

At a meeting of the Town Council in and for the Town of Gloucester on August 7, 2025

I. Call to Order

Councilor W. Worthy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Stephanie L. Calise; Cheryl A. Greathouse; Walter M. O. Steere, III, Vice- President; William A. Worthy, Jr., President

Member absent: Jonathan E. Burlingame

Also present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliazzi, Town Solicitor; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk;

Arrived at 8:00 PM: Elizabeth Beltram, Finance Director; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Karen Scott, Town Planner; Gary Treml, Director Public Works

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor W. Worthy asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that we now need a motion to convene to Closed Executive Session.

IV. Seek to Convene to Closed Executive Session Pursuant to:

A. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, litigation or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation or potential litigation:

1. Pending Litigation

a. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action re: Factory Mutual Tax Litigation Civil Action File Number PC-2025-01882

2. Potential Litigation

a. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action re: retiree benefits

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

- A. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, litigation or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation or potential litigation:
 - 1. Pending Litigation
 - a. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action re: Factory Mutual Tax Litigation Civil Action File Number PC-2025-01882
 - 2. Potential Litigation
 - a. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action re: retiree benefits

seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Councilor W. Worthy asked the Clerk to call the roll:

Councilor Calise- Aye
Councilor Greathouse- Aye
Councilor Steere- Aye
Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

EXECUTIVE SESSION

All were invited into the room after executive session

V. Reconvene Open Session- Disclosure of votes taken in Executive Session & Consideration of the Sealing of Minutes- Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to Reconvene Open Session -Disclose One (1) vote was taken in Executive Session & to seal the Minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

OPEN MEETING – 8:00 p.m.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to move Item IV A. 1 (a) to be continued to closed Executive Session at the end of the meeting; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VI. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

Councilor W. Worthy stated that if anyone wishes to speak on any issues to please step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

None

VII. Public Hearings

A. Liquor License Transfers– Discussion and/or Action

1. FROM: Christy's Liquors, Inc., Kevin J. Kitson,
 d/b/a Chepachet Village Wine & Spirits
 1116 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI 02814
 TO: Chepachet Liquor Inc., Ankit Patel,
 d/b/a Chepachet Village Wine & Spirits
 1116 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI 02814

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this Public Hearing is to consider the transfer of one of two Class A liquor licenses in town and was advertised in the Providence Journal/Legal on July 22nd & July 29th, 2025.

Councilor W. Worthy DECLARED the Public Hearing OPEN

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk received the following request from the applicant which he read as follows:

August 6, 2025

To: Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk
From: Kevin J. Kitson

RE: Class A Liquor License Transfer

I respectfully request to have the public hearing for the transfer of my Class A Liquors License tabled from the scheduled hearing dated August 7, 2025, to the next Town Council Hearing to be held on August 21, 2025.

Sincerely,
Kevin J. Kitson
President, Christy's Liquors Inc
DBA; Chepachet Village Wine & Spirits
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to CONTINUE the Public Hearing for the transfer of a liquor license from: FROM: Christy's Liquors, Inc., Kevin J. Kitson, d/b/a Chepachet Village Wine & Spirits, 1116 Putnam Pike, TO: Chepachet Liquor Inc., Ankit Patel, d/b/a Chepachet Village Wine & Spirits, 1116 Putnam Pike, to August 21, 2025; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked if anyone who wanted to speak could do so tonight. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor stated that the matter is continued at the request of applicant so it is continued completely which means anyone who wishes to speak can do so at the date of the continued hearing.

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. FROM: Kitson's Liquors Inc., Lisa M. Kitson,
d/b/a Kitson's Liquors
677 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI 02814
TO: Gloucester Liquor Inc., Sonalben Patel,
d/b/a Kitson's Liquors 677 Putnam Pike, Chepachet,
RI 02814

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this Public Hearing is to consider the transfer of one of two liquor stores in town and was advertised in the Providence Journal/Legal on July 22nd & July 29th, 2025.

