

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on April 4, 2024

I. Call to Order

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:30 P.M. by Councilor W. Worthy, Town Council President.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Cheryl A. Greathouse; Jonathan E. Burlingame; Walter M. O. Steere, III; Stephen W. Arnold, Vice President; William A. Worthy, Jr. President

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliazzi, Town Solicitor; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Jane Steere, Tax Collector and Interim Finance Director; Gary Trembl, Director Public Works; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Chief Joseph Delprete, Gloucester Police; John Luszcz, Human Services Director; Karen Scott, Town Planner; Robert Shields, Recreation Director

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor W. Worthy asked everyone to please stand and join in the Pledge ofnAllegiance.

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

Councilor W. Worthy asked if anyone wished to speak on an agenda item to please step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

None

V. Public Hearing

A. Special Event

1. Applicant: Hans Neff - Future Aces by Hans

Location of Proposed Event: 0 Putnam Pike, West Gloucester further described as AP 4 Lot 50

Event: Sprint Enduro to be held May 25, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

THIS PUBLIC HEARING is CANCELLED, ABUTTERS WERE NOTIFIED & this item was ADVERTISED (AT APPLICANTS EXPENSE)

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this Public Hearing is no longer needed because the applicant has changed the location for the event of May 25, 2024 to a different location, which was previously used for this race. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the “new” event will be addressed later on agenda.

No Action Taken by Council

VI. Consent Items- Discussion and/or Action

A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of March 21st and March 27th,

2024

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to APPROVE the Town Council regular meeting minutes of March 21st, and Special meeting of March 27, 2024; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Disposition of Memorandum of Agreements relative to certain maintenance and clerical services related to school maintenance for the Gloucester School Department:

1. Between DPW (NAGE) ("the Union") and the Town of Gloucester approved by Town Council on 1/18/2024 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Worthy stated that Councilor Burlingame was to meet with the School Superintendent and the School Committee to further discuss.

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to TABLE the MOA between NAGE and the Town of Gloucester, approved on 1/18/2024, regarding Gloucester School maintenance; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Between the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 1322, ("the Union), and the Town of Gloucester approved by Town Council on 1/18/2024 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this item was tabled previously.

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to TABLE the MOA between the Laborers International Union, Local 1322, and the Town of Gloucester, approved on 1/18/2024, regarding Gloucester School maintenance; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: Councilor S. Arnold stated that this matter relates to trying to sort through the maintenance for the two elementary schools. Councilor S. Arnold stated that all are working towards a goal of a concrete plan. Councilor S. Arnold stated that he would like the school committee to let the Council know their thoughts as to the plan. Councilor S. Arnold stated that no matter what direction the plan takes that the money be already in the budget.

Councilor J. Burlingame stated his opinion that a lot of money was saved under this agreement by having the Building and Grounds Supervisor and DPW workers do the work at the elementary schools . Councilor J. Burlingame stated that the previous plan was paying a co share to the Region which then did the work. Councilor J. Burlingame stated he is hoping a balance can be found. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that the position is vacant. Councilor S. Arnold stated that both positions regarding the school maintenance have not been eliminated and it would be irresponsible to do so until a concrete plan is in place. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that no one has been hired at DPW in response to P. Henry’s question. Councilor W. Steere stated that those positions will return to their original position before any agreement was made. Councilor W. Steere stated that the school will have to figure out how to move forward but that they do not want to leave the school in the lurch.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that a meeting between members of the school committee, Town Council, DPW Director, and school superintendent should be held and time is of the essence. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that the school committee is responsible for the schools but that the Council can authorize the DPW to do the work at the schools. Councilor W. Steere stated that a resolution needs to be done within the next couple of weeks. Councilor S. Arnold stated that the meeting should be scheduled and then to report back to the Council.

Councilors J. Burlingame and S. Arnold stated they could meet with School committee members P. Henry and M. Rizzo as well as the superintendent and DPW Director on April 9, 2024 at 3:00 PM at the town hall to discuss the situation.

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- B. Appointment - Discussion and/or Action
 - 1. Economic Development Commission - One Ad-hoc non voting member, term to expire 12/31/2024

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there is no recommendation from the Chair at this time. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council can review the talent bank list, and appoint or table.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to TABLE the appointment to the Economic Development Commission for one Ad-hoc non voting member position; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. New Business

A. Town Manager/Administrator - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: Councilor Burlingame stated his opinion that there is a need for a point of contact person within the town and suggested there be a discussion as to the possible role. Councilor W. Worthy stated his opinion of agreement and stated that the town is like a big company and needs a CEO like position.

Councilor W. Steere stated that a manager or administrator could also represent the town at various functions such as the state house. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that there is a need for someone to answer the day to day questions that arise instead of a person waiting for a Town Council meeting to get an answer. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that Council could explore crafting a job description. Councilor C. Greathouse stated that sounds good to her. Councilor W. Steere stated that by the Council drafting a job description that they craft the role they want for that position.

D. Iglizzi, Town Solicitor, stated that Council has the authority to change the charter without a Charter Review commission.. D. Iglizzi stated the process would be to draft the proposal and get it on a referendum for the voters to decide. Councilor J. Burlingame stated a suggestion for the HR consultant to begin drafting a proper description.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to have the acting director of HR, D. Zimmerman, draft a responsible job description for a town manager or administrator; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Police Department -

1. Town Council Action: Addition & Renovations to existing Police Station or Construction of a New Structure - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Council has had much discussion about the next step to take in this process.

