the businesses and politely ask them to comply. K. Johnson commented that it is not working.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to empower the Building/Zoning Official to send letters to the businesses in the Village Overlay District stating that are in non-compliance to Ordinance 350 -33, Signs in the Historic District, to give them a 60-day notice to comply, and if compliance is not met, a fine will be imposed; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: Councilor Reichert asked about Christy's Liquors. Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official, stated that the business is moving to a new location and the sign has already been approved by the Historic District Commission.

Councilor Burlingame suggested that the motion state that the completion date must be acceptable to the Zoning Official, for instance 60 days may be okay for one, but 30 days may be okay for another.

Councilor Henry amended her MOTION to eliminate the 60-day notice and change it to "completion date acceptable to the Zoning Official"; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

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

MOTION PASSED

Vote on Main Motion:

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

MOTION PASSED

D. Harmony Hill School Security: Update - Discussion and/or action

Discussion: Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police, reported that he has spoken to Harmony Hill since the last meeting and they have indicated they will try to tighten up their protocols. Chief DelPrete stated that the Police Department has a list of abutters who wish to be notified in the event of an incident.

Councilor Burlingame asked if the State Police have any protocol on this since it is a State facility. Chief DelPrete replied in the negative, stating that his Department responds to all of the medical calls. Chief DelPrete stated that the abutters on the list will also be notified when an incident is over. Chief DelPrete noted that some people did not want to be included on the list.

E. Set 2017/18 Budget Public Hearing Dates - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council has set May 16th for the Financial Town Referendum. Councilor G. Steere stated the Clerk now needs Council to set their 2017/18 budget public hearing, from Saturday, April 15th to Thursday, April 20th. Councilor G. Steere noted that the Council had previously expressed that the hearing could be held at the Town Hall.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere questioned if there are too many people for the Council Chambers, would we have a fall-back date. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, replied that we wouldn't have time to set another date because a Public Hearing must be advertised 10 days prior. J. Fecteau stated that the meeting could be moved to the Senior Center if necessary. After further discussion, there was Council consensus to schedule the Public Hearing for Monday, April 17, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to SET a Public Hearing for the 2017/18 Budget on April 17, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall; seconded by Councilor Henry.

Discussion: None.

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

MOTION PASSED

F. RI Foundation Community Grant (Application due March 2017) - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that we have received notice of a grant round from the RI Foundation and the Clerk has sent the notice out to department heads.

Discussion: Diane Brennan, Finance Director, stated that some things were submitted to the Budget Board for Capital, a few of which the RI Foundation might fund. D. Brennan gave the following examples: under Parks and Recreation, new playground and swing set for Gloucester

Memorial Park for \$22,000; new playground and swing set for Winsor Park at \$12,000; under Department of Public Works, Pavilion: Rebuild stone walls, landscaping, well/pump/tank, and electric service, for a total of \$21,250.

There was discussion regarding how the Council will decide how the grant funds are used, if awarded. Councilor Burlingame noted that the pavilion falls under Public Works and Winsor Park is part of the Recreation Department, therefore it would make sense for the Public Works Director, Recreation Director and Finance Director to discuss the matter and give the Council a recommendation. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, suggested that the money be applied to a project that has already been started, such as the pavilion. The Council members agreed.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to APPLY for the 2017 RI Foundation Community Grant and request funds to be used to complete the Pavilion Project; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: None.

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

MOTION PASSED

G. Community Resource Commission: Garden equipment - Discussion and/or action
Councilor Henry stated that G. Treml, Director of Public Works, has sent a letter to the Council stating that he has discovered some equipment at the site of the community garden. Councilor Henry stated that she asked for this to be on the agenda so the Council can give G. Treml some direction regarding this matter. There was Council consensus to have the Public Works Department pick up the equipment.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to AUTHORIZE the Director of Public Works to retrieve the garden equipment from the community garden and to secure the equipment at the Public Works Department; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated that he checked on the equipment and he thinks that the majority of it was paid for by grants. Councilor W. Steere stated that there are no restrictions on those grants. Councilor G. Steere commented that if the equipment stays where it is, it will eventually disappear.

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

MOTION PASSED

H. Abandoned Properties: Dorr Drive Update - Discussion and/or action
Discussion: Councilor Henry stated that after the last meeting, workers started showing up at the property but they did not come to the Town Hall to pull the necessary permits. Councilor Henry stated that they are scraping lead paint from the building without the workers having proper protection or being authorized to work with lead paint. Councilor Henry pointed out that we only

asked them to secure the property to make it safe from falling in or being a danger to others.

Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official, stated that they did not follow protocol and he has issued a cease and desist order because the site is contaminated with lead. K. Johnson noted that the building is taking on water and will not last long if something is not done. K. Johnson stated that maybe the \$100 per day fine will push them to do something.

Councilor W. Steere asked if the bank that owns the property has any photos. Councilor Henry replied that she received over 50 photos and K. Johnson stated that he also sent some photos of the lead paint on the ground, which is on the neighbor's property as well.