Councilor W. Worthy DECLARED the Public Hearing OPEN

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk received the following request from the applicant which he read as follows:

August 6, 2025

To: Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk
From: Lisa M. Kitson
RE: Class A Liquor License Transfer

I respectfully request to have the public hearing for the transfer of my Class A Liquors License tabled from the scheduled hearing dated August 7, 2025, to the next Town Council Hearing to be held on August 21, 2025.

Sincerely,
Lisa M. Kitson
President, Kitson's
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to CONTINUE the Public Hearing for the transfer of a liquor license from: FROM: Kitson's Liquors Inc., Lisa M. Kitson, d/b/a Kitson's Liquors, 677 Putnam Pike, TO: Gloucester Liquor Inc., Sonalben Patel, d/b/a Kitson's Liquors 677 Putnam Pike, to August 21, 2025; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Consent Items- Discussion and/or Action

- A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of July 17th, 2025

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Calise to APPROVE the Town Council Minutes of the regular meeting of July 17, 2025; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

IX. Unfinished Business

- A. Boards and Commissions - Discussion and/or Action
 - 1. Appointments - Discussion and/or Action
 - a. Parade Committee
 - 1. Alternate #2, Alternate #3

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there are no recommendations from the Chair.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Calise to TABLE the appointments, Alt. 2 & Alt. 3 to the Parade Committee to the Town Council meeting of August 21, 2025, seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

- b. Gloucester 250th Commission
 - 1. Position #5, #6 & # 7

Councilor W. Worthy stated that a new talent bank application was received today, from Whitney Biafore, of 33 Howard Lane.

- 1. Position #5, #6 & # 7

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to APPOINT Whitney Biafore to the Gloucester250th Commission to position #5; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to TABLE the appointments of positions #6 & #7 to the Gloucester 250th Commission to the Town Council meeting of August 21, 2025; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

2. Appointments -Board & Commission Appointments - Terms concurrent with Town Council, to expire 12/31/2026 - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- a. Economic Development Commission
 1. One ad-hoc non-voting member #1
 2. One ad-hoc non-voting member #2

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there are no recommendations from the Chair at this time.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to TABLE the appointments of ad-hoc non-voting member #1 and ad-hoc non-voting member #2 to the Economic Development Commission to the Town Council meeting of August 21st, 2025; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Special Town Referendum

1. Status of proposed Town Referendum – Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that no action necessary for this item, there is an agenda item later in New Business.

X. New Business

A. Community Septic System Loan Program

1. Resident Request for Exception to Debt/Income Ratio Requirements - Discussion and/or Action

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

July 17, 2025

Town of Glocester

Re: Sarah Martinez & George Martinez

Subject Property: 835 Tourtellot Hill Rd Glocester, RI 02857

Amount: \$30,500.00@ 1 % for 10 years Monthly payment: \$28056

To whom it may concern:

Listed above is a loan that does not meet the debt to income ratio (DTI) established as part of the Town of Glocester's Community Septic Loan Program. Under that Program, a borrower's debt to income ratio cannot exceed 45%. The underwriters' analysis of the borrowers' income indicates their DTI is currently at 50%. Borrower is looking to seek an exception regarding RI Housings recommendation for decline. Please submit decision on towns letterhead.

The Town's records show that they have owned the property since 2021. Both are employed Full time. The mortgage on the property has a current balance of \$315,803.00. The tax assessor's value is \$514,800.00

Please advise us in writing within 30 days if you want Rhode Island Housing to go forward with this loan and waive the credit criteria.

