

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on July 21, 2016:

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call

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

Also present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; Tim Kane, Town Solicitor; Susan Harris, Deputy Town Clerk; Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police; Diane Brennan, Finance Director; Gary Treml, Director of Public Works; Anthony Parrillo, Recreation Director; and Judy Branch, Director of Public Works.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

None.

V. Resolutions - Discussion and/or action

A. #2016-14 Opposition of Statewide Tolling Gantries

Councilor W. Steere stated that the Council has received a request from the Richmond Town Council to support their resolution regarding opposition to tolling gantries, the Council has agreed to support this opposition. Councilor Sette read the following Resolution into the record:

**RESOLUTION #2016-14
IN OPPOSITION TO TOLLING GANTRIES**

WHEREAS: Prior to commencement of the 2016 session of the General Assembly the Governor proposed a toll financed bridge repair program followed by the Gloucester Town Council, joining other municipalities, in unanimously voting in opposition of truck-tolling gantries; and

WHEREAS: Despite strong opposition, the Governor's proposal was passed by the Rhode Island General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor on February 11, 2016; and

WHEREAS: The law, as enacted, applies only to commercial trucks, causing the constitutionality of taxing only commercial trucks to be questioned; and

WHEREAS: The law is widely regarded by many as a "gateway" tax that will eventually lead to the tolling of all vehicles; and

WHEREAS: To avoid tolls, vehicles will use alternate routes leading to increased local traffic and

accelerated degradation of local roads and increased costs to maintain these roads;
and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gloucester Town Council views the current tolling gantry law as the first step in taxing all vehicles and wishes to express its strong opposition to the law and any expansion of this law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to our State Senator, State Representative, the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, the Governor, and to the other 38 Rhode Island municipalities requesting their opposition to any expansion of the existing toll gantry plan.

Walter M.O. Steere, III
Gloucester Town Council President
Dated this 21st day of July 2016

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

B. #2016-15 Ponaganset Baseball - Division II State Champions
Councilor W. Steere stated that the Town Council congratulates the Ponaganset Baseball Team and would like to acknowledge the team with the following resolution, which Councilor Reichert read into the record:

RESOLUTION 2016-15
The 2016 Division II State Champions

WHEREAS: The Gloucester Town Council supports our young people and their endeavors, both in their pursuit of their education and in their participation in sporting events. The Council proudly acknowledges the 2016 High School baseball season as “one for the record books” as the Ponaganset High School Baseball Team completed its most successful regular season by setting a best in school history, record of (15-3); and a playoff record of 5-1; with 20 wins-4 losses overall; and

WHEREAS: The Chieftain Boys Baseball Team roster includes:

Josh Greene, **Divisional Player of the Year** - All State; Tyler Flynn, **Finals MVP**; Jake Ferrucci, Brenton Travers, Peter Fiore, Mike Viveiros, **Divisional Cy Young**; John Biafore, Billy Butler, Curtis Briggs, Chris DiPetrillo, Alec Gardella, Ty Parrillo, Ken Desrosiers,

Devin Atkinson, and Julian Poirier

Under the guidance of:

Head Coach, Anthony Parrillo; Brian Gendreau & Peter Keefe, Assistant Coaches

WHEREAS: In addition, The Umpires Association presented Ponaganset with the **State Sportsmanship Award** and the coaches presented the team with the **Division II-North Sportsmanship Award**; and

WHEREAS: their coaches provided invaluable leadership for an extremely young team that looks to have an amazing future. The Chieftains sent their fans into a Green and White frenzy with a celebration that Ponaganset baseball players, fans, families and alumni saw for the first time in school baseball history; and

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that the Town Council, Town Clerk, and all of Gloucester's residents express our sincerest congratulations to:

**The 2016 Division II State Champions
from the
Ponaganset High School Baseball Team**

Walter M.O. Steere, III
Gloucester Town Council President

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Dated this 21st day of July 2016

seconded by Councilor Sette.

Discussion: Councilor Burlingame suggested that each individual mentioned in the Resolution receive a copy of this resolution.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

Councilor W. Steere expressed that the most impressive part of this achievement was the State Sportsmanship Award, which is also a reflection on the coaching staff. Head Coach Anthony Parrillo thanked the Council and stated that the players spend time together every day and have a great camaraderie.

