At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Glocester on January 20, 2022.

Councilor Reichert 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: William E. Reichert, President; Walter M.O. Steere III, Vice President; Stephen

Arnold; William Worthy, Jr.; and David Laplante

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliozzi, Town Solicitor; ;Christine Mathieu,

Deputy Town Clerk; Adam Muccino, Finance Director; Chief Joseph Delprete,; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Gary Treml, Director of Public Works; Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official; Robert Shields, Recreation Director; Karen Scott, Town

Planner; Melissa Bouvier, Senior Center Director

# III. Pledge of Allegiance

Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

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

## IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

None

- V. Consent Items Discussion and/or Action
  - A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of January 11, 2022
  - B. Tax Assessor's Additions and Abatements December 2021
  - C. Finance Directors Report December 2021

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of January 11, 2022; to APPROVE the ADDITIONS to the 2021 Tax Roll in the amount of \$8,162.76, there are no ABATEMENTS to the 2021 Tax Roll; and to ACCEPT the Finance Director's Report for December 2021; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye

Councilor Worthy -Aye

Councilor Laplante -Aye

Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

#### VI. Unfinished Business

- A. Recreation Department- Discussion and/or Action
  - 1. Plan for amendment and/or clarification to charge of Recreation Commission and Recreation Director's role with the Recreation Commission

Councilor Reichert stated that the Clerk has forwarded a recommendation to Council. Councilor Worthy stated that he brought this matter forward as he felt it needed clarity as to the roles of the Director and the Commission. Councilor Worthy stated that the Town Clerk and the Human Resources Director have reviewed the document. Councilor Worthy is asking the Town Council to consider approving. Councilor Arnold stated his thanks to the committee for their hard work and he feels the roles are clear.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to approve the clarification to the charge of the Recreation Director's role; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, asked if Councilor Worthy intended the motion to approve the job description recently submitted to Council. Councilor Worthy stated he did.

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

**MOTION PASSED** 

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to hold a first reading of the proposed change, in the Code of Ordinance, to the charge of the Recreation Commission and Recreation Director's role with the Recreation Commission to February 3,2022; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### **MOTION PASSED**

- B. Boards and Commissions
  - 1. Appointments- Discussion and/or Action
    - a. Recreation Commission
      - 1. Position # 1- one unexpired term

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation, Council can table.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Recreation Commission, Position #1; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

2. Position # 5- one unexpired term

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Recreation Commission, Position #5; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

MOTION PASSED

#### b. **Economic Development Commission**

Ad Hoc Non Voting member- term to expire 12/31/2022

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation, Council can table.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Economic Development Commission, Ad Hoc Non Voting Member position; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

Position #3 - Two year term to expire 12/31/2022 2.

Councilor Reichert stated that the Chair has recommended David DeCost to fill this position and a talent bank application is in Council's packet.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPOINT David DeCost to the Economic Development Commission, Position #3, for a term to expire 12/31/2022; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

- **Conservation Commission** c.
  - 1. Alternate- One year term to expire 2/01/2022

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation Council can table.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE the appointment to the Conservation Commission, Alternate position, for a term to expire 2/01/2022; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye MOTION PASSED

## d. Planning Board

Position # 4- One 5-year term to expire 3/2022

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time. Councilor Reichert stated that the Chair of the Planning Board has asked Council to table while they seek out a potential member.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Planning Board, position #4, for a term to expire 3/2022; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

- e. Parade Committee
  - 1. Alternate #1
  - 2. Alternate # 2
  - 3. Position #8
  - 4. Position #9

Councilor Reichert stated that there are no recommendations to the Parade Committee at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation, Council can table.

Discussion: J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the Chair is planning to advertise for members so may be

a good idea for Council to wait.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE to the second meeting in February 0222 the appointments to the Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

C. Tree Warden- Annual Appointment for 2022- Discussion and/or Action Councilor Reichert stated that Council continued this appointment from last meeting where there was a question raised about the Tree Warden being available when called by residents. Councilor Reichert stated that the current Tree Warden, Sandra Shepard, was contacted by the clerk.