Respectfully,

Ruth Anglon

Community Lending Processor

(end of memo)

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Finance Director has received correspondence from the applicant explaining their financial situation and has submitted a recommendation which he read as follows:

Memo: Honorable Town Council

From: Elizabeth A. Beltram, Finance Director

Re: Community Septic Loan Program - Resident Request for Exception to Debt/Income Ratio Requirements

Date: August 7, 2025

We have received a request from RI Housing regarding a borrower who is seeking exception to the debt to income ratio requirement. The borrower exceeds the required DTI level by 5% but has provided a written statement with additional income information and explanation. This additional information is reasonable and I would recommend granting the requested exception.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth A. Beltram

(end of memo)

Discussion:

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to GRANT the debt to income exception, thereby waiving the credit criteria relating to debt to income ratio, for the Community Septic System Loan Program application of:

Sarah Martinez & George Martinez

Subject Property: 835 Tourtellot Hill Rd Glocester, RI 02857

Amount: \$30,500.00@ 1 % for 10 years Monthly payment: \$28056

Seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Special Event Applications

1. Applicant: Glocester Heritage Society
 Event: Yard Sale
 Location: 1043 Putnam Pike
 Date: September 20, 2025

- a. Determine if exempt from Public Hearing and/or Set Public Hearing Date - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the application received for this Special Event notes that the event is the “same” as last year’s event. Councilor W. Worthy stated that no complaints were received after the last event. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council needs to determine if the event is exempt from public hearing due to Glocester Code of Ordinance, Chapter 175.4-B.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated he attended the event last year and there were no problems. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that he has no problem waiving the public hearing as there are no changes.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to WAIVE a Public Hearing, pursuant to Glocester Code of Ordinance, Chapter 175.4-B, for Applicant: Glocester Heritage Society, Event: Yard Sale with vendors at 1043 Putnam Pike; Date of proposed event: September 20, 2025; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Consider application (if exempt from Hearing) - Discussion and/or Action
Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk has received an application from the Chair of the Heritage Society, Marie Sweet. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the application states a 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. time for a yard sale with vendors, names submitted on application. Councilor W. Worthy stated that applicant has asked for a rain date of September 21, 2025. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the application states no alcohol is allowed at the event, no food, and no on street parking. Councilor W. Worthy stated that there is a request for a 5' X 6' pop up tent. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the application has been approved by police and fire.

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Calise to APPROVE the application submitted by the Gloucester Heritage Society for a Yard sale with vendors at 1043 Putnam Pike, to be held on Saturday, September 20th, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., rain date September 21, 2025, subject to:

1. No on street parking.
2. No Alcoholic Beverages allowed.
3. The number of vendors shall not exceed number stated on event application.

Seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

C. Authorization for Signature:

1. American Rescue Plan Act, Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, Community Learning Center Municipal Grant, Program Attestation, Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Town Planner has submitted a memo which he read as follows:

To: Town Council Members
From: Karen Scott, Town Planner
Date: August 7, 2025

Re: American Rescue Plan Act Capital Projects Fund – Community Learning Centers Grant Program

The Town received a total of \$1,031,247 to invest in the Harmony Library and the Gloucester Manton Library. The improvements to the Gloucester Manton Library are nearing completion. As part of the close out for that project, the Town must submit the attached Program Attestation illustrating that the Town has and will continue to meet the requirements of the grant. In addition, the Town had to update the Memorandum of Agreement illustrating the Harmony and Gloucester Manton Libraries will continue to meet the requirements of the grant. It is the same MOA that was signed when the Town accepted the grant funds except Section 2.6 has been added to reflect the time frame that the libraries will need to continue to meet the grant requirements.

I am requesting authorization to sign both documents. Thank you.
(end of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the American Rescue Plan Act, Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, Community Learning Center Municipal Grant, Program Attestation dated August 7, 2025; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: K. Scott, Town Planner stated that she forgot to include one other change in her memo but it is included in the memorandum of agreement. K. Scott stated that section 2.5 was changed from 5 years to 10 years and should have been included in the memo.

