

At a meeting of the Town Council in and for the Town of Glocester on September 3, 2026

I. Call to Order

Councilor W. Worthy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Stephanie C. Westgate; 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; Gary Trembl, DPW Director (Open Session); Gerry Mosca, EMA Director (Open Session); Chief J. Jenison (Open Session)

III. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council needs a motion to convene in closed Session:

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

A. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation:

1. West Glocester LLC and Factory Mutual Insurance Company vs. Jessica Parker, in her capacity as Tax Assessor for the Town of Glocester Civil Action File Number PC-2025-01882.

2. West Glocester LLC and Factory Mutual Insurance Company vs. Jessica Parker, in her capacity as Tax Assessor for the Town of Glocester Civil Action File Number PC-2026-01797

3. Case 1:26-cv-00398-MRD-AEM Holt Tillinghast et al v. Town of Glocester R.I

4. Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2): to discuss potential litigation concerning the Town's Maintenance of Effort obligation to the Foster/Glocester Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2027, including the exclusion of \$154,351 in nonrecurring debt service associated with the District "water bond" pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-7-23(a), and the resulting \$882,853 reduction to the Town's FY 2027 appropriation.

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

A. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation:

1. West Glocester LLC and Factory Mutual Insurance Company vs. Jessica Parker, in her capacity as Tax Assessor for the Town of Glocester Civil Action File Number PC-2025-01882.

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3. Case 1:26-cv-00398-MRD-AEM Holt Tillinghast et al v. Town of Glocester R.I

4. Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2): to discuss potential litigation concerning the Town's Maintenance of Effort obligation to the Foster/Glocester Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2027, including the exclusion of \$154,351 in nonrecurring debt service associated with the District "water bond" pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-7-23(a), and the resulting \$882,853 reduction to the Town's FY 2027 appropriation.

Seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

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

Councilor Westgate- Aye

Councilor Greathouse- Aye

Councilor Steere- Aye

Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

All were informed that they could return after executive session

FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

All were invited back into the room

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 Zero (0) votes were taken in Executive Session & to Seal the Minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

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

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

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

OPEN SESSION

VI. 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.

1. A. Dufresne, Killingly, CT., stated he was here to ask the Council for their support regarding the repair of the dam at Old Killingly Pond as it is partly in Connecticut and partly in Gloucester. A. Dufresne stated that there was a new development since he spoke with Council at the last meeting in that a draft consent letter had been received from the Connecticut Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection which is the first step towards enforcement action in the repair of the

dam. A. Dufresne asked that Council send a letter of support.

VII. Consent Items- Discussion and/or Action

A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular Meeting of
August 20, 2026

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to APPROVE the Town
Council minutes of August 20, 2026; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Unfinished Business- Discussion and/or Action

A. Boards and Commissions

1. Appointments- Discussion and/or Action

a. Board of Canvassers - Discussion and/or Action

1. Alternate #2, One unexpired term to expire 2/28/2030

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there is no recommendation by the Chair at this
time. Councilor W. Worthy asked if anyone has a recommendation for
appointment or a motion to table.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the appointment to the
Board of Canvassers; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

IX. New Business

A. Personnel

1. Appointment: Animal Control Department

Per-Diem Animal Shelter Worker - Discussion and/or
Action

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

To: Honorable Town Council Members

From: Chief Jeffrey Jenison

Date: August 27, 2026

Ref: Per-Diem Animal Shelter Worker

Dear Council Members,

I would respectfully request to appoint Lindsey Baron to a per-diem animal shelter worker position. Ms. Baron will work as a per-diem status at a rate of \$20.00 per hour when needed at the animal shelter. There will be no fringe benefits with this position. I am looking to make this appointment effective Thursday September 3rd, 2026.