Discussion: Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Council has heard from many professionals including the police chief with information as to the needs of the police department especially as to space. Councilor W. Worthy stated his opinion that there is a need to look towards the future of and direction for Gloucester. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the 1.5 million dollar difference between

the new build and the renovation is not much especially if considered many years from now and that the hangups are the real cost. Councilor W. Worthy stated that there is no question that the police department needs something and that he would like as much input from people as possible.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that all Councilors have wrestled with this matter. Councilor S. Arnold stated the concern that the cost not be exceeded. Councilor S. Arnold stated that the decision has been made difficult due to the narrow gap between the two proposals. Councilor S. Arnold stated that every dollar matters because it is the taxpayers money. Councilor S. Arnold stated the issue is to decide which is the better investment and stated that based on the figures given that the difference between the new build and the renovation is 6 cents per \$1000. Councilor S. Arnold stated his opinion that it is a better investment to build new in order to not be in the same position in 20 years Councilor S. Arnold stated that new is the most responsible thing Council can do and that anyone who takes the time to see the issues at the current police station would agree.

Councilor C. Greathouse stated her thanks to the police for their dedication. Councilor C. Greathouse stated that she has spoken to many constituents and they have expressed concerns of financial difficulties. Councilor C. Greathouse stated the major concern is for the taxpayers to not have a tax increase and for the needs of the police to be met. Councilor C. Greathouse stated her opinion that the proposed renovation to the current station be made smaller and to use the 5.3 million dollar grant. Councilor C. Greathouse stated that the police need to get what they need and something is better than nothing. Councilor C. Greathouse stated the need to be frugal and conservative.

Councilor W. Steere stated that the Council has wrestled with concerns for the taxpayers and the needs for the police department especially their future needs. Councilor W. Steere stated that this is a unique situation due to the grants the town has received and that is an important part to understand. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that if the town does nothing that the grants will not be awarded again. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that the new build plan is responsible and can meet the needs of the town for the next 10, 20 and even 30 years . Councilor W. Steere stated he is also concerned because he pays taxes too. Councilor W. Steere stated there are town projects that will be paid off in the next couple of years and that we can't look at just today but need to look at the future. Councilor W. Steere stated that if the town waits another 5-10 years then the cost will be more . Councilor W. Steere stated that putting a bandaid on the current station will only work for a few years and then the cost will be more and there won't be grant money like we have available today. Councilor W. Steere stated that the public can call any councilor with questions and that public hearings will be held in order for all questions to be answered. Councilor W. Steere stated that the public can also go to the police station and get a tour of the issues .

Councilor W. Steere stated that the priority is to look to the future. Councilor W. Steere stated that the town and it's needs have changed since the current station was built 30 years ago. Councilor W. Steere stated he has spoken to a lot of people who have said to build new because the cost will only be more in the future. Councilor W. Steere stated that the new build will be long term and that the grant money puts the town in a unique situation. Councilor W. Steere stated that if the taxpayers vote no to both proposals then the town will lose the grant money and the Chief will need to ask for several million dollars to fix the current station. Councilor W. Steere stated that the town will be in the same position in a few years and that the safety of the town should be of utmost concern.

Councilor J. Burlingame stated that the police force has expanded in size and that cost is a big concern . Councilor J. Burlingame stated that the decision is tough and he is not sure which is better.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that building new will be quality. Councilor W. Steere stated that there are always unforeseen issues when renovating.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council would like to hear from the people. Councilor W. Worthy stated that if anyone wished to speak to come up one at a time and state your name for the record.

1. R. Knight, resident, stated that he took a tour of the current station and saw many issues such as water, unstable tower, inadequate room for evidence and records and the fact that there is no room for expansion. R. Knight stated that the Council needs to look to the future and that the new build offers ample room at a visible site so it is better to build new and not throw away money on a bad site.
2. T. Cash, resident, asked if the grant money can be applied to the old building ; if the value to the old building is known so it could be sold and if the zone could be changed at the current location.
3. G.Mosca, EMA Director, explained the grants that have been awarded: one million from FEMA for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC); \$490,000 police grant for dispatch, equipment, etc.; and 3.85 million dollar grant to be distributed of one million for the police department and the rest for the EOC as it can be a regional hub. G. Mosca stated that the 3.85 million grant deadline is 2026 and the other two grants have a deadline of 2 and one half years. G. Mosca stated that due to the structure of the grants that you can't just make the project smaller and use for a smaller renovation at the current location. G. Mosca stated that the separate grants have separate rules.
4. D. Steere, resident, asked for the estimated cost of the new build and if it included site work. Councilor W. Steere stated that the estimated cost is 16.5 million . Chief Delprete stated that site work was included. D.Steere stated that it is always good to get cost estimates and the concern is having enough money. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that the cost estimates were a range between 750-950 per square foot. D.Steere stated the need for hard numbers.
5. D. Desautel, resident, stated his opinion that the issues are not known at the new site; it is difficult to find qualified workers; inflation is a problem; the question of whether 16.5 million is the actual cost and if it isn't if the council will come back to taxpayers asking for more money. D.Desautel stated that we need to live within our means and there is a big question as to the cost. D.Desautel stated that the issues at the current station are known and the issues at the new location are not.
6. P.Henry, resident, stated that Council needs to think about the community they serve; that the population has remained about the same for the last 50 years; that a lot of the vacant acreage is wet; that the entire police department is not working at the same time in the building; and that the school committee will be putting out a bond to the town for the athletic complex.
7. Buster Steere, resident, stated his opinion that the addition at the old station is too big; questioned the ceiling height; stated his calculations as to the project ; asked if the old building could be sold. G. Steere stated that the police do need more room but thinks the renovation costs are too high and stated the need to get more concrete numbers. Mr. Steere

agreed that the police department deserves an adequate facility.

8. R. McMahan, resident, asked if the old station were sold if the proceeds could go towards the new building. Councilor W. Worthy stated the proceeds could go towards the new building. R. McMahan stated he was in favor of the new building.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that he understands all the issues and that the Council is trying to decide the best decision for the future. Councilor W. Worthy stated that no one wants higher taxes. Councilor W. Worthy stated that this is a difficult decision that all Councilors have wrestled with. Councilor W. Worthy stated that he has heard from constituents who want the new build so as to do it right for the generations ahead.