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Revised Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Gloucester, Gloucester Manton Free Public Library and Harmony Library- Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT** between the Town of Gloucester, Gloucester Manton Free Public Library Board of Trustees, and the Harmony Library Board of Trustees, for the administration of the American Rescue Plan Act Capital Projects Fund Community Learning Centers Grant; said document dated August 7, 2025; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

D. Personnel

1. Public Works Dept.

a. Appointment - Discussion and/or Action

1. Driver/Laborer 1

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received the following memo from the Public Works Director which he read as follows:

August 4, 2025

To: Honorable Town Council

From: Gary Trembl

Director of Public Works

Re: Driver/Laborer I Appointment

The Driver/Laborer I position was advertised in the Bargain Buyer and on the Towns website.

We received 6 applications. Of the 6 applicants 2 were interviewed. I am requesting that Oliver Perry, Lincoln RI, be appointed to the Driver/Laborer I position effective August 12, 2025 at the rate of \$ 29.40/hr. per the NAGE Union Contract.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Trembl

(end of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to APPOINT Oliver Perry to the position of Driver/Laborer I in the Department of Public Works; effective August 12th, 2025 at the rate of \$29.40 per hour, subject to all benefits per the DPW NAGE Union agreement; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

E. Authorization of expenditure for membership – Rhode Island League of Cities & Towns - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Finance Director has received the annual invoice for the town's membership with the Rhode Island League of Cities & Towns. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the membership is \$4,826 for FY26 League Dues: 07/01/25 – 06/30/26. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Finance Director is requesting the Council decide whether to renew.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated that Council seems to discuss this matter every year. Councilor W. Steere stated that he questions the value the town is getting from the League. Councilor W. Worthy stated his opinion that the money would be better spent teaming up with some other small towns and hiring someone who would actually fight for the small towns at the state house. Councilor W. Worthy stated his opinion that the League does not look out for the small towns.

Councilor W. Steere asked if anyone had talked to other small towns about this matter. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Gordon Rogers, Foster Town Council member came and spoke on this subject at a meeting a year or so ago. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the matters of small towns are falling on deaf ears and we get no benefits from being a member.

Councilor W. Steere asked if anyone thought it would be worth it to have R. Rossi, Director of the League of Cities and Towns, come and speak. Councilor C. Greathouse stated her opinion that Council has not seen that the League has done much for Glocester. Councilor W. Steere stated that he agrees but wants to make sure that Glocester won't miss out on anything if we decide not to renew. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that he has not seen any positive benefit from Glocester being a member. Councilor C. Greathouse stated that she is not sure how much clout the League actually has when you look at what has been done.

Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that the state has their own agenda. Councilor W. Worthy stated that he would rather put the money back into the General fund balance than spend it on the League. Councilors S. Calise, C. Greathouse and W. Steere stated their agreement.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Calise to cancel the Town's membership with the Rhode Island League of Cities & Towns; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XI. Legislative Updates - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any Councilors had updates on legislation.

Councilor W. Steere stated that there is a vote being discussed regarding RIPTA and cutting bus routes including the only one that goes to Glocester.

XII. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received correspondence from a Resident regarding adjustment of tax exemptions.

XIII. Department Head Reports/Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any Department Heads had anything to report.

1. K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that the project at Glocester Manton Library is Almost complete and that a required part of the project is the installation of a small plaque. K. Scott asked about the wording the Council would like on the plaque. K. Scott suggested that the plaque could read the Town of Glocester, the Town of Foster, and the Boards of Trustees for both Glocester Manton and Harmony libraries. Councilor W. Steere stated a suggestion to have the plaque read the Town of Glocester Town Council and the Town of Foster Town Council instead of just the towns with both boards of trustees.

Councilors agreed.

2. G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated an update on the EOC project in that he has Met with contractors, engineers and pre fab companies. G. Mosca stated he has

Received technical advice from G. Trembl, DPW Director as to the lay of the land. G. Mosca stated that he has asked DEM for assistance in fast tracking the approval for the septic tie in or for an alternative. G. Mosca stated he is getting ready to ask the Council to go out to bid and stated his opinion that a general contractor should be included.