VI. Consent Items - Discussion and/or action

- A. Approval of Town Council Reg. meeting minutes of June 16, & July 1, 2016
- B. Approval of Amendments to Town Council Reg. meeting mins. of June 2, 2016

C. Finance Director's Report - June 2016

D. Tax Assessor's Additions & Abatements - June 2016

MOTION was made by Councilor G. Steere to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of June 16th, and July 1st, to APPROVE the amendment to the Town Council minutes of June 2, 2016 as submitted by the Clerk; to ACCEPT the Finance Director's Report of June 2016; and to APPROVE the ADDITIONS to the 2016 Tax Roll in the amount of \$5,469.87; the ABATEMENTS to the 2015 Tax Roll in the amount of \$16.28; and the 2016 Tax Roll in the amount of \$245.78; seconded by Councilor Sette.

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Gloucester Licensing Board

1. Adriana Enterprises, LLC., d/b/a Sticks Tavern

Owner: Adriana Iannuzzi

Location of Business: 417 Putnam Pike

a. Clarification and/or Discussion Regarding Stipulations Granted
(Public Hearing of 11/19/2015) - Discussion and/or action

Councilor W. Steere stated this issue was left for the two attorneys to discuss questions raised.

Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, stated that he and Atty. D'Agostino have discussed this issue, however Atty. D'Agostino's arrival is delayed and he requested that the Council move this item to later in the Agenda.

MOTION was made by Councilor Sette to move VII. Unfinished Business, A. Gloucester Licensing Board until such time as Attorney D'Agostino arrives.

It was stated that another attorney from Mr. D'Agostino's firm, Sarah Malley, is present to speak on his behalf.

Councilor Sette withdrew his Motion.

Tim Kane stated that he and Atty. D'Agostino have had several discussions and recommended that the show cause hearing be dispensed with a warning by the Town Council, and that the event which was held without a license be counted as one of the Special Events allowed to the applicant. T. Kane further stated that a subsequent violation would result in a penalty more than a warning, depending on the severity of the violation. T. Kane noted that the establishment has pulled two (2) Special Events licenses so far this year and when the unlicensed event is added, there are nine (9) remaining, which should be sufficient for the rest of the summer. T. Kane stated that the Town Council cannot clarify types of events without having a Public Hearing, further stating that bike runs that only stop

at the establishment do not count as Special Events, nor does regular volleyball league play. T. Kane stated that he would like to draft an Ordinance for Council consideration before Special Events come up again in November to better define special events.

Vin Iannuzzi, former owner of Sticks Tavern, questioned what the warning is for. T. Kane replied that the warning is for the one special event that was held for which no license was pulled. **(This person spoke from their seat and was not at the podium to be recorded)** V. Iannuzzi commented that when he owned the bar, he only obtained a license when an event had music. T. Kane noted that when the Council set the stipulations in November, it was stated that a bike run was a special event, unless it was just passing through.

Councilor Burlingame stated that we could debate the semantics all night, but in November of 2015 the stipulations were as follows: “Twelve (12) special events from May to October, 2016, to include bike runs/charity events, not to exceed a four-hour period between 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., with no consecutive days in the same weekend, including volleyball competitions.” Councilor Burlingame stated that is what is in the record and what was stipulated. Councilor Burlingame commented that it is now the end of July and suggested that we just “let this thing go”, adding that the warning is not a big deal and there is no money or shutdown involved. **(People spoke from their seats)** Councilor Burlingame stated that the violation did occur and the Town Council cannot put a blind eye to it, particularly when liquor licenses are involved. Councilor Burlingame further stated that between now and November, we will come up with something more reasonable that makes more sense.

Atty. Sarah Malley stated that there is the question of interpretation regarding Special Events and suggested that, at the same time that these events are clarified, the Council figure out the punishment, whether it is a warning or not. Councilor Burlingame again read the stipulations, stating that they are very specific.

Vin Iannuzzi asked if everyone who has a bike run needs to comply. Councilor Burlingame stated if they are just having a pass through it may not apply. V. Iannuzzi & others spoke regarding social media, spoke from the audience along with others, inaudible on the recording.

There was discussion regarding advertised bike runs and whether social media posts are a form of advertising. Councilor Burlingame expressed his opinion that an advertisement is typically something that is paid for, such as an ad in the Bargain Buyer. Councilor W. Steere stated that an advertisement is an advertisement, whether it is on Facebook, a sign in the window, etc. Tim Kane stated that this is something we have to work on in November and suggested that we just move on until then. Councilor W. Steere stated that his concern is if we start debating what is advertising now, during the summer, there could be Public Safety issues.