Councilor J. Burlingame stated that Council needs to present something to the voters that will not fail.

9. Chief Delprete stated that he wanted to clear up some of the things he has been hearing and explained that this project has been worked on for the last 4-5 years and that the EOC has been the catalyst for some of the grants. The Chief stated that he can consolidate about 500 sf of the police department renovation but he can't change the EOC as it is tied to the grants from FEMA. Chief Delprete stated that when FEMA saw the plans for the EOC they stated it needed to be larger. Chief Delprete stated that the EOC is 2000 sf of the plan. Chief Delprete stated that there are no 10 foot ceilings and that the proposals are not going to be the taj Mahal. Chief Delprete stated the issues at the current station regarding space and stated that the proposed new building is very well designed. Chief Delprete stated that they have worked with the architect over the last few years and he has done his due diligence in providing cost including escalators. Chief Delprete stated that the new build footprint would be about 2 acres leaving about 7.2 acres remaining at the new site. Chief Delprete stated that police and EOC are more related now than they have been in the past.
10. Capt. M. Fague stated that he has been a member of the Gloucester Police Department for 31 years and described how space is an issue at the department. Captain Fague stated that even with 7-8 officers working at one time in the building there is not enough space to work effectively. Captain Fague stated that the mental health counselor and the domestic violence counselor both have to work in the patrol room among the officers and they are dealing with sensitive information. Captain Fague stated that the records clerk has to work in a cell because there is not enough room. Captain Fague stated that the heating and cooling systems do not function properly. Captain Fague stated the highway department director stated at a prior meeting that it is not worth it to put money into the current building and he knows the town's property. Captain Fague stated that the current need is beyond the footprint of the current police building.

Councilor W. Steere stated that there have been a lot of good questions tonight. Councilor W. Steere stated in response to one of the questions about a zone change for the current building that it could not be done because that would be spot zoning. Councilor W. Steere stated that if the building was sold a buyer could ask for a variance. (Unknown speaker) asked if the town would be responsible for disposal of the building if needed. Councilor W. Steere stated was correct and any money obtained from the sale of the current building could be applied to the new build.

Councilor W. Steere stated that he is sensitive to costs but he wants a safe place to live and wants to do the right thing. Councilor W. Steere stated that he has spoken to many people who have told him to build new and do it right. Councilor W. Steere stated that if we don't do the new build now that we will be back in the near future to decide the same issue.

11. G. Mosca stated that there will be no additional personnel or cost in the EOC as he has volunteers he calls upon when there is a emergency. G. Mosca described how the regional aspect of the EOC would work to funnel resources to the northwest area in an emergency . G.Mosca stated that the nearby towns will bring their own volunteers to the regional EOC when there is an emergency. G.Mosca described that the EOC will store all EMA equipment as well as have a multi purpose room for training and meetings. G. Mosca stated that he currently holds meetings and training at the police station or the town hall. G. Mosca stated that the state is very happy to see a proposed regional center and that the town has never received a 5.8 million dollar grant.
12. D. Desautel, resident, stated that he came to the meeting and was persuaded to see the need for a new police station and that it is important for the information to get out to the public.
13. P.Fiori, resident, stated typically a remodel costs more than a new building.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that one of his biggest struggles is the fact that the delta between the new building and the renovations of the current building is so close. Councilor S. Arnold stated that trying to merge the old and the new at the old building can end up with more problems than building new.

14. P.Henry, resident, stated that the project needs to be marketed and made a suggestion for someone to negate the facebook comments.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that they have freedom of speech and that all the facts need to get out to the voters. Councilor S. Arnold stated that tonight's decision is about deciding for the direction that is best for the future and the town.

Councilor W. Steere stated that the Council needs to come up with a strategy of how to get the information out to the public and the resources to be able to answer all questions.

15. R. Knight, resident, suggested the police take pictures and put those out to the public . R. Knight stated that the new building is a clean slate for the future and any issues can be thought of and mitigated in the new build. R. Knight stated that mitigating issues at the old station are harder because it involves working around an existing structure.
16. L.Desautel, resident, stated that the facts need to get out as well as the costs.

Chief Delprete stated that they have the facts and photos. Councilor W. Steere stated that a lot of good points have been heard tonight and that this decision is the first step.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to AUTHORIZE the construction of a new Police Station/EMA Building and to seek a vote of the Town Council by Resolution, on April 18, 2024, to begin the process to propose to our residents approval of funding at the November 5, 2024

General Election; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS- C.Greathouse

MOTION PASSED

Discussion: Councilor W. Worthy stated that the shovel is not going in the ground tomorrow and that it will take some time to put together a building committee. Councilor W . Steere stated that this is just one of the early steps in a many step process. Councilor W. Worthy stated people are needed to be on the building committee. Councilor J. Burlngame asked if a special referenda could be held to get the question to the voters sooner. Councilor S. Arnold stated that the bids would need to be in and the amount of time was a factor.

D. Igliazzi stated that the Council needs to ask the General Assembly for authorization to create a bond referendum and include in the language that the referendum can be at the November General Election or sooner if the Council authorizes. D.Igliazzi stated that the motion should be rescinded and revoted.