3. G. Mosca , EMA Director, stated that he has put in for an extension on the grant with RIEM A and he is trying to get it done now because he is hearing that there will not be any extensions next year.

XIV. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any Boards or Commissions had anything to report or if any Councilors had questions for any Board or Commission.

None

XV. Open Forum

Councilor W. Worthy stated that if anyone wishes to speak on any issues to please step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

1. G. King, 55 Blackinton Drive, stated that he filed a complaint with the State Fire Marshall's office on Jan. 30,2024 regarding damage to his window sashes, window panes and his chimney after blasting near his home on multiple occasions. G. King stated that the cost to repair the chimney on his 300 year old home is about \$75,000. G. King stated that J. Fecteau gave him the contact information for the blasting company's risk management office. G. King stated that his claim is being processed.

G. King described the noise, the number of trucks, the long hours of work at the property, that he doesn't get notice before blasting and that he was not in favor of the blasting when the company came before Council.

G. King thanked Council and J. Fecteau.

2. A. Rogler, Douglas Hook Road, stated a description of how his house rattles each time there is blasting. A. Rogler stated that his son's home is on the same road as G. King's and the blasting is scaring his grandkids. A. Rogler stated his opinion that this matter needs to be looked into and that people need to know.

Councilor W. Worthy requested that this item be on the next agenda.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to move agenda item XX to this next slot on the agenda; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XX. Special Town Referendum

A. Discussion, Vote, or Other Action on Establishing Town Referendum
Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated that there has been discussion about asking the town voters for additional money to fund the elementary school. Councilor W. Steere stated that the intent of the Council was to save some jobs. Councilor W. Steere asked the Finance Director if the School Committee had made the required adjustments to their budget.

E. Beltram, Finance Director, stated that the School Committee authorized the Superintendent and E. Beltram, Finance Director, to make the adjustments as to staff reductions. E. Beltram stated that she needs to confirm other items with the Superintendent but the Superintendent has been unavailable. E. Beltram stated that she expects to meet with the Superintendent on Tuesday.

Councilor W. Steere stated that the School Committee has not followed up as they said they would have a budget by this meeting and they do not. Councilor W. Steere stated that he has heard from a lot of people and they are not in favor of paying more taxes.

J. Fecteau, Town Clerk stated that, if it is Council's intent to hold a referendum, that August 19,2025 is the last day for the certified question to be sent to the Secretary of State.

Councilor C. Greathouse stated that the Council asked for a plan from the school and that has not happened. Councilor W. Steere stated that since the last Town Council meeting, there has been potential litigation filed against the town by the school committee. Councilor W. Steere stated that the Council has not received any confirmation as to how the money will be spent. Councilor W. Steere asked how can the Council ask the taxpayers to give more money without knowing how it will be spent. Councilor W. Steere stated that he has concerns about the money being allocated properly.

Councilor S. Calise stated that she attended the School Committee meeting that subpoenaed E. Beltram, Finance Director. Councilor S. Calise stated her opinion that the School Committee attorney berated E. Beltram for no other reason than that he didn't get the answer he wanted. Councilor S. Calise stated her opinion that there is no working with the school committee. Councilor S. Calise stated her opinion that the school committee is just going to expect the taxpayers to pick up the bill no matter what. Councilor S. Calise stated her opinion that even if there is a referendum, it still will not be enough money for the school because they are going to go after what they feel is owed to them from before. Councilor S. Calise stated that the school has been operating at a deficit for multiple years without a plan. Councilor S. Calise stated her opinion that the plan by the school committee is litigation and going after the taxpayers. Councilor S. Calise state her opinion that the town should not throw money at the school without a plan.

Councilor W. Worthy stated his opinion that the school committee has not come to Council for any extra spending in violation of the Charter. Councilor S. Calise stated that the school brought up multiple times their opinion that the town did not give them enough money but they never did anything about it until now.