Vin Iannuzzi discussed “taking something to the next level” (not audible) and objected to the issuance of a warning. Councilor W. Steere pointed out that V. Iannuzzi is no longer the owner and asked if that is the owner’s intent. V. Iannuzzi stated that it is not fair and will set a precedent. Councilor W. Steere stated that V. Iannuzzi has not been here and is unaware of what has taken place.

Councilor Burlingame questioned what the special event was that brought up these issues.

Councilor W. Steere stated it was June 4, 2016.

Adriana Iannuzzi, current owner of Sticks, stated that when she applied for the band size exemption for the D-Strong fundraiser, she was asked if other, unlicensed events, were scheduled. A. Iannuzzi stated I said at that time, yes, a volleyball tournament and a bike run. A. Iannuzzi stated that she was told by Council “we will allow you to have it but you should have pulled a license, but we will allow you to have it”. A. Iannuzzi stated so I had it and now (inaudible).

Councilor W. Steere asked Ms. Iannuzzi not to turn things and stated that they (Council) allowed the event because it would not have been fair to the charities that were put in that position.

Councilor Sette stated that all the warning amounts to at this time is a reminder to follow the stipulations next time. Councilor Sette stated that if it happens again, there is another level for that. Councilor Sette stated there are twelve stipulations, just stick to them.

Councilor Burlingame encouraged the applicant to accept the warning and not to pursue it further.

Former owner, V. Iannuzzi stated “we are good, we accept it”.

Tim Kane stated for the record that the warning will be accepted, we will dispense of the show cause hearing as agreed to by representing counsel, and we will work on the “nitty gritty” in the Fall.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to issue a warning with regard to the 22-Kill Bike Run event which occurred on June 4, 2016 and to count that as Special Event; seconded by Councilor Reichert.

Discussion: Councilor Burlingame stated that the Council will prepare for November by getting some of these things clarified. Councilor G. Steere agreed, stating that discussion must take place regarding definitions so we are not constantly arguing.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

 b. Consideration to Call Show Cause Hearing - Disc. and/or action
Addressed in previous item.

VIII. New Business

 A. Appointments - Discussion and/or action

 1. Planning Department

 a. Town Planner - Discussion and/or action

Councilor W. Steere read the following memo from Diane Brennan:

To: The Honorable Town Council
From: Diane L. Brennan, Finance/HR Director
Re: Town Planner Position
Date: July 19, 2016

I spoke with Karen Godin Scott and I am happy to report she has accepted the position as offered for the Town Planner.

Karen comes with an abundance of knowledge in the field and is no stranger to the Town of Gloucester. Karen is excited about working in Gloucester and is ready to begin in her new duties as the Gloucester Town Planner. I am anxiously awaiting for her to be part of our staff.

The terms of her employment are as outlined in her offer letter. The position will be part time with Karen present in town hall for 2 days a week. Karen will be in contact via email or phone on her days outside the office if needed. She will be paid an hourly rate of \$50. At this time, Karen will not be eligible for benefits based on a current expectation of 15-18 hours a week. Her start date is August 22, 2016.

Karen is planning to be in attendance for the next meeting on July 21, 2016 for consideration of council action for her appointment.

(End of memo)

Discussion: Councilor Reichert stated that he and Councilor Burlingame, along with the Finance Director and Building Official, interviewed the candidate and he feels that she will be a good match for Gloucester due to her background with the State. Councilor Reichert noted that he was originally against a part-time position, but he now, with this applicant, thinks that it will work out.

Councilor Burlingame pointed out that Karen was an intern here many years ago and further stated that we have had a part-time planner in the past and it worked.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to APPOINT Karen Godin Scott to the position of part time Planner, at the rate of \$50 per hour, effective August 22, 2016; seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

Councilor W. Steere welcomed Karen to the Town of Gloucester team.