Discussion: J. Fecteau stated that due to the current Tree Warden's work schedule she could not be present but she sent an email to Council (included in Council's packet). J. Fecteau stated that the prior issue with the contact number is resolved and S. Shepherd would like to be considered for re appointment. Councilor Steere asked if the contact number was current as the tree warden is responsible for responding to residents. Councilor Steere stated he does not have a problem with the appointment but wanted to be sure the contact information was correct in order for residents to get a prompt response. J. Fecteau asked if Council would like her office to verify the contact information and make sure all current contact information is correct on the town's website. Councilor Arnold stated he felt the email response was sufficient as long as the contact information was current. Councilor Reichert stated that if there is a problem in the future, Council can address it at that time. Councilor Worthy asked if it was a yearly appointment. J. Fecteau stated that DEM requires yearly appointments of the tree warden.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPOINT Sandra Shepard to the position of Tree Warden for 2022; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

Counilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### **MOTION PASSED**

- D. American Rescue Act Funds: Consideration of Dept. Head grant requests- Discussion and/or Action
  - 1. Internal Proposals
    - a. Roads/Drainage-DPW

Discussion: G. Treml, DPW Director, explained the three road projects he is requesting to be funded by American Rescue funds. G. Treml stated that all three projects will correct long term drainage issues on these roads. G. Treml stated that the three roads are: Jackson Schoolhouse Road, Cranberry Ridge Road and Lake View Drive. G. Treml stated that he is asking for the a total of \$255,000 broken down as follows: \$62,500 for Jackson Schoolhouse Road; \$140,000 for Cranberry Ridge Road; and, \$52,500 for Lake View Drive. Councilor Laplante asked the Finance Director about the total Rescue fund money left if all 20 potential requests on the current list were approved. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that there would be approximately one million two hundred and forty nine thousand dollars.

MOTION was made by Councilor Laplante to set aside a total not to exceed \$255,000 through the American Rescue Act Fund for the following project: Roads/Drainage - DPW; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

- E. Authorization to Sign:
  - Agreement for Information Technology Products & Services
    Between Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC & Town of Glocester
    Five Year Contract to expire February 16, 2027 Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that the Clerk needed a few items corrected in the proposed contract and is still waiting for a final copy. Councilor Reichert stated that the Clerk is asking Council to table to February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the signing of the contract between Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC and the Town of Glocester to February 3, 2022; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Ave Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### **MOTION PASSED**

#### VII. **New Business**

Authorization to enter into contract: Audio/Video upgrades (equipment & labor) Between PMA Industries Inc. (State MPA #416) & Town of Glocester (ARPA Funding) -Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated the Clerk is asking for this item to be tabled. Councilor Reichert stated the Clerk received the contract yesterday needs to review it before asking Council to sign. Councilor Reichert stated that the team has asked for a motion to table to February 3, 2022.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the Authorization to enter into contract, for Audio/Video upgrades, between PMA Industries Inc. and the Town of Glocester to the Town Council meeting of February 3, 2022; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

MOTION PASSED

B. Boards and Commissions - Determine meeting status and/or Authorize purchase of licensing to allow boards to meet remotely under current Governor Order #2022-01 (Expires 2/04/2022) - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that he had a message from the Clerk which he read as follows: "The current order is in place until 2/4. The town needs to be prepared going forward if we want our boards and commissions to be able to meet. If the order is extended we need to decide if we should purchase the licenses that would enable them to meet remotely. The cost for that is approx. \$350. per month. We anticipate to sign up for a month could amount to 3 months of cost due to overlap of start up and cancel time. M. Floor stated he could expend the funds from the IT Budget.

