

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on April 15, 2021:

Councilor Forgue stated that pursuant to current R.I. Executive Orders this meeting is being teleconferenced via Zoom.

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call

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

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliazzi, Town Solicitor; Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Matthew Floor, IT Director; Ken Johnson, Bldg/Zoning Official; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Adam Muccino, Finance Director; Gary Treml, Director of Public Works, Robert Shields, Recreation Director

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

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

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

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

None

V. Resolution - Discussion and/or Action

A. #2021-03 Opposition to R.I. 2021 Gun Control Legislation

Councilor Forgue stated the Council was asked by Burrillville to adopt a resolution similar to one passed in their town which would oppose proposed gun legislation which Councilor Worthy read as follows:

Town of Gloucester  
**The State of Rhode Island**

RESOLUTION #2021-03

## OPPOSITION TO RHODE ISLAND 2021 GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

- WHEREAS,** the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified on December 15, 1791 as part of the Bill of Rights, protects the inalienable and individual right of the people to keep and bear arms; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S.570 (2008), affirmed an individual's right to possess firearms, unconnected with service in a militia, for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Supreme Court in *McDonald v. Chicago*, 561 U.S. 742(2010), affirmed that the right of an individual to "*keep and bear arms*," as protected under the Second Amendment, is incorporated by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and is applicable to the states; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Supreme Court in *United States v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 174(1939), opined that firearms that are part of ordinary military equipment, or with use that could contribute to the common defense are protected by the Second Amendment; and
- WHEREAS,** Article I, Section 22 of the Rhode Island Constitution adopted in 1842, provides that "*The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.*"; and
- WHEREAS,** Article I, Section 6 of the Rhode Island Constitution provides that "*The right of the people to be secure in their persons, papers and possessions, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue, but on complaint in writing, upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation and describing as nearly as many as may be, the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.*"; and
- WHEREAS,** as a matter of general principle, and in recognition of over 230 years of lawmaking under the guidance of the Constitution for the United States of America having properly established numerous laws regarding criminal use of firearms that are wholly adequate when judiciously enforced such that additional laws are unneeded, any law which upon passage renders a lifelong law-abiding citizen a felon through no action of their own, is an unjustified law and should be unconstitutional under multiple amendments in the Bill of Rights; and
- WHEREAS,** the Gloucester Town Council members each took an oath to support and defend the United States Constitution, the Rhode Island Constitution, and the laws of the State of Rhode Island which are not deemed unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, and the Charter of the Town of Gloucester; and
- WHEREAS,** the Gloucester Town Council members give great weight to and adhere to the belief of James Madison, Jr., the fourth President of these great United States that: "Oppressors can tyrannize only when they achieve a standing army, an enslaved

press, and a disarmed populace"; and

**WHEREAS,** many of the bills being considered by the General Assembly would require the confiscation and storage of otherwise lawfully owned firearms, and make the Towns and Cities of Rhode Island, responsible for these costs; and

**WHEREAS,** the Rhode Island General Assembly, in its 2021 legislative session has pending before it numerous bills regulating and restricting the rights afforded the citizens of the State of Rhode Island through the Second Amendment to the United States' Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island, including, but not limited to:

Senate Bill 73, the Harold Metts School Safety Act of 2021 and its companion bill, House Bill 5555, prohibiting the possession of firearms on school grounds, which prohibition extends to individuals with lawful, legitimate carry permits;

Senate Bill 129 which repeals the authority of local authorities to issue conceal carry permits to eligible individuals and repeals the right of minors to obtain carry permits; and repeals provisions allowing permits to be issued to law enforcement officers who have retired in good standing after at least twenty (20) years of service;

House Bill 5381 which would require a purchaser of a firearm to execute a medical authorization for release of medical records related to substance abuse and mental health records for a period of five (5) years preceding the purchase of any firearm;

House Bill 5386 which prohibits a purchaser from purchasing a firearm for a prohibited person, a regulation already covered by federal law; and requires a specification of the number of firearms the individual is seeking to purchase;