2. Police Department
 - a. Asst. Animal Control Officer - Discussion and/or action

Councilor W. Steere read the following request from the Chief of Police:

TO: Honorable Town Council
FROM: Joseph S. DelPrete, Chief of Police
DATE: July 12, 2016
RE: Asst. ACO Appointment

I am requesting to appoint Melissa N. White, of Gloucester, to a position of Assistant Animal Control Officer at an hourly rate of \$14.00 per hour effective July 17, 2016. Melissa White will be scheduled to work weekend mornings and occasionally fill in for the Animal Control Officer when utilizing vacation, sick, or personal time. Her position will not exceed 10 hours a week except when filling in for the Animal Control Officer.

Melissa White has familiarity with all types of animals and has been volunteering at the Smithfield Animal Shelter for the past three years. This appointment would further require that she obtain NACA - National Animal Control Association certification within one year.

This appointment is needed to fill a recent resignation and part-time vacancy at the animal control shelter.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph DelPrete
(end of memo)

Discussion: None.

MOTION was made by Councilor Sette to APPOINT Melissa N. White to the position of Assistant Animal Control Officer, effective July 17, 2016, at the rate of \$14.00 per hour; seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

3. Recreation Dept.
 - a. Lifeguard 2016 - Discussion and/or action

Councilor W. Steere stated that Anthony Parrillo sent the following to the Town Clerk:

At the next Council Meeting could you please include the following appointment on the agenda.
Joseph Tamaro, Lifeguard, \$12.50/hr.
Retroactive to 6/18/16
(end of memo)

Discussion: None.

MOTION was made by Councilor G. Steere to APPOINT Joseph Tammaro to the position of Lifeguard, for 2016, effective 6/18/2016, at a rate of \$12.50 per hour; seconded by Councilor Sette.

Discussion: Councilor W. Reichert noted that he hired two (2) of Gloucester's lifeguards for a pool party for his grandson and they did a great job.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

B. Bid Award

1. Consideration for Award

a. IFB 2016-05 Full Depth Pavement Reclamation - Discussion and/or
 action

Councilor W. Steere stated that the Finance Director has submitted the following:

To: Honorable Town Council Members
From: Diane L. Brennan, Finance/HR Director
Memo: Full Depth Pavement Reclamation IFB 2016-05
Date: July 20, 2016

The Town of Gloucester advertised for IFB 2016-05 Full Depth Pavement Reclamation in the Providence Journal. Three bids were opened on Monday, June 20, 2016. The board of Contracts and Purchases made a recommendation on June 22, 2016 to award the bid to the low bidder Murray Paving for the amount of \$1.43 per square yard for full depth reclamation and \$.85 per square yard for liquid calcium chloride. The vendor was recommended by the DPW director, Gary Trembl. The award complies with the bid requirements and meets all specifications of the bid. (End of memo)

Discussion: None.

MOTION was made by G. Steere to AWARD IFB 2016-05 Full Depth Pavement Reclamation to Murray Paving for the bid amount of \$1.43 per square yard for full depth reclamation & \$.85 per square yard for liquid calcium chloride; seconded by Councilor Sette.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0
 RECUSAL: Reichert

MOTION PASSED

C. Board & Commission Positions

1. Resignation

- a. Parade Committee - Discussion and/or action
 - 1. Position #5
 - 2. Position #8

Councilor W. Steere stated that the Clerk has received the resignation of Sheran & Ernie Little from the Parade Committee. The Chair has been notified.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to ACCEPT the resignation, with thanks, from Sheran & Ernie Little from the Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

2. Appointments

- a. Local Board of Appeals for Building Codes - Discussion and/or action
 - 1. One expired five year term to expire 6/2021

Councilor W. Steere stated that this appointment is for the expired term of Kevin Lavoie from the Local Board of Appeals for Building Codes. Councilor W. Steere stated, he was informed, that Kevin has expressed his interest to continue on the board.

MOTION was made by Councilor G. Steere to REAPPOINT Kevin Lavoie to the Local Board of Appeals for Building Codes, for a five year term to expire June 30, 2021; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

- b. Community Resource Commission - Discussion and/or action

Councilor W. Steere stated that we have received two recommendations from the Chair of the Community Resource Commission for the appointment of Joel Gates and Arthur Santoro. Council has received their talent bank applications.

- 1. One unexpired 2 year term to expire 1/2017- Position #1

MOTION was made by Councilor Sette to APPOINT Joel Gates to the Community Resource Commission for the two year term to expire 1/2017; seconded by Councilor G. Sette.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0
MOTION PASSED

2. One unexpired 2 year term to expire 1/2017- Position #4
MOTION was made by Councilor Sette to APPOINT Arthur Santoro to the Community Resource Commission for the two year term to expire 1/2017; seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0
MOTION PASSED

c. Parade Committee - Discussion and/or action
Councilor W. Steere stated that the Council has no recommendation from the chair at this time or active talent bank listings.