Councilor Burlingame asked what we have to do to get the fining process started. Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, stated that he will send a letter stating that we will fine them \$100 per day and will file an action in Superior Court.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Town Solicitor to start the fining process and go to Superior Court to take the necessary actions; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: Councilor G. Steere asked K. Johnson if he has gotten any response to his letter. K. Johnson replied in the negative.

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 correspondence was received from the Trust concerning a \$1,000 grant award for the purchase of LED lights at the Transfer Station.
- B. Councilor W. Steere spoke regarding signs in the Historic District and stated that the temporary sign at the mini-park and public parking area should be replaced with something that will conform to the Village.

X. Department Head Reports/Discussion

- A. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the Council will have a joint workshop with the Budget Board on Feb. 22nd at 6:30 PM.
- B. Diane Brennan, Finance Director, announced that Jacky DiPietro from the Finance Office will be retiring on March 3rd. D. Brennan stated that she will put together the job description and begin advertising the position.
- C. Councilor Burlingame complimented Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police, regarding the Annual Report he submitted on behalf of the Police Department. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that she will put the report on the Town's website.

- D. Gary Treml, Director of Public Works, stated that he, Councilor Henry and Diane Brennan met with a representative from Waste Zero, who has been contracted by Resource Recovery to go to the communities with a proposal regarding a pay-as-you-throw program. G. Treml explained that if we decide to go into this program, we will tip for zero. Councilor Henry stated that this would result in a savings of \$100,000 per year. G. Treml commented that one way or another, we are going to pay and this makes it fair to everyone in Town. G. Treml further stated that this would also eliminate out-of-town trash. G. Treml explained that the bags would be available at local retailers and the money would go to Resource Recovery for our tipping fees.

Councilor Henry stated that the representative has worked all over the world and is extremely knowledgeable. Councilor Henry stated that the small bag is 37 cents and most seniors use one bag per week. Councilor Henry stated that a family of four usually uses one large bag per week, which would be about \$3.50 per month. Councilor Henry stated that she is working on putting together some facts to present to the Council for discussion. Councilor Henry stated that if we don't do this on our own, it will eventually be dictated by the State.

XI. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

- A. Charlie Wilson, chair of the Historic District Commission, stated that Mark Rechter, who is with the Grange, has presented an idea for the Fall to have the 4-H group conduct a scarecrow- making competition. C. Wilson stated that the scarecrows could be attached to the light poles in the Village for display and people could vote on which is the best one. Councilor W. Steere pointed out that the poles are close to the road and suggested that the scarecrows be placed at the pavilion instead. Councilor G. Steere agreed that it would not be safe to attach them to the light poles.

XII. Open Forum

- A. Walter Steere, Jr. asked when the proposed Budget would be available to the public. Councilor W. Steere replied that as soon as the Budget Board's recommendation is approved by the Council, copies will be made and the Budget will also be on the Town's website.
- B. Robert Kelman, of 19 St. James Lane, questioned the status of the noise complaints at 44 Hazelwood Road. Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, replied that a lawsuit was filed and there was a hearing today. T. Kane stated a restraining order was granted and the property owner has hired an attorney to attempt to dissolve the restraining order. T. Kane stated that he will probably need Mr. Kelman and some of his neighbors to testify in Superior Court in a couple of weeks.
- C. Allen Schenck, of 36 St. James Lane, also spoke regarding the situation on Hazelwood Road, asking to be notified of its status. A. Schenck also wished to thank Councilor Steere for taking his call and Ken Johnson, Building Official, for his efforts regarding this matter. Tim Kane asked Mr. Schenck to keep a log of any noise or truck activity he may see. T. Kane also asked Mr. Schenck if he would be available to testify. A. Schenck replied in the affirmative.

- D. Steve Mitchell, of Reynolds Road, spoke about the proposed Affordable Housing in the Historic District, and the need to preserve the prehistoric areas that probably exist in this community. S. Mitchell stated, that by prehistoric areas, that he is referring to prehistoric settlements that are up to 10,000 years old, if not more. S. Mitchell urgently requested that the Town Council contact the State Archaeologist and the RI Preservation and Historic Commission to conduct an archaeological survey. S. Mitchell stated that Chepachet and the town of Glocester are a very historical community of which he is proud to be member, and we need to make sure that any underground prehistoric sites are preserved. S. Mitchell again requested that before there is any type of major construction in this Town, an archaeological survey be conducted as part of the requirements.

There was Council consensus to place this on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting.

- E. George Charette spoke regarding signage in Glocester, stating that he had given Charlie Wilson and the Town Planner photographs of different types of colonial signs and suggested that they come up with some kind of design for businesses in the Village.

G. Charette spoke regarding marijuana, stating that there are towns that are saying no and that we have a major problem with marijuana in Glocester. G. Charette commented that it is a felony and the Police Department is doing their job. G. Charette expressed his opinion that we do not need a medical marijuana center, distribution center, etc.

- F. Donald Simpson, 150 Lakeview Drive, spoke regarding the legalization of marijuana and stated his opinion that it should be strictly regulated.

XIII. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to ADJOURN at 9:48 p.m.; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

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

MOTION PASSED