House Bill 5553 which would require all firearms within a home to be kept in a locked container or equipped with a tamper resistant or mechanical lock;

House Bill 5554 which would ban large capacity feeding devices, i.e., those holding more than ten (10) rounds unless the owner modifies the magazine so that it holds ten (10) or less rounds, surrenders the device or transfers the device to a federally licensed firearm dealer outside the State of Rhode Island;

House Bill 5556, the Rhode Island Assault Ban Weapon Act of 2021, would prohibit the possession of "assault weapons," defined as any shotgun that holds more than six (6) rounds or a rifle that holds more than 10 rounds. In order to be exempt, the weapon must, within twelve (12) months of the bill's passage, be registered, be rendered inoperable, be surrendered to a registered firearm dealer or police department, or be transferred to a person in another jurisdiction where such firearms are allowed. It would also require any heirs of a decedent to surrender or transfer the firearm. If registered, the lawful owner would be required submit fingerprints and pay a fee for registering the firearm.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Council, of the Town of Glocester, on June 6, 2019, declared itself a Second Amendment Sanctuary Town, now reaffirms that declaration, and hereby takes the following position on state legislation that potentially abridges our Second Amendment rights. We find and declare that these gun restriction bills, if enacted by the Rhode Island General Assembly, infringe upon the rights of the People of the Town of Glocester and the People of the State of Rhode Island to keep and bear arms. We are collectively opposed to the infringement of these rights established by our Founding Fathers.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that these bills impose unfunded mandates upon local governments; and the Town Council of the Town of Glocester will not appropriate funds for capital construction of building space and/or the purchase of storage systems to store weapons seized, pursuant to any requirements set forth in the legislation if enacted by the General Assembly for the purpose of enforcing any law, that unconstitutionally infringes upon the rights of the People of the Town of Glocester to keep and bear arms.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to every Rhode Island Municipality, State Senators, State Representatives, and our Governor respectfully requesting their support.

Julian P. Forgue  
Glocester Town Council President

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021

seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

VI. Proclamations - Discussion and/or Action

A. #2021-01 Earth Day - April 22, 2021

Councilor Forgue stated that each year the Council acknowledges Earth Day with a Proclamation which Councilor Arnold read as follows:

**Proclamation of the Town of Glocester  
#2021-01 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 4th Annual Earth Day Celebration Clean-Up will be held on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> where volunteers, including the Conservation Commission, will meet at the Pavilion at Kent Field Pavilion at 9:00 a.m.; and the Gloucester Land Trust will be holding Earth Day clean-ups on April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting at 8:00 a.m. at the Steere Hill parking area, the Sprague Farm parking area, then proceeding to Sprague Hill Road to clean that area as well; 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 the Town’s efforts as we contribute to the celebration of Earth Day.

Julian P. Forgue  
Town Council President

Jean M Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Dated this 15th day of April 2021

seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. #2021-02 Arbor Day - April 30, 2021

Councilor Forgue stated that the Council also acknowledges Arbor Day each year and read the Proclamation as follows::

**Proclamation of the Town of Gloucester  
#2021-02 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 on 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

**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 30, 2021 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.

Julian P. Forgue  
Town Council President

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Dated this 15th day of April 2021

seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VII. Consent Items - Discussion and/or Action

- A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of April 1, 2021
- B. Tax Assessor's Additions and Abatements - March 2021
- C. Tax Collector's Abatements - 2010
- D. Finance Director's Report - March 2021

Councilor Forgue stated that Council has an additional item under Consent Items, the Tax Collector's Abatements which is for the abatement of outstanding fees where the statute of limitations for collection of these accounts has past.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of April 1, 2021; to APPROVE the ABATEMENT to the 2019 Supplemental Tax Roll in the amount of \$498.74; the 2020 Tax Roll in the amount of \$371.67; No ADDITIONS to the 2020 Tax Roll; to APPROVE the Tax Collector's Abatements for the 2010 Receivable Tax Roll outstanding balances which total \$35,316.62 and Tax Sales Fees from 2010 in the amount of \$385.56; and to ACCEPT the Finance Director's Report for March 2021; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. Unfinished Business