1. Position #5
2. Position #8

Councilor W. Steere stated that the Clerk is recommending that the Council remove these appointments from the table until we have some applicants.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to REMOVE from the TABLE the appointments to the Parade Committee until volunteer applications are filed or the Chair of the Parade Committee has a recommendation; seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0
MOTION PASSED

D. Town of Gloucester property maintenance - A.P. 12, Lots 71A, 92, & 93- Discussion and/or action

Councilor W. Steere stated that the Solicitor has received a request to authorize the haying of the property on Snake Hill Rd./Stone Dam Road owned by the Town.

Discussion: Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, stated that when he closed on this property on behalf of the Town on June 30th, the seller mentioned that Robert Bertholic, the person who hays the property, would like to do so one more time. T. Kane had replied that permission would be needed from the Town Council because the Town now owns the property. T. Kane recommended that if the Council

approves this, Mr. Bertholic would sign a hold harmless indemnification agreement.

Councilor G. Steere stated that it is important that the hay is cut again to prevent it from going to brush, which would make it difficult to develop the property. Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council may want to think about having it cut once or twice a year.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to AUTHORIZE Robert Bertholic to hay Assessor's Plat 12, Lots 71A, 92 and 93 for this season with the stipulation that he hold harmless and indemnify the Town; seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

Discussion: Councilor Reichert asked if the Council wanted to add something regarding the future. Councilor W. Steere replied that we want to take care of this year first and see how it goes. There was Council consensus to talk about this process again in March of next year.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
 NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED

E. SafeWise Report: 2016 Safest Cities in Rhode Island - Discussion and/or action
Councilor Burlingame stated that SafeWise Report has released its 2016 Safest Cities in Rhode Island and Gloucester was named #1. It was suggested that a banner with a picture of some of the officers be put on Gloucester's home page. Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police, stated that he will work with the Town Clerk to set something up.

F. Taxation of Renewable Energy Facilities - Discussion and/or action
Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, stated that he has sent a memo to the Town Council regarding the taxation of renewable energy facilities. T. Kane explained that before January 14th of this year, if we had a renewable energy project in Town, we would have the ability under State law to exempt them from taxation and enter into a host agreement. T. Kane stated that on that date, the RI Supreme Court came out with a case involving a windmill in North Kingstown which was exempt from taxation because it was considered manufacturing equipment under State law. T Kane stated that the General Assembly enacted legislation stating that rules and regulations regarding how towns will tax these facilities will have to be adopted by the Office of Energy Resources. In the interim, renewable energy facilities that have entered into an interconnection agreement with National Grid by December 31, 2016 will keep their present tax exempt status. T. Kane stated that this gives the solar proponents some leverage but noted that they are still offering something to be a good neighbor which we can negotiate at the next meeting. T. Kane stated that he believes that they will offer less than the \$5.00 per kilowatt stated in the legislation. T. Kane recommended that the Council have host agreements on the next agenda.

Linda Nichols, chair of the Community Resource and Wastewater Advisory Committee, stated that she thought that when this was discussed two years ago, it was agreed that we would not tax solar facilities that people put on their homes. T. Kane replied that this has nothing to do with homes, adding that this pertains to stand-alone facilities that sell back to National Grid. L. Nichols requested

more information on this subject because homeowners call her with questions.

IX. Department Head Report/Discussion

- A. Councilor W. Steere commended Gary Trembl, Director of Public Works, and his department for their work over the 4th of July weekend.
- B. Councilor Burlingame commented that a situation occurred at the Senior Center regarding the disposal of needles in the trash, which was immediately reported by the outside cleaning crew. Councilor Burlingame stated that notices have since been posted at the Senior Center and the Town Hall stating that needles cannot be disposed of in this manner.
- C. Councilor W. Steere thanked Anthony Parrillo, Recreation Director, for his efforts regarding the 4th of July Road Race which had a very good turnout.
- D. Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police, noted that everything went smoothly and there were no issues over the holiday weekend.

Chief DelPrete reported that the recruit who was going to start the Academy has taken another job elsewhere. Chief DelPrete stated that he will begin advertising for the next Academy which will begin in January.