If the order lapses after Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> all meetings can start up in person and no further action is necessary. There was to be a state call today, the Clerk or Adam can update Council if the order was discussed." (End of message)

Discussion: Councilor Arnold stated that he supported obtaining the licenses so as to not slow down the working boards and commissions. Councilor Steere agrees with Councilor Arnold that the town can't stop conducting business. Councilor Steere asked if the cost of the licenses could be recouped from the American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA). A. Muccino, Finance Director, and K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that they would have to do some research and report back to the Council. J. Fecteau asked if Council would consider waiting until February 4, 2022 when the current executive order ends before deciding about the purchase of the licenses. J. Fecteau stated that Boards and Commissions need to be advised and watched when they start the zoom process again in order to not have any open meetings issues. C. Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk, stated the boards and commissions except for Budget Board and Town council have canceled their meetings through the end of January and that only EDC meets the first week of the month. Councilor Arnold asked M. Floor, IT Director, how quickly zoom licenses could be set up. M. Floor stated that he could have zoom meetings ready within one to two days. Councilor Worthy asked if the boards were provided with a zoom protocol. J. Fecteau stated that all boards were given information and did a great job the first time we used zoom. J. Fecteau stated that if any board needed an emergency meeting they would provide accommodations.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to AUTHORIZE the IT Dept to purchase Zoom licenses on or around February 7, 2022 if RI Executive Order 2022-01 is extended beyond February 4, 2022, to be used by town Boards and Commissions; funds for licenses to be expended from the IT Budget; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: Councilor Steere stated that this motion would give K. Scott time to research if ARPA funds could be used for reimbursement. Councilor Arnold asked if the Clerk's office could communicate to the chairs of all boards and commissions that if they need an emergency meeting that the clerk's office can do so.

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### **MOTION PASSED**

- C. Boards and Commissions- Discussion and/or Action
  - 1. Resignations
    - a. Economic Development Commission
      - 1. Position # 2- one unexpired term to end 12/31/2022

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has received the resignation of Laurie Gaddis Barrett from the Economic Development Commission.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to ACCEPT, with thanks, the resignation of Laurie Gaddis Barrett from the Economic Development Commission; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

- b. Budget Board
  - 1. Position #3- one unexpired term to end 12/31/2023

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has received the resignation of John Lyman from the Budget Board.

MOTION was made Councilor Arnold to ACCEPT, with thanks, the resignation of John Lyman from the Budget Board; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye

# Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### **MOTION PASSED**

# 2. Appointments

- a. Economic Development Commission
  - Position # 2- one unexpired term to end 12/31/2022

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation Council can table.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Economic Development Commission, Position #2, for a term to expire 12/31/2022; seconded by Councilor Steere Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### **MOTION PASSED**

#### b. Budget Board

1. Position #3- one unexpired term to end 12/31/2023

Councilor Reichert stated that there is no recommendation at this time and unless a Councilor has a recommendation Council can table.

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE the appointment to the Budget Board, Position #3, for a term to expire 12/31/2023; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### MOTION PASSED

D. Request to begin successor agreement - IBPO Local 638 & Town of Glocester
1. Acknowledge request & Appoint negotiation team - Discussion and/or Action
Councilor Reichert stated that Council has received a request from the IBPO Local 638 which he read as follows:

Dear Mr. Walt Steere,

As you are aware, the Collective Bargaining Agreement between IBPO Local 638 and the Town of Glocester will expire on June 30, 2022.

Therefore, please let this serve as notice that in accordance with R.I.G.L. Section 28-9.2-13, that IBPO Local 638 is requesting to commence negotiations for a successive Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Please contact me with regards to determining a mutually acceptable date and time to begin negotiations. I thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Jenison
Member of the IBPO Local 638
(end of memo)

Council needs to acknowledge request and appoint two Councilors to negotiate on behalf of the Council.

Discussion: Councilor Steere stated that typically two Town Council members work with the bargaining unit and report back to the Council. Councilor W. Steere stated, typically, one of the councilors is usually the liaison to that department. Councilor Laplante recused from being appointed as he is a retired member of the bargaining unit. Councilor Worthy volunteered to be the second councilor.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to Acknowledge IBPO, Local 638's request to begin negoiations and to APPOINT Councilor Steere and Councilor Worthy to negotiate on behalf of the Town Council and report back to same; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: Councilor Steere stated that usually the Department Head participates in the negotiations. Councilor Steere asked D. Igliozzi, Town Solicitor, if the appointment of the department head is made now or at a later time. D. Igliozzi stated that if Council is ready they may make the appointments now.