Councilor S. Arnold rescinded his motion

Councilor W. Steere rescinded his second

AMENDED MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to AUTHORIZE the construction of a new Police Station/EMA Building and to seek a vote of the Town Council by Resolution, on April 18, 2024, to begin the process to propose to our residents approval of funding at the November 5, 2024 General Election or sooner at a Special Election if voted by the Town Council ; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS- C. Greathouse

MOTION PASSED

2. Authorization for next phase of work (project dependent) - Saccoccio and Associates, Architects- Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: Chief Delprete stated his suggestion that is that Saccoccio and Associates be kept on as they will be involved in the building committee and can explain the project.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the next phase of work by Saccoccio & Associates, Architects for the construction of a new Police Station/EMA Building; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS- C.Greathouse

MOTION PASSED

C. Authorization for Signature

1. Dept. of Revenue, Div. of Municipal Finance
Budget to Actual as of 12/31/23 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Interim Finance Director has requested that Council sign the Budget to Actual as of 12/31/2023, Municipal Transparency Report.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the Budget to Actual as of 12/31/2023, Municipal Transparency Report to be forwarded to the Dept. of Revenue, Div. of Municipal Finance; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Municipal Resilience Program Grant Agreement - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Town Council has received the following request from the Town Planner which he read as follows:

To: Town Council Members
From: Karen Scott, Town Planner
Date: April 1, 2024
Re: Municipal Resilience Program – Action Grants

Back in October, the Town applied for a Municipal Resilience Program Action grant to address flooding issues at 5 locations. The grant was partially funded to engineer all five (5) sites in preparation for submitting the projects for construction again in the next grant cycle.

The Town received \$59,950 in Action Grant funds. Gloucester must then commit to a match of 25% of the total project cost using a combination of cash and in-kind contributions. The match required is \$14,991. The Council had approved the use of ARPA funds as a match with the original application. These funds remain available in ARPA Project 50.

I am requesting authorization to sign the attached grant agreement to move forward with the engineering of these projects.

(End of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the Grant Agreement for the Municipal Resilience Program for the Project Titled: Town of

Glocester – Flood Prevention Infrastructure Upgrades (Engineering Only); with a 25% match of approximately \$14,991; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

3. FY25 Appropriations Request Form for Congressionally Directed Spending, or “earmark” to Senator J. Reed - Discussion and/or Action
Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Council has received a request from Matt Floor, IT Director & Police Dept. Matt is requesting Town Council authorization to send in a request form for a congressional earmark. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the request, if granted, would be for \$250,000 to make significant and impactful improvements to the Town of Glocester’s public safety communications infrastructure with the building of a new self-supporting communications tower.

Discussion: Chief J. Delprete stated that the tower is condemned and that this new tower could be moved to another location .

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign a FY25 Appropriations Request form for Congressionally Directed Spending (earmark) to be forwarded to Senator Jack Reed’s representatives; said request, if funded, would be for the construction of a communications tower; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

D. ARPA Funds

1. Set aside and/or reallocation Requests for Town Departments
 - a. Set aside request - Town Meetings - Agenda Management & Public Information Software - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Town Clerk has submitted a request for a set aside of funds which he read as follows:

To: Town Council

From: J. Fecteau, Clerk

RE: ARPA Request

Council,

This memo serves as a request for a set aside of ARPA funds in the amount of \$12,000 for agenda management software. This software would set up the Clerk’s Office to better manage the open

meeting process, agenda creation, providing to the public information utilized at Town Council meetings, tools to manage information for Town Council's use and the creation of minutes. The process utilized with this software would require department heads to directly add their approved agenda requests and submit all back up information in a timely fashion. This sharing of the work involved with creating meeting agendas could better achieve everyone's goal to efficiently conduct town business. This resource may be used, at no additional cost, for all boards and commissions.

At this time, we ask Council to Table while we continue to research this resource to ensure the best use of funds. Chris and I have been conducting elections' business for the last 20 days while trying to complete all our other work including three council meetings so we ask for just a little more time to research this software. By the next Town Council meeting I can be ready to present a contract for Council approval but only if we find this is the best product for the Town of Gloucester. The company we have communicated with is on several Master Price Agreements so no bid process is necessary. Should we move forward, all information will be provided.

Thank you for your consideration.

Discussion:

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to TABLE the request for a set aside of \$12,000 from unobligated ARPA Funds for the potential purchase of agenda management software for the Town of Gloucester; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- b. Reallocation and set aside request - Paving & Drainage - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a request from the Interim Finance Director which he read as follows:

DATE: 3/29/24
TO: Honorable Town Council
FROM: Jane A Steere, Tax Collector/Interim Finance Dir
RE: ARPA Funds

Asking for the following ARPA projects to be re-obligated to Project #23- Road Paving- For a total of **\$238,517**:

Project 10a-Cranberry Ridge Road-\$30,521

Project 10b-Jackson Schoolhouse Rd -\$13,936

Project 27c-Salt & Sand -\$18,163

Project 29- DPW Radio System -\$75,000 (per Gary T. and Matt F.-tower at PD components needed cannot be replaced to upgrade correctly. Gary T. felt radios not used enough to justify that much investment and they have BlueTooth technology for hands free cell in trucks)

Project 49- Recreation Master Plan -\$5,870

Project 50 -Municipal Resilience Program Match- \$45,634

Unobligated funds- \$49,393

Below is the breakdown from Planner and Public Works Director:

In FY 24, the Town proposes to complete 4 paving projects using the Municipal Road and Bridge Program. These projects total \$804,316. These funds will come from the following sources:

\$265,423 – FY 24 RIDOT Municipal Road and Bridge Program

\$258,101 – FY 24 Capital Budget Balance

\$150,000 – FY 24 Special Appropriations (Paving)

\$37,315 - Funds spent on Willie Woodhead (materials and labor) to date

\$90,605 - ARPA Project 23 Road Paving

\$2,872 – Transfer of unobligated balance of \$115,339

Gary has indicated he needs an additional \$83,000 for drainage work associated with these projects and additional \$150,000 for Chestnut Hill Road, totaling \$233,000.