Thank you for your consideration in this appointment.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey Jenison

Chief of Police

(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to APPOINT Lindsey Baron to the position of per-diem animal shelter worker at a rate of \$20.00 per hour as needed; said position will not include fringe benefits and is effective September 3, 2026; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Boards and Commissions

1. Recreation Commission

a. Declare Position Vacant: Position #3 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Town Council needs to declare this position vacant due to the passing of member and friend to Gloucester, Tom Lemos.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to DECLARE, with regrets, position #3 on the Recreation Commission vacant; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated with deep regrets as he was an asset to the town,

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Appointment: Position #3 – Term to Expire 12/31/2026
Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council does not have a recommendation at this time. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Recreation Director will call the next meeting of the commission and at that meeting there can be a call for a reorganization of officers.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to TABLE the appointment to the Recreation Commission, Position #3, seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

C. Williams Mills Hunting Regulations 2026-Conservation Commission
- Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Conservation Commission, appointed stewards of the Town's Williams Mills Conservation Area, have submitted the hunting notice for the Fall 2026 – Spring 2027 season for Council approval.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE hunting at Williams Mills Conservation Area as follows: the hunting of deer commencing September 12th for youths and September 15 for adults running to January 31, 2027 and wild turkey hunting commencing October 1, 2026 to May 23, 2027; all hunters must follow the 2026-27 Hunting Regulation as adopted by RI DEM and all rules and regulations as previously adopted by the Town Council in 2019. Per the Conservation Commission, Landowner Courtesy Cards shall be issued by the office of the Town Clerk for muzzle loading and archery hunting to qualified applicants, limiting shotgun to 30 Gloucester residents; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

D. Authorization and/or presentation: Learn365 grant, Round #5 –
Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy asked if the Superintendent has information to share or is an action necessary to submit grant application.

Discussion:

R. Palazzo, Supt. Glocester Schools, stated that Council had approved preliminary acceptance of the funds for Round 5 of the Learn365 grant program and that RIDE has informed her that there is \$35,000 of funds available. R. Palazzo stated that she has prepared a draft for Council describing that the Learn 365 grant will be used for after school tutoring for math and ELA as well as a new initiative in the spring for a health and wellness aspect tied to the social and emotional standards. R. Palazzo stated that she is before the Council tonight as the application is due on Sept. 15 and Council's next meeting is Sept. 17.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the Learn365, round #5 grant application; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

E. Rural Health Grant - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: R. Palazzo stated that a press conference was to have been held at Ponaganset High School tomorrow regarding the awarding of a Rural Health Grant but it has been postponed. R. Palazzo stated she will let Council know the new date. R. Palazzo stated that she is hopeful the grant will benefit both the community and the students.

No Action Taken

F. High Hazard Dam Emergency Action Plans - Discussion and/or Action

1. Amendment to Authorization: Dept. Heads to prepare consent agreements

Councilor W. Worthy stated that at our last meeting Council voted to “to authorize the Tax Assessor, the Building Official, the Town Planner and the EMA Director to assist DEM in preparing plans for hazard dam repair in Gloucester” .

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the EMA Director stated the motion should have been for this group to “draft the Emergency Action Plans (EAP) for high hazard dams”.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to AMEND the charge of the Tax Assessor, the Building Official, the Town Planner and the EMA Director (of August 20th, 2026) to “draft the Emergency Action Plans (EAP) for high hazard dams”; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

2. Authorization for volunteer to work with previously authorized group

Councilor W. Worthy stated that at the last meeting the EMA Director stated he had an experienced person that wanted to volunteer to help the dept. head group draft the EAP for high hazard dams. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Solicitor was to check with the Trust and inquire as to whether that volunteer could get a letter of indemnification.

Discussion: D. Igliozi, Town Solicitor, stated that he spoke with the Trust and that the Trust only insure experts that are employed by the town and not volunteering so this volunteer would be excluded from coverage. D. Igliozi stated that the Trust instructed him to submit a letter to obtain a formal written decision. D. Igliozi stated that council could then decide how they would like to proceed. Councilor W. Worthy asked for the matter to be continued one meeting.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the authorization for volunteer to work with the previously authorized group until Council receives a formal determination from the Trust; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

G. Consideration to authorize a letter of support Re: Old Killingly Pond dam (located in Connecticut) - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council talked with Mr. Alfred R. Dufresne from Killingly, Connecticut, at the last Town Council meeting. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Mr. Dufresne had asked for a letter of support from Council to assist with his efforts with the restoration/repair of Old Killingly Pond dam.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Mr. Dufresne dropped off a sample letter with copies for all. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council can decide if letter is appropriate and if so authorize if Council is ready.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated his concern about some of the wording in the letter and would like the town solicitor to review.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to TABLE the Town Council President to postpone the signing of a letter of support in regards to the repair/restoration of Old Killingly Pond Dam to the Connecticut Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection, to the next town council meeting of Sept 17, 2026 pending the council to approve the letter; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES-Westgate, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