Councilor Arnold WITHDREW his MOTION and Councilor Laplante WITHDREW his SECOND.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to acknowledge IBPO, Local 638's request to begin negotiations and to APPOINT Councilor Steere, Councilor Worthy, and Chief Delprete to negotiate on behalf of the Town Council and report back to same; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

#### **MOTION PASSED**

# VIII. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

Councilor Reichert stated that Council has a reporting reminder from DEM in packet regarding their Land and Water Conservation Fund program. Councilor Reichert stated that the reminder will be sent to the Planning Office and DPW.

# X. Department Head Reports/Discussion

- 1. J. Fecteau thanked the Deputy Town Clerk for her hard work reviewing contracts
- 2. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that she wanted to let the Council know that the plans for Glocester Memorial Park (GMP) need to be reviewed and the scope altered. K. Scott stated that she is committed to the plans for GMP but that what was budgeted for in 2019 is not possible in 2022 due to inflation. K. Scott wanted to alert the Council to this issue and stated that she will come before the Council at a later date. Councilor Arnold asked if the change in prices would effect the timetable . K. Scott stated that the timetable was going forward as planned this spring. K. Scott stated that the inventory was not expected to be a problem just the increased cost of the inventory.
- 3. Councilor Arnold stated that it looks promising that the ARPA funds may be used for the ipads for the seniors. Councilor Arnold stated that this item is on the agenda for the next meeting. M. Bouvier, Senior Center Director, stated that M. Floor is still working on this issue and that she anticipates having more information for Council at the next meeting. M. Floor stated that he was

working with Verizon and explained the application process and the program including the potential for significant savings.

# X. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion None

# XI. Open Forum

Councilor Reichert stated that if anyone would like to speak in Open Forum to please raise your hand. Councilor Reichert stated as follows:

To raise your hand on a lap top, press "Alt-Y" or click the participants tab and the raise hand button will be in the bottom right.

To raise your hand on a tablet, click on the more tab and click raise hand.

On a smart phone, you should see a raise hand icon.

On a landline, press \*9 to raise your hand.

When you are recognized by name or phone number, we will ask you to unmute yourself

To raise your hand on a lap top, press "Alt-Y" or click the participants tab and the raise hand button will be in the bottom right.

To raise your hand on a tablet, click on the more tab and click raise hand.

On a smart phone, you should see a raise hand icon.

On a landline, press \*9 to raise your hand.

When you are recognized by name or phone number, we will ask you to unmute yourself

When you have finished speaking please mute yourself.

Councilor Worthy asked R. Shields, Recreation Director, for an update on the skating rink. R. Shields thanked the DPW for shoveling the ice and stated that the rink has been getting good use. R. Shields stated that the rink is opened and closed daily. R. Shields discussed the maintenance of the ice. Councilors Arnold and Reichert stated they have heard good reviews as to the ice rink. Councilor Steere suggested the Director think about where to

place the rink next year and maybe a more permanent solution could be found. G. Treml, stated that the DPW will be working on the ice tomorrow.

# XII. Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to:

- A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(5) Land Acquisition Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council pertaining to land acquisition for municipal purposes Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council
- B. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(3) Security including, but not limited to, the deployment of security personnel or devices

  Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council
- C. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation. Discussion, vote or other action by Town Council

Councilor Reichert stated that the Council will now need to move into Executive Sessio.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to CONVENE to Executive Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(5) Land Acquisition; R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(3) Security including, but not limited to, the deployment of security personnel or devices; and R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

# **MOTION PASSED**

Councilor Reichert asked Christine to please move everyone into the waiting room.

## AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk to please let anyone in the waiting room back into the meeting.

XIII. Reconvene Open Session - Disclosure of votes take in Executive Session & Consideration of the Sealing of Minutes - Discussion and/or Action MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to RECONVENE Open Session; DISCLOSE zero (0) votes were taken in Executive Session; and to SEAL the minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye

# **MOTION PASSED**

XIV. Adjourn MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to ADJOURN at 11:03 p.m.; seconded by Councilor Laplante

Discussion: None

Councilor Reichert requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye Councilor Worthy -Aye Councilor Laplante -Aye Councilor Steere -Aye Councilor Reichert -Aye MOTION PASSED