I would propose the following:

Transfer the following ARPA project balances to the existing \$\$ balance in Project 23 Road Paving

\$30,521 – Project 10a Cranberry Ridge Road

\$13,936 – Project 10b Jackson Schoolhouse Road

\$18,163 – Project 27c FY 23 Budget – Sand & Salt

\$75,000 – Project 29 DPW Radio System – Jane to check with Matt if this funding can be released

\$5,870 – Project 49 Recreation Master Plan

\$45,634 – Project 50 Municipal Resilience Program Match

\$43,876 - from unobligated balance of \$115,339

Total – \$233,000

For the remainder of the FY 24 funds, the Town proposes to complete 2 paving projects using the Municipal Road and Bridge Program. These projects total \$552,146. These funds will come from the following sources:

\$181,336 – FY 24 RIDOT Municipal Road and Bridge Program

\$368,165 – Proposed FY 25 budget

\$2,645 – Transfer from unobligated ARPA balance to Project 23 Road Paving

These projects should not move forward until the FY 25 budget is passed

For FY 25, the Municipal Road and Bridge Program proposes \$130,000 for the Town.

This requires a \$260,000 match. This is currently not included in the FY 25 budget.

There is a potential \$65,946 from the rest of the ARPA unobligated balance. That leaves \$194,054 that is needed to take advantage of the FY 25 municipal road and bridge program.

(End of memo)

Discussion: K. Scott, Town Planner stated that this is a new program called the municipal Road and Bridge program where the state is setting aside specific dollar amounts for the cities and towns for paving. K.Scott stated that the state will contribute 33% and the town will need to contribute 66%. K. Scott stated that she, Jane Steere, Interim Finance Director and Gary Treml, DPW Director sat down and looked at the ARPA projects that had been completed and took the amounts remaining after the projects were completed. K. Scott stated the remainder will come from a portion of the unobligated ARPA funds. K. Scott stated that these are projects the town was going to do anyway

K. Scott stated the state is offering money and if the town does not come up with the funds as a match then the money gets distributed to other cities and towns who are participating. K. Scott stated the state is hoping to continue the program for FY 25.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to Transfer asking for the following ARPA projects to be re-obligated to Project #23- Road Paving- For a total of **\$238,517**:

Project 10a-Cranberry Ridge Road-\$30,521

Project 10b-Jackson Schoolhouse Rd -\$13,936

Project 27c-Salt & Sand -\$18,163

Project 29- DPW Radio System -\$75,000 (per Gary T. and Matt F.-tower at PD components needed cannot be replaced to upgrade correctly. Gary T. felt radios not used enough to justify that much investment and they have Blue tooth technology for hands free cell in trucks)

Project 49- Recreation Master Plan -\$5,870

Project 50 -Municipal Resilience Program Match- \$45,634

Unobligated funds- \$49,393

seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- E. Authorization to submit capital equipment for inclusion on RIDEM's Project Priority List - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a request from the Town Planner which he read as follows:

To: Town Council Members
From: Karen Scott, Town Planner
Date: April 1, 2024
Re: RIDEM – Project Priority List

The annual solicitation for the Clean Water SRF Project Priority List (PPL) is now open.

The PPL is a required part of the process for projects seeking funding assistance through the RI Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF).

There are three years remaining of the generous opportunity and support from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The BIL provides greater availability of principal forgiveness to eligible borrowers and projects, including a dedicated source with 100% principal forgiveness for projects that address Emerging Contaminants.

The RI CWSRF can fund capital equipment necessary to facilitate the removal of pollutants from stormwater conveyance; which includes street sweepers. I am proposing to add the purchase of a new street sweeper to the Project Priority List

(end of memo)

Discussion:

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the Town Planner to submit capital equipment, a street sweeper) for inclusion on RIDEM's Office of Water Resources, Request to be included on Project Priority List to access the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Funds SFY 2025 Stormwater Management Projects; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

F. Special Event Applications - Discussion and/or Action

1. Heritage Society Yard Sale w/vendors (Previously held event)
Proposed event scheduled to be held at Acotes Field on April 20, 2024

- a. Consideration and/or Action to WAIVE Public Hearing

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair of the Heritage Society, Marie Sweet, has submitted an application for an event to be held at 1043 Putnam Pike. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Ms. Sweet has indicated this event is the same event previously held twice, and therefore, they are seeking a waiver of public hearing.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold WAIVE a Public Hearing for a Special Event, per Ordinance 175-4, B.2, to be held by the Heritage Society at 1043 Putnam Pike on April 20, 2024; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- b. Consideration and/or Action to APPROVE event (if PH waived)

Discussion: Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Council has the application . Councilor W. Worthy stated that Police and Fire have received the application, and the Fire Chief has signed off. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the applicant proposes having a yard sale to benefit the Heritage Society and there will be 4 vendors. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the applicant has stated there will be parking at Acotes Field and sanitary facilities will be available at the Reuben Mason House.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to GRANT the application for a Special Event to be held by the Heritage Society on April 20, 2024 at the Reuben Mason House, 1043 Putnam Pike; said event to include a "yard sale" and four vendors; with the following stipulations:

1. No on-street parking
2. The number of vendors shall not exceed the number included on application.
3. No alcoholic beverages shall be allowed in the area utilized for the event.

seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere if Chief Delprete had any additional stipulations. Chief Delprete stated he had not received the application yet . Councilor W. Steere asked Chief Delprete if he had any additional stipulations to add. Chief Delprete stated he did not.