- A. Boards and Commissions
  - 1. Appointments
    - a. Parade Committee - Discussion and/or Action
      - 1. Alternate position # 1
      - 2. Alternate position # 2
      - 3. Positions # 3,4,6,7,8,and 9

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy TO TABLE the appointment to Alternate position #1, Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk stated that K. Sorenson, Acting Parade Committee Chair, has three recommendations. K. Sorenson, acting Parade Chair, stated that she has three recommendations: J. Branch wishes to become a voting member and move up from a non voting alternate; and, Sandy and Bob Walker Major want to become members of the committee. K. Sorenson stated that with present member, Judy Matteau, she'll have five members which would be a quorum. Councilor Worthy asked if the alternates were to be tabled. J. Fecteau stated that the alternates can be tabled for now as there are no recommendations.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Alternate position # 2

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert TO TABLE the appointment to the Alternate position #2, Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Positions # 3,4,6,7,8,and 9

Councilor Forgue stated that the acting-Chair has recommended Sandra Major and Robert Major to voting positions 3, and 4; and to move non-voting ad hoc member Judy Branch up to fill voting member position 6.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to APPOINT Sandra Major to Position #3; Robert Major to Position #4; Judy Branch to Position #6; and to TABLE appointments to Position #7; Position #8; and Position #9 on the Parade Committee ; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: none

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Councilor Steere offered his thanks and appreciation for these volunteers stepping forward as the time is getting close. Councilor Worthy stated that there is a lot of work to be done in the next few months. Councilor Forgue expressed thanks and appreciation from all.

- b. Tax Assessor's Board of Assessment Review - Discussion and/or Action
  - 1. Position # 3 term to expire 12/31/2024

Councilor Forgue asked A. Muccino, Finance Director if he had any recommendations. A. Muccino stated that he does not have any recommendations but is hopeful to have a recommendation for the next meeting.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE the appointment to Position #3 on the Tax Assessor's Board of Assessment Review; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: none

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- B. Consideration of the current procedure/requirements for residents to qualify for annual Elderly Tax Exemptions- Discussion and/or action

Discussion: Councilor Arnold stated that he and A. Muccino, Finance Director, have been discussing this topic and that they are still waiting for information from other towns. Councilor Arnold suggests tabling this item until they have received the information. A. Muccino stated he has reached out to the other towns for the second time but as not heard anything back yet and stated that these colleagues are busy with their budget season. A. Muccino also recommended tabling this item. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk asked if the item could be tabled to June 3, 2021 as the May agenda is already quite full.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE the consideration of the current procedure/requirements for residents to qualify for annual Elderly Tax Exemptions till June 3, 2021 ; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

IX. New Business

- A. Covid-19 Updates/Discussions/Actions
  - 1. EMA Update - Discussion and/or Action
  - 2. Emergency Declaration Status, Extension, and/or Amendments  
(Currently in place until **May 6, 2021**) - Discussion and/or Action

G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that eight successful clinics have been completed and he thanked all the volunteers including town employees and town council members. G. Mosca also expressed thanks to Matt Floor, Matt Fague and Joe Desrosiers who were indispensable to the success of the clinics. G. Mosca, stated that there is a possibility the clinics may reopen in the future. G. Mosca, stated that Gloucester would be helping Smithfield in the regional clinic at their request. G. Mosca stated that he continues to keep everyone trained. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, thanked G. Mosca and stated that he was a great leader. G. Mosca stated again that all volunteers were fantastic and he will be prepared if there is a need to do the clinics again. Councilor Forgue thanked G. Mosca and his team. Councilor Forgue also stated that he has heard from other towns that the Gloucester team is great. Councilor Reichert thanked G. Mosca. Councilor Steere stated that G. Mosca and Jamie from Foster did an extraordinary job and that he would like the Council to officially thank and recognize all the volunteers at some point in the future.