Councilor W. Steere stated that he has been doing this for a long time and has never seen anything like it. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion of likening this to the example of the Council being in a boat and they are drowning so we throw them a life jacket and they throw it back and then torpedo the boat. Councilor W. Steere stated Council's intent was to help. Councilor W. Steere stated that going back to the status that Council has heard nothing from the School Committee.

Councilor C. Greathouse stated that the School Committee had the adjustments made to bring the budget within the amount approved so they are finding a way to move forward.

Councilor W. Steere stated a suggestion to wait to make any decisions until the next meeting as there is not a full Council tonight. J. Fecteau stated that the next meeting would be too late for an October referendum.

Councilor W. Worthy stated his opinion that if a vote of Council were taken today about having the referendum or not that he would vote to not do it in October. Councilors S. Calise and C. Greathouse stated their agreement.

Councilor C. Greathouse stated that there are also costs involved in holding an election as there would be mail ballots and early voting days. Councilor C.

Greathouse asked J. Fecteau the proposed cost for this type of election. J. Fecteau stated the estimated cost as being about \$10,000.

J. Fecteau stated that if no question is submitted to the state then there is no election.

No Action Taken by Council

XVI. Seek to Convene to Closed Executive Session Pursuant to:

- A. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, litigation
or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation:
 - 1. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action: Potential Litigation
 - a. Glocester School Committee re: Subpoena
 - 2. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action: Pending Litigation
 - a. Glocester School Committee v. Town of Glocester - RIDE complaint
 - 3. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action: Potential Litigation
 - 4. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action Collective Bargaining
 - Town of Glocester Clerks, Local 1322

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

- A. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, litigation
or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation:
 - 1. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action: Potential Litigation
 - a. Glocester School Committee re: Subpoena
 - 2. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action: Pending Litigation
 - a. Glocester School Committee v. Town of Glocester - RIDE complaint
 - 3. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action: Potential Litigation
 - 4. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action Collective Bargaining
 - Town of Glocester Clerks, Local 1322
 - 5. Discussion, Vote or Other Action: Factory Mutual tax litigation-Civil Action File no. PC 2025-01882

Seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Councilor W. Worthy asked the Clerk to call the roll:

Councilor Calise- Aye

Councilor Greathouse- Aye
Councilor Steere- Aye
Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

Executive Session

All were invited back into the room after Executive Session

XVII. Councilor Worthy stated Council now needed a motion to reconvene open session:

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to RECONVENE Open Session, Disclose 3 votes were taken in Executive Session & to SEAL the minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor Calise

Discussion: None

Councilor W. Worthy asked the Clerk to call the roll:

Councilor Calise- Aye
Councilor Greathouse- Aye
Councilor Steere- Aye
Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

Councilor Worthy disclosed the following votes for the record:

1. Disclose the vote to APPROVE the tentative successor agreement for the Town of Gloucester Clerks, Local 1322, as presented by the Union Steward on behalf of the membership, dated August 1, 2025, for a 1-year contract: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

2. Disclose the vote, previously taken on July 9, 2025 in Closed Executive Session, authorizing Atty. Igliazzi to hire secondary counsel to represent Elizabeth Beltram on the matter regarding a subpoena brought on behalf of the Gloucester School Committee.

3. Disclose the vote to ratify and confirm the authority of the Town Solicitor to retain secondary counsel to represent the Town of Gloucester in the RIDE complaint filed by the School Committee

XVIII. Ratification of prior appointment – Legal Assistant (to include terms & conditions) – Discussion and/or Action

No action

XIX. Ratification of Successor Agreement – Town of Gloucester Clerks, Local 1322
Discussion and/or Action

No action

XX. Special Town Referendum

A. Discussion, Vote, or Other Action on Establishing Town Referendum
Addressed earlier on agenda, after XV. Open Forum

XXI. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to ADJOURN at 10:06 p.m.; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0
RECUSAL-0

MOTION PASSED