Chief DelPrete stated that his Department has been receiving messages of support with regard to the recent events involving Police officers.

Councilor Reichert asked Chief DelPrete if a land mine had been discovered on Rainbow Road. Chief DelPrete replied that several were found and were detonated by the Navy.

Councilor W. Steere stated that a letter was received from a resident of Ventura Way regarding a problem with unleashed dogs. Chief DelPrete stated that he will take care of it.

- E. Diane Brennan, Finance Director, stated that Glocester participates in the Community Septic System Loan Program, now called the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank, and noted that there is a balance of \$82,000 of loan funding still available. D. Brennan explained that the State of Rhode Island provides money to communities to help with septic issues. D. Brennan further stated that it is a program that is run entirely through the State, adding that communities have to request to be part of the program. D. Brennan stated that Glocester's previous \$300,000 appropriation is running low, but we could request that amount again if the Council chooses to continue. D. Brennan noted that this would require Council action, such as a Resolution.

Councilor Sette stated that we can apply for the funding, but we may not receive it due to the RI Infrastructure Bank funding road construction. D. Brennan stated she feels it is a good program for our residents. Councilor Burlingame stated that this program would be good for people who have to switch from a cesspool to a septic system. Councilor Burlingame asked if this is a HUD program and if so, we must make sure there are no “hooks”. D. Brennan replied that it is not a HUD program and she will have the paperwork ready for the August meeting.

D. Brennan informed the Council that the Region will be refinancing their bonds. Councilor Burlingame commented that the tax bills now show how much goes to the Region as compared to the Glocester Schools and the Town. Councilor Burlingame expressed hope that this will make taxpayers more aware.

Councilor Reichert stated that he received a complaint from a resident of 205 Old Snake Hill Road who stated that the tax revaluation people came to his house but did not get out of the car and drove through his yard and over the leach field. D. Brennan stated that she will look into it.

X. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

A. Councilor Burlingame spoke about revenue from students who are tuitioned-in at the region. Councilor Burlingame stated that the questions had been asked (during the most recent budget process) regarding how many students there would be and what the tuition in would be. Councilor Burlingame stated the answer received was 15-16 students at \$16,500 each. Councilor Burlingame stated during our discussions with the region we determined the income at approx. \$330,000 and when \$130,000 was listed as tuition revenue we asked where the additional revenue went. Councilor Burlingame stated that he asked the Region’s Business Manager, who did not provide a straight-forward explanation. Councilor Burlingame stated we were told there were some additional expenses. Councilor Burlingame stated he asked Walter Steere, Jr., School Committee member, what was done with the extra \$200,000. Councilor Burlingame stated that at the end of the Fiscal Year, a special meeting was held and the School Committee decided to spend a lot of money on things such as athletic facilities and lights. Councilor Burlingame asked how the Council can get information about what was spent at that meeting.

W. Steere, Jr., replied that he had some of the same concerns and that he believes those were Capital projects which were funded from the \$20,000,000 the Governor put out and that the projects had to be done before August 31st.

Councilor Burlingame question if the funds were grant funds.

W. Steere, Jr., stated it was Capital Projects money.

Councilor Burlingame asked if this will be reflected in the minutes of that special

meeting. W. Steere, Jr. stated that he has the minutes, however the clerk was not present and there was no tape recorder being used.

W. Steere, Jr. stated that there were plans to modify the windows (with a film covering) at the schools for security purposes, but he had determined that this would, possibly, void the warranty on the windows. Councilor Burlingame stated that there was construction going on and there was a large amount of loam which could have been used at the middle school, but the contractor was able to take the loam as part of the deal. W. Steere, Jr. stated that the contract for the work states excess material has to be taken away by the contractor. W. Steere, Jr. agreed and stated that it would cost \$25,000 to purchase that amount of loam for the middle school. W. Steere, Jr. stated the contractor did save some by screening on site and if we had paid a little more the contractor could have screened the rest onsite and taken it offsite to the Middle School W. Councilor Burlingame questioned who wrote that contract. W. Steere, Jr. stated a firm was hired by the region to handle all that and also be the clerk of the works.

Councilor Burlingame expressed his frustration and asked W. Steere, Jr. If he could find out what was spent and the classification of the expenditures that were approved at the July meeting.