No action taken by the Council

- B. Boards and Commissions
  - 1. Resignation
    - a. Historic District Commission- Discussion and/or Action
      - 1. Position # 1- term to end 11/01/2023

Councilor Forgue stated that the Council has received the resignation of Michael Robinson from the Historic District Commission and he thanked M. Robinson.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to ACCEPT, with thanks, the resignation of Michael Robinson from the Historic District Commission effective March 24, 2021; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Appointments

a. Historic District Commission - Discussion and/or Action

1. Position # 1 - Term to expire 11/01/2023

Councilor Forgue stated that there is no recommendation from Chair at this point.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to TABLE the appointment to the Historic District Commission, Position #1; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye

Councilor Worthy -Aye

Councilor Steere -Aye

Councilor Reichert -Aye

Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Safety Commission - Discussion and/or Action

Position #5, Member at Large, for a term to expire 1/1/2023

Councilor Forgue stated that Chief DelPrete has recommended David LaPlante to fill a vacant position on the Safety Commission.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to APPOINT David LaPlante to the Safety Commission, Position #5, Member at Large for a term to expire 1/1/2023; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye

Councilor Worthy -Aye

Councilor Steere -Aye

Councilor Reichert -Aye

Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Authorization of Bid Extensions - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Forgue stated that the Council has received a request from the DPW Director and read the following:

April 9, 2021

To: Honorable Town Council  
From: Gary Trembl  
Public Works Director  
Re: Bid Extensions

Bid extensions were requested from the vendors on the following bids:

IFB 2001-10 Low Sulfur Diesel and Gasoline  
IFB 2018-03 Hot Mix Asphalt

Both vendors have agreed to extend their bids at original pricing and conditions. (See attached bid extension agreement).

I am requesting that these bid extensions be approved.

Thank you,  
Gary Trembl, Public Works Director  
(end of memo)

1. IFB 2001-10 Low Sulfur Diesel & Gasoline

Discussion: Councilor Reichert stated he is recusing himself from participating on this item. Councilor Worthy asked as to the number of bids and the process. G. Trembl, DPW Director, stated that this item is an extension of the bid from last year and that the price remains the same.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to EXTEND Bid IFB 2001-10 with Reichert and Sons Fuel Oil Co., Inc to supply low sulfur diesel and gasoline (89 octane) at a price of \$0.085/gallon over cost; with pricing, terms and conditions of original bid award remaining the same until May 31, 2022; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: Councilor Worthy asked about the eight and a half cents over cost charge and whether it was a service fee or the fluctuation of the cost of gasoline. G. Trembl stated that the over cost goes by the dock price and includes the state tax and excise tax. Councilor Forgue stated that the over cost amount is added to the cost for delivery to the town. G. Trembl confirmed Councilor Forgue was correct. Councilor Worthy thanked Councilor Reichert.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED

2. IFB 2018-03 Hot Mix Asphalt

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to EXTEND IFB 2018-03 with T. Miozzi, Inc. to supply Hot Mix Asphalt, 3" compacted at a price of \$11.96/sq. yd and 4" compacted at \$15.78/sq yd in

place, tack coat \$0.05 per sq yd and \$1.80/linear ft for berm; with pricing, terms and conditions remaining the same until March 31, 2022; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: Councilor Worthy asked if the prices were for repaving the roads. G. Treml stated that this is the company that would come in for big projects. Councilor Worthy asked if the company has done work for the town in the past and G. Treml stated yes.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Authorization to Sign:

1. Resource Recovery Contract 2022-2023 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Forgue stated that Council has received a new contract from R.I. Resource Recovery Corporation for the continuation of use of the Corporation's Johnston Landfill for the term of 2022 to 2023. Councilor Forgue stated that the contract has been reviewed by the DPW Director's Office and the Town Solicitor.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President & Town Solicitor to sign the contract entitled " SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES AGREEMENT Between the RHODE ISLAND RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION And the MUNICIPALITY (TOG) for continued use of the Johnston Landfill for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Request for Special Event - Car Shows - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Arnold stated that he asked for this item to be on the agenda but that it may be a bit premature . Councilor Arnold stated that the person who would like to host the event is filling out a special event application to get to the clerk's office. Councilor Arnold asked for this item to be on the next agenda.