H. Foster/Glocester Regional School District – FY 2027 Appropriation and Maintenance of Effort Discussion and/or vote by the Town Council on:

(a) The exclusion from the Town's Maintenance of Effort calculation for Fiscal Year 2027 of \$154,351 in nonrecurring debt service associated with the Foster/Glocester Regional School District "water bond," which is no longer carried on the books of the District, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-7-23(a), and the resulting \$882,853 reduction to the Town's FY 2027 appropriation to the Foster/Glocester

Regional School District - Discussion and/or Action

No Action Taken

(b) the Town's monthly appropriation payments to the
Foster/Glocester Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2027 -
Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to have the Finance Director not pay any portion of the set aside future Foster/Glocester Regional Proration; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

(c) Retention and appointment of legal counsel to represent the Town
in connection with the Maintenance of Effort and FY 2027
appropriation matters described above. Discussion and/or Action

No Action Taken

X. Legislative Updates - Discussion and/or Action

D. Igliozi, Town Solicitor, stated that he spoke with Attorney D. Riley regarding the resolution by Glocester to amend the statute that imposes fines on municipalities for privately owned dams and the emergency action plans requirement. D. Igliozi stated that D. Riley said he would put forth a bill to repeal and rescind the responsibility on towns.

G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that there are a lot of other cities and towns with this issue so Glocester is not alone. G. Mosca stated that he wanted Glocester to act now in case the bill doesn't pass so it is known that Glocester tried to change it.

G. King, stated that the State of RI Division of Natural Resources built a pond on his land about 50 years ago. G. King stated that dam inspectors used to come and inspect. G. King stated that he drained the pond down and will fix his own dam. G. King stated his opinion that it is not fair that people should be responsible for fixing these dams that the state built in many places in town.

D. Iglioizzi stated that the state is fining towns for not preparing emergency action plans on privately held dams. D. Iglioizzi stated that it is the position of Gloucester that the town is not responsible for preparing emergency action plans on dams that are privately owned.

XI. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion
Councilor W. Worthy asked if any Councilors had any correspondence.

None

XII. Dept. 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

XIII. 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

XIV. Open Forum
Councilor W. Worthy stated that anyone wishing to speak on any issues to please step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

1. B. Kelly, resident, asked if the motion in Item H. Maintenance of Effort referenced the approximate \$154,000 amount and if any payments had been made. Councilor W. Worthy stated that two payments of 1/12 each of the amount had been made.

2. R. Palazzo, Supt. of Gloucester Schools, asked for the motion under Item H. to be read again. Councilor C. Greathouse read the motion. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that this is a separate set aside account where the money was placed in case the town had to pay the region.

3. A. Rogler, Douglas Hook Road, stated his opinion that the new police chief is doing a great job. A. Rogler stated that there was a lot of activity of unregistered vehicles and ATV's and the activity has slowed down since the chief set up posts.

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

A. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation:

1. Collective Bargaining: Negotiations for successor union agreements - Discussion and/or Action
2. Potential Litigation - Discussion and/or Action

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

A. Discussion by Council, Vote, or Other Action pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation:

1. Collective Bargaining: Negotiations for successor union agreements - Discussion and/or Action
2. Potential Litigation - Discussion and/or Action

Seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

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

Councilor Westgate- Aye

Councilor Greathouse- Aye

Councilor Steere- Aye

Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

All were told they could return after Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

All were invited back into the room

XVI. 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 Two (2) votes were taken in Executive Session & to SEAL the Minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

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

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

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

XVII. Ratification of Contract- Discussion and/or Action

1. Agreement Between the Town of Gloucester and The International Brotherhood of Police Officers for the period July 1, 2025 To June 30, 2028

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the ratification of the Successor Agreement between the Town of Gloucester and the International Brotherhood of Police Officers for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

XVIII. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ADJOURN at 11:11p.m.; seconded By Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