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Sprint Enduro Bike Race- Discussion and/or Action

Proposed event previously scheduled to be held at 104 Bungy Road on April 6th, 2024 Location changed to: 0 Putnam Pike, West Gloucester further described as AP 4 Lot 50, on April 6th, 2024

Applicants/sponsors: David Harris & Hans Neff - Future Aces by Hans

(Prior events held at location by D. Harris)

a. Consideration and/or Action to WAIVE Public Hearing

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this event originally was to be held at 104 Bungy Road on April 6th, 2024 and was approved for that address by Council. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the applicant is proposing changing the address to a location that was proposed for an event in May. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the application has been resubmitted with the addition of an applicant/Sponsor that has held the event at the Putnam Pike, AP 4, Lot 50 address. Councilor W. Worthy stated that therefore, Council can now consider whether they will waive the public hearing and consider the new application.

Discussion: Councilor W. Worthy stated that the new location is safer as the prior approved location has wet grounds. The Chief stated he has the plans and has discussed the safety measures with applicant.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to WAIVE the Public Hearing, per Ordinance, 175-4, B.2, to be held for an applicants David Harris and Hans Neff, Future Aces by Hans, for an Enduro Bike Race proposed to be held on April 6th, 2024; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Consideration and/or Action to APPROVE event

Discussion: Councilor W. Worthy stated that Fire has signed off on this event and asked Chief DelPrete if he is ok with event. Chief Delprete stated that he will sign off on this application tomorrow so long as there is no parking on Route 44 and there is rescue services on site.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to GRANT the Special Event for Applicant: David Harris and Hans Neff, on behalf of Future Aces by Hans, for the Sprint Enduro Races to be held on April 6, 2024 at 0 Putnam Pike, West Gloucester, further described as AP 4 Lot 50, with the following stipulations:

- 1) The race shall be conducted between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- 2) No alcoholic beverages of any kind shall be consumed or allowed on the premises.
- 3) No overnight camping shall be allowed on the premises other than primitive camping for race participants.
- 4) Anyone selling non-alcoholic beverages or food, that is not pre-packaged, on the premises shall obtain necessary licensing from the Town, with approval from the Rhode Island Department of Health when necessary.
- 5) Adequate porta johns shall be available.
- 6) An area on the premises to accommodate the parking of all vehicles of visitors and participants, etc. shall be available, such as to avoid the parking of such vehicles on nearby roads.
- 7) Adequate liability insurance coverage, at applicant's expense, of at least \$1,000,000, shall be provided with the Town of Glocester, its functionaries and all abutting property owners included as named insured. Such policies, or certification thereof, shall be submitted to the Town Solicitor for approval. The Town Solicitor may ask for an additional amount of liability insurance cover after review of the Interlocal Trust's recommendation at any time prior to the event.
- 8) The Town of Glocester and its functionaries shall be included among those individuals and entities released in any release, waiver of liability and indemnity agreements secured by the applicants.
- 9) Applicant shall comply with applicable requirements and rules of the A.M.A., N.E.T.R.A., and insurance carriers.
- 10) At the Police Chief discretion, a patrol officer detail may be assigned to the premises at the applicant's expense, to assist in traffic control, the maintenance of good order, and compliance with these conditions.
- 11) An ambulance or rescue vehicle, in addition to two (2) Emergency Medical Technicians, shall be available on the premises at the applicant's expense.

Seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

3. Event: Sprint Enduro to be held May 25, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Discussion and/or Action
 Applicant: Hans Neff - Future Aces by Hans
 Location of Proposed Event: 104 Bungy Road
 a. Consideration and/or Action to WAIVE Public Hearing

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this event is proposed for May 25th and originally was planned for 0 Putnam Pike, AP 4 Lot 50. Councilor W. Worthy stated that a public hearing was scheduled and cancelled for the original address

Councilor W. Worthy stated that now the applicant is requesting to have the event for May 25th at 104 Bungy Road. Councilor W. Worthy stated that there have been events in the past at the address proposed, therefore, the applicant is asking for the Council to consider waiving a public hearing.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to WAIVE the Public Hearing, per Ordinance, 175-4, B.2, to be held for an applicant Hans Neff, Future Aces by Hans, for an Enduro Bike Race proposed to be held on May 25, 2024 at 104 Bungy Road; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Consideration and/or Action to APPROVE event

Councilor W. Worthy asked for a motion.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to GRANT the Special Event for Applicant: Hans Neff, on behalf of Future Aces by Hans, for the Sprint Enduro Races to be held on May 25, 2024 at 104 Bungy Road, Gloucester, with the following stipulations:

- 1) The race shall be conducted between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- 2) No alcoholic beverages of any kind shall be consumed or allowed on the premises.
- 3) No overnight camping shall be allowed on the premises other than primitive camping for race participants.
- 4) Anyone selling non-alcoholic beverages or food, that is not pre-packaged, on the premises shall obtain necessary licensing from the Town, with approval from the Rhode Island Department of Health when necessary.
- 5) Adequate porta johns shall be available.
- 6) An area on the premises to accommodate the parking of all vehicles of visitors and participants, etc. shall be available, such as to avoid the parking of such vehicles on nearby roads.
- 7) Adequate liability insurance coverage, at applicant's expense, of at least \$1,000,000, shall be provided with the Town of Gloucester, its functionaries and all abutting property owners included as named insured. Such policies, or certification thereof, shall be submitted to the Town Solicitor for approval. The Town Solicitor may ask for an additional amount of liability insurance cover after review of the Interlocal Trust's recommendation at any time prior to the event.
- 8) The Town of Gloucester and its functionaries shall be included among those individuals and entities released in any release, waiver of liability and indemnity agreements secured by the applicants.
- 9) Applicant shall comply with applicable requirements and rules of the A.M.A., N.E.T.R.A., and insurance carriers.
- 10) At the Police Chief discretion, a patrol officer detail may be assigned to the premises at the applicant's expense, to assist in traffic control, the maintenance of good order, and compliance with these conditions.
- 11) An ambulance or rescue vehicle, in addition to two (2) Emergency Medical Technicians, shall be available on the premises at the applicant's expense.

Seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

G. Boards and Commissions

1. Parade Committee Appointments -

Position #4, Alternate #2, & Alternate #3 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair has not provided a recommendation for appointment. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council can TABLE or appoint from Talent Bank listing.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to TABLE the appointments to Position #4, Alternate #2 & Alternate #3 on the Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

H. Code Red Policy - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Steere asked for this matter to be tabled and stated that he feels a policy is needed as to how to use CodeRED.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to TABLE the CodeRed policy to April 18, 2024; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

I. Memorial Day Parade - Oversight & funding - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: R. Shields, Recreation Director, stated that the Town Council funded the parade last year for the buses and the wreaths. R. Shields stated he does not have the funds in his budget this year. Councilor W. Steere asked if the amount from last year was sufficient. R. Shields stated that the amount was not to exceed \$2500 and feels that would be okay this year too. Councilor W. Steere stated there were sufficient funds available in the Town Council Contingency Account. Councilor S. Arnold stated that this is an important event to the town.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to obligate a “not to exceed” amount of \$2500 from the Town Council Contingency Fund (for the funding of the Memorial Day Parade) ; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy

NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

- J. Personnel
 - 1. Appointments
 - a. DPW - Building & Grounds Supervisor Position - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the DPW Director submitted a request to Council which he read as follows:

April 1, 2024

To: Honorable Town Council
From: Gary Trembl
Public Works Director

Re: Appointment - DPW Building & Grounds Supervisor and DPW Mechanic

On March 15, 2024 I posted the position of DPW Building & Grounds Supervisor internally as per the NAGE Union Contract. I received one (1) application from a DPW employee. The decision was made to promote John Tucker to the DPW Building & Grounds Supervisor position effective April 1, 2024 at the contract rate of \$30.45/ hour per the NAGE Union Contract.

On March 25, 2024 I posted the position of DPW Mechanic internally as per the NAGE Union Contract. I received one (1) application from a DPW employee. The decision was made to promote Kevin Paine to the DPW Mechanic position effective April 1, 2024 at the contract rate of \$31.02/ hour per the NAGE Union Contract.

I am requesting approval to appoint John Tucker to the DPW Building & Ground position effective April 1, 2024 at the contract rate of \$30.45/ hour per the NAGE Union Contract and Kevin Paine to the DPW Mechanic position effective April 1, 2024 at the contract rate of \$31.02/ hour per the NAGE Union Contract.

Respectfully,

Gary S. Trembl
Public Works Director
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Arnold to APPOINT John Tucker to the DPW Building & Grounds Supervisor position, effective April 1, 2024, at the contract rate of a \$30.45/ hour per the NAGE Union Contract; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- b. DPW - Mechanic - Discussion and/or Action - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to APPOINT Kevin Paine to the DPW Mechanic position effective April 1, 2024 at the contract rate of a \$31.02/ hour per the NAGE Union Contract; seconded by Councilor S. Arnold

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Authorization to seek to fill position - DPW Driver/Laborer 1 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a request from the DPW Director which he read as follows:

April 1,2024

To: Honorable Town Council
From: Gary Trembl
Public Works Director

Re: Driver/Laborer 1 Request

The appointment of a DPW Driver/Laborer 1 employee to the DPW Mechanic position leaves a Driver/Laborer 1 position vacant. I am requesting permission to advertise to fill the vacant Driver/Laborer 1 position.

Respectfully,
Gary S. Trembl
Public Works Director
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Acting HR Director and DPW Director to begin the process to fill the vacant position of Driver/Laborer 1; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

IX. Legislative Updates - Discussion and/or Action

K. Scott , Town Planner, stated that the State passed a lot of land use changes in the 2023 legislative session. K. Scott stated that she has been working with the Planning Board and the consultant in regards to those changes. K. Scott stated that the Planning Board sent a memo to the Council requesting that the Council support the Planning Board's concerns by sending correspondence outlining the concerns to the local delegation as well as the leadership at the Rhode Island House of Representatives and Senate. K. Scott stated she would be willing to draft a letter for the Council

president to sign in support of the Planning Board's concerns. K. Scott stated her opinion that staying silent is seemingly agreeing. K. Scott stated her opinion that it is good to be on the record as to these issues. Councilor W. Steere stated that he hopes other towns will follow suit. Councilor S. Arnold stated he loves the idea for the town's voice to be heard.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to authorize K.Scott to forward the communication from the Planning Board to the state representatives; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: K.Scott asked if the Town Council President could sign the letter

Councilor W. Steere withdrew his motion

Councilor J. Burlingame withdrew his second

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to authorize the Town Council President to sign the letter in support of the Planning Board to the state representatives and the state senate; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

X. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

1. The Council has received approval, from R.I. Municipal Affairs of the Town of Gloucester's Notice of Proposed Property Tax Rate Change for fiscal year 2024-2025.
2. Council has received a resolution from the No. Smithfield School Committee in reference to the CIA Funding Formula
3. Council has received correspondence from residents of Joe Sweet Road relative to persistent icy road conditions

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any Council members have correspondence to bring forward or items to discuss.

1. Councilor W. Steere stated Council received correspondence from the RI League of Cities and Towns late this afternoon. Councilor W. Steere stated that this matter is something the Tax Assessor needs to answer as soon as possible. J. Steere, Tax Collector and Interim Finance Director, stated that she would check with J. Parker, Tax Assessor, tomorrow.
2. Councilor S. Arnold stated he did not have any correspondence but that he wanted to mention that a long time resident and very well known guy passed away over the weekend-Dennis Stockwell. Councilor S. Arnold stated that D. Stockwell worked for the DPW and stated Mr. Stockwell was considered one of the unofficial Mayors of Gloucester. Councilor Arnold asked for a moment of silence.

A moment of silence was observed.