No action taken by Council

X. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that there was no correspondence for Council.

Councilor Steere stated that he would like the council to come up with a resolution for all the volunteers who participated in the vaccine clinics because they really did go above and beyond. Councilor Steere stated a good majority of the people were there throughout all clinics and that their efforts were extraordinary. Councilor Forge mentioned other citations that have been discussed and stated he doesn't want to leave anyone out. J. Fecteau stated that the Ponaganset girls basketball citation is scheduled for May. Councilor Steere stated that he would forward information.

XI. Department Head Reports/Discussion

1. The Clerk reminded everyone of the Budget Public Hearing to be held on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 7:30 p.m.

XII. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

1. Steve St. Pierre, Gloucester Land Trust Chair, stated he would like to bring the Council up to date on the Hawkins Pond project. S. St. Pierre stated that he would forward the PowerPoint to the Council as there were technical difficulties prevented the showing of the PowerPoint.

S. St.Pierre stated the following:

- a number of dead standing trees have been removed
- several parking areas have been built to keep the cars from the pedestrian traffic
  1. East side- 4 spaces
  2. West side- 15-20 spaces

S. St. Pierre expressed his thanks to the Department of Public works for their work on both parking areas.

- Gates have been installed.
- There is a two trail system on the west side and a two mile trail system on the east side
- The Land Trust has approved and contracted to build a concrete pavilion around a re built fireplace
- The Land Trust has applied for a Trail Grant from the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) for the pavilion and expect to hear back around the end of June
- Dam mitigation - one violation from DEM was that the dam was not clear of brush but now both the north and south sides have been cleared as well as the spillway and discharge brook which will help with seeing what needs to be done on the dam
- Land Trust has hired a new engineering firm and the plan is to attack the mitigation problems in phases. Phase 1 is to continue the block wall around the south portion of the dam to the spillway and then backfill and build a road over to the spillway . The estimated start date is this summer for Phase 1. Phase 2 will be the spillway.
- The dam is currently in "fair" condition and will work towards "good" condition.

Thanks were offered to all the volunteers. S. St. Pierre invited Council to visit the area.

- An expected re grand opening of Hawkins in the future

Councilor Forgue stated the Land Trust has done an excellent job and all of it was accomplished in a short time. Councilor Forgue thanked all the volunteers and stated how fortunate our Town is to have these volunteers. Councilor Reichert stated that the area looks nice and a great job was done by all.

2. A. Sarje, Economic Development Commission (EDC) Chair, stated that they were working with Midfield Technologies to finalize the contract; and they are working with the Finance Director to keep all ducks in a row. A. Sarje stated that Midfield Technologies is working on a draft of a homepage which she hopes to bring to Council in two weeks time. A. Sarje stated the EDC is working on a more formal partnership with the Gloucester Business Association and they have scheduled a meeting with the Gloucester Business Association next Thursday. Councilor Forgue offered thanks to the EDC for their work.

### XIII. Open Forum

1. Councilor Steere stated that the Council needs to begin thinking about what can and can't be done on Memorial Day to honor the town's veterans . Councilor Worthy asked if the clinic volunteers could be honored at the same time. After Council discussion, it was agreed that Councilor Steere, G. Mosca, Chief Delprete and the Gloucester Light Infantry could meet and report back to the Council at the next meeting. J. Fecteau stated the Gloucester Light Infantry plans the parade so perhaps we should reach out to them.

### XIV. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to ADJOURN at 8:32 p.m.; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION PASSED