W. Steere, Jr. stated they did approve some of the work to be done now to prepare for lighting of the fields in the future. Council discussed some of the items that may have been better to repair; such as the parking lot, a fence around the ball field, the old windows replaced, and security cameras.

W. Steere, Jr. spoke regarding the refinancing of the bonds, stating that the Superintendent told him that the savings will come directly off the debt service in next year's Budget. Councilor Burlingame stated that we probably won't see the benefit of it because due to the maintenance of effort, you can't have a Budget that is less than the year before. Councilor G. Steere pointed out this might come under the legislation that we had passed regarding debt service, so we may have an argument. Councilor Burlingame agreed, stating that debt service is not part of maintenance of effort any more.

- B. Linda Nichols thanked Gary Treml for his department's help with regard to the community garden.

L. Nichols stated that she received packets in the mail pertaining to the solar projects at Peterson Farm and Dino's. L. Nichols asked if she should discuss it with them at Dino's or if this is the Planner's responsibility. Councilor W. Steere replied that any action should be taken by the Planner or the Building Official. Councilor W. Steere stated that was probably sent as a "keep you informed".

L. Nichols stated that she recently found out that there is a marijuana farm near her residence on Durfee Hill Road. L. Nichols stated that she thought the Town had to notify residents within a certain number of feet. Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, replied that if they went before the Zoning Board, abutting property owners would be notified. T. Kane further stated that it is an agricultural use that is probably permitted as a matter of right, as long as all State licenses are issued.

XI. Open Forum

A. Councilor W. Steere thanked everybody who made the 4th of July weekend a success.

Councilor W. Steere expressed appreciation to Councilor G. Steere and Matt Salisbury for taking the time to place the flags along the road. Councilor G. Steere noted that Councilor W. Steere also assisted in placing the flags.

B. Lauren Niedel-Gresh thanked the Police Department for their help regarding a walk by protesters of the proposed power plant that took place through Gloucester on Sunday. L. Niedel-Gresh noted that at no time did the group request a Police escort, but they were very happy to have it as there are no sidewalks on Route 44.

L. Niedel-Gresh urged people to keep tabs on what is happening in Burrillville and asked that a major meeting be held in September for residents of Gloucester so they can realize the impact of a power plant.

L. Niedel-Gresh stated that she is a delegate for Bernie Sanders and will be going to Philadelphia and if anyone has any concerns they would like her to address with the super-delegates, they should contact her.

C. Pat Henry spoke regarding Gloucester Memorial Park, stating that there are no signs on the road directing people to the park. P. Henry also expressed disappointment that there are no picnic tables there. P. Henry stated that the park used to be such a beautiful facility and we should invest some money to bring it up to speed.

P. Henry commented that when you are coming into Gloucester from Connecticut on Route 44, opposite Route 94, there are two huge metal sign holders that are eroding. P. Henry stated that the signs were there for a bar or restaurant that was there years ago. P. Henry suggested that we find out who owns the property and ask them to take them down.

D. Donald Simpson, of Lake View Drive, stated that the old State Line Restaurant is also an eyesore since it burned over a year ago. D. Simpson stated that the boarded-up building is one of the first things you see when you come into town. Councilor W. Steere stated that there is an active arson investigation going on. D. Simpson stated that coming into town from the other direction, there is a stone house with a tree across it. It was stated that the property is for sale.

Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official, stated that the building with the tree on it has been in Probate for a while and is co-owned by two people. K. Johnson stated that he has sent letters to both owners and has also contacted the realtor, but has not received any response. Regarding the restaurant that burned, K. Johnson stated that the Fire Marshall is done with the building and the owner is being charged in the case. K. Johnson stated that the owner wants to salvage the building but we are in negotiations with him to try to get him to take the building down. K. Johnson spoke about the building across from Angell's Auto, stating that a demolition permit was pulled three weeks ago, but there has been a delay in the demolition. K. Johnson expressed hope that the building will be gone by the end of the summer.

XII. Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining: Contract Negotiations - Discussion and/or action
MOTION was made by Councilor Sette to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining: Contract Negotiations; seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
NAYS: 0

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

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
NAYS: 0

XIV. Adjourn
MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to ADJOURN at 9:33 p.m.; seconded by Councilor G. Steere.

VOTE: AYES: W. Steere, G. Steere, Reichert, Burlingame and Sette.
NAYS: 0