3. Councilor W. Worthy stated he received a resolution from the House # H108 regarding references to mental health and obesity in rural areas. Councilor Arnold stated that legislation was proposed last year, and he wholeheartedly opposes the legislation.

XI. Department Head Reports/Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any department heads had anything to report or if any Councilors had any questions for department heads.

None

XII. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any boards or commissions had anything to report or if any Councilors had any questions for any board or commission.

None

XIII. Open Forum

Councilor W. Worthy asked if anyone has anything to discuss on any other subject and if so, to please state your name when you come to the microphone.

1. Nicole Dempsey, 9 Hopkins Road, described the flooding to her property and asked for help and/or a solution. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion as to where the water was coming from. Councilor W. Worthy asked if N. Dempsey had reached out to FEMA. N. Dempsey stated that FEMA was helping with the issues inside her home but that they do not do anything for issues outside. Councilor W. Steere asked the DPW Director if he remembered the previous incident, some ten years ago, and what the solution was. Gary Treml (inaudible) indicated there was no solution put in place. Councilor W. Steere stated that there is not much the town can do because of the unprecedented rain and advised N. Dempsey to contact her state representatives.

N. Dempsey stated she understands and that she does have pictures. Councilor S. Arnold told N. Dempsey to email the pictures to the Town Clerk. Unknown speaker stated the water is a pond and not a puddle and then discussed what they believe to be the path of the water. Councilor W. Worthy stated the Council will take a look and make some calls.

2. Ciana Tancrelle, resident of 140 Joe Sweet Road, stated she was back before the Council with letters from residents on the road regarding the drainage and condition of the road. Ms. Tancrelle, stated she knows the matter was looked into before at her request but she is back asking what else could be done.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that the matter was looked into and the solution would cost about \$300,000. Councilor W. Worthy stated there was a less expensive solution. G. Treml stated that would be to pump the water uphill and there would be other drainage involved. Councilor S. Arnold stated that she has been heard; that there has been unprecedented rain

and the matter will continue to be looked at.

Ms. Tancrelle asked about an extension to the pipe under her driveway to prevent more wearing away. G. Treml stated a description of how the water runs down hill before it ends up at the pond at the bottom of the hill. G. Treml stated the pipe under the driveway was put there when the house was built. G. Treml explained a small extension pipe the town added to try to help the situation. The resident stated that she felt the pipe was going to be longer and is asking for more pipe. G. Treml again stated the pipe and stream were there prior to the house being built. G. Treml stated that the issue is on private property and that is not the town's problem. Councilor J. Burlingame stated the town cannot work on private property. The resident questioned who they contact when their driveway collapses. Councilor Greathouse stated we are aware of that but the town extended the pipe for the residents. Council discussed that the extension was to help with their driveway back then. The resident stated that all of that has now washed away so questioned who is responsible. Councilor S. Arnold stated that the town did a favor to help and now the residents are back for more help and the town can't fix private property.

Councilor S. Arnold stated that no solution will be reached tonight and that trying to help has backfired and that the DPW can't fix water issues on private property that existed before the private property was developed. Councilor Arnold stated we tried to help the residents years ago and remarked the amount of rain has been unprecedented. Possible solutions were discussed but no solution was determined.

Councilor W. Worthy stated we know it is happening but maybe over time we can come up with some ideas.

3. W. Steere, resident, stated his opinion that he strongly recommends that the police station question be on the ballot for the General Election and not a special election. W. Steere stated that the building committee charge and makeup should be thought out very carefully as they will have control.

W. Steere stated that the public hearing for the budget is April 22 and encouraged all to attend. W. Steere stated his opinion that Council help the taxpayers with taxes as the past couple of years have been hard.

Councilor W. Steere stated that about one half of the budget increase is due to the Regional school budget that was decided upon by 57 people at the Regional Financial meeting. Councilor S. Arnold stated that there were 35 people from Gloucester at the Regional meeting who decided the 18 million dollar budget so the town has to work with the remaining 25% of the budget.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that a motion to convene to Executive Session is needed and , for the record ,employee notification was delivered for Item C.

- XIV. Seek to Convene to Closed Executive Session (Closed Session) Pursuant to:

DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL, VOTE, OR OTHER ACTION – (Three matters will be discussed)

A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(4) Any investigative proceedings regarding allegations of

- misconduct, either civil or criminal and
RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation:
 - 1. Potential litigation.
- B. 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:
 - 1. Potential litigation.
- C. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(1) Sessions pertaining to discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons – (employee notified)
Discussion, considerations, vote or other actions by Town Council

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to Convene to Closed Executive Session (Closed Session) Pursuant to:

DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL, VOTE, OR OTHER ACTION – (Three matters will be discussed)

- A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(4) Any investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, either civil or criminal and
RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation:
 - 1. Potential litigation.
- B. 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:
 - 1. Potential litigation.
- C. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(1) Sessions pertaining to discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons – (employee notified)
Discussion, considerations, vote or other actions by Town Council

seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Councilor W. Worthy asked the Clerk to Call the Roll

- Councilor Greathouse- Aye
- Councilor Steere- Aye
- Councilor Burlingame- Aye
- Councilor Arnold- Aye
- Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

After Executive Session:

XV. Reconvene to Open Session - Disclose the votes taken in Executive Session & to Seal the minutes of Closed Executive Session;

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to Reconvene Open Session - Disclose one (1) vote was taken as to Item A and one (1) vote was taken as to Item B in Executive Session & to Seal the minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Councilor W. Worthy asked the Clerk to Call the Roll

Councilor Greathouse- Aye
Councilor Steere- Aye
Councilor Burlingame- Aye
Councilor Arnold- Aye
Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

XVI. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ADJOURN at 12:56 am.; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- C. Greathouse, J. Burlingame, W. Steere, S. Arnold , W. Worthy

MOTION PASSED