

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on January 21, 2021:

Councilor Forgue stated that pursuant to current R.I. Executive Orders executed by Governor Gina Raimondo this meeting is being teleconferenced via Zoom.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:31 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Julian (Jay) Forgue, President; William E. Reichert Vice President; Walter M.O. Steere III; Stephen Arnold; and William Worthy , Jr.

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliazzi, Town Solicitor; Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Ken Johnson, Bldg/Zoning Official; Karen Scott, Town Planner; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Adam Muccino, Finance Director; Gary Trembl, Director of Public Works; John Luszcz, Director of Human Services; Melissa Bouvier, Senior Center Director

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Councilor Arnold reminded the Council that there may be some people joining this meeting by telephone or without video capability so Council members should identify themselves when speaking, particularly when making or seconding a motion.

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

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

Councilor Forgue stated that those wishing to speak on agenda items should raise their hand and Christine Mathieu will recognize those that wish to speak.

None

V. Consent Items - Discussion and/or Action

- A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of January 4th & 7th, 2021
- B. Tax Assessor's Additions & Abatements - December 2020
- C. Finance Director's Report - December 2020

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of January 4th and January 7th, 2021; to APPROVE the ABATEMENTS to the 2011 Tax Roll in the amount of \$9.38; the 2012 Tax Roll in the amount of \$15.96; the 2018 Tax Roll in the amount of \$677.85, the 2020 Tax Roll in the amount of \$485.88; there were no ADDITIONS for December; and to ACCEPT the Finance Director's Report for December 2020; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Boards and Commissions

1. Appointments - Discussion and/or Action

a. Land Trust

Position #3 - One term to expire 2/28/2023

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPOINT Scott Boudreau to the Land Trust for a term to expire 2/28/23 ; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Zoning Board

Position #1 - One Alternate Term to expire 11/2021

Councilor Forgue stated that the Zoning Board Chair has recommended Rob Kelman to fill the position, and Council has received Mr. Kelman's talent bank application.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to APPOINT Rob Kelman to the Zoning Board, Position #1, Alternate for a term to expire 11/2021; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

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

Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- c. Recreation Commission
Position # 1 - One term to expire 1/2023

Councilor Forgue stated that this position is for the expired term of Christy Long. and, further, Ms. Long does not wish to be reappointed.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Recreation Commission for a term to expire 1/2023; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: Councilor Steere thanked Ms. Long for her service. Councilor Forgue stated the entire Council thanks her as well.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the Council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- Position # 5 - One term to expire 1/2023

Councilor Forgue stated that this position is for the slot filled by Steve Arnold prior to his becoming a councilor.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to TABLE the appointment to the Recreation Commission for a term to expire 1/2023; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: Councilor Worthy thanked Councilor Arnold for his time and tireless effort with Gloucester Little League and Recreation. Councilors Forgue, Steere and Reichert also thanked Councilor Arnold.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- d. Affordable Housing Advisory Board
Five (5) regular members

Discussion: Councilor Forgue asked the Town Planner to advise as to membership.

K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that since the last meeting she has not had the time to contact anyone about the board. K. Scott stated there is no pressing business for the board so she would like to request the Council hold on making these appointments for a few months. Councilor Steere inquired of D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, if this matter is postponed if it were better to be postponed to a date certain. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that a date certain is better.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to TABLE the appointments to the Affordable Housing Advisory Board until the first regular meeting of March (March 4, 2021); seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

- Councilor Arnold -Aye
- Councilor Worthy -Aye
- Councilor Steere -Aye
- Councilor Reichert -Aye
- Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VII. New Business

A. Covid-19 Updates/Discussions/Actions

1. EMA Update - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: G. Mosca, EMA Director, stated that the first dose for the vaccine for northern Rhode Island has been completed and that the second round of doses for these individuals is expected to begin next week. G. Mosca stated that approximately 2000 people have been vaccinated. G. Mosca stated that Glocester will partner with Scituate and Foster for the next phases of the vaccine; and he outlined the most likely order of phases for the vaccine dependant upon the amount of and when doses received. G. Mosca stated that he continues to work on the plans for the clinics to insure being ready when the vaccines are available. Councilor Steere asked if the clinics would be by appointment. G. Mosca, EMA Director stated that all clinics will be by appointment. Councilor Steere complimented G. Mosca on how easy he makes all this work look. Councilor Worthy asked about how the volunteer pool was created. G. Mosca explained the CERT (certified emergency response team) process. Councilor Steere asked G. Mosca if he anticipated needing additional funds. G. Mosca stated that the RI Health Department has stated that they will be giving money for each phase. G. Mosca stated he will continue to purchase items needed from the grants he receives. K. Sorenson, resident, asked about where high risk or disabled individuals fall in the schedule for receiving the vaccine. G. Mosca stated that people with such medical conditions are being asked to contact their primary care provider to administer the vaccine to them.

2. Emergency Declaration Status, Extension, and/or Amendments
(Currently in place until February 18, 2021) - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: Councilor Steere asked G. Mosca, EMA Director if we are all set through February 18, 2021. G. Mosca responded in the affirmative.

No action taken

B. Boards and Commissions

1. Resignations - Discussion and/or Action

- a. Budget Board

Position #3 - One expired term to end 1/2021

Councilor Forgue stated that Council has received correspondence from David Lohr requesting he not be reappointed.

Discussion: Councilor Forgue thanked Mr. Lohr for all his hard work and stated he has done a great job.

No action taken

2. Appointments- Discussion and/or Action

- a. Budget Board

Position # 3 expired term - New term to expire 12/2023

Councilor Forgue stated that the Council, Finance Director, and Chair of the Budget Board have received the Talent Bank listing and asked if there were any recommendations.

Discussion: A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated he has no recommendations at this time.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE the appointment to the Budget Board for a term to expire 12/2023; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye

Councilor Worthy -Aye

Councilor Steere -Aye

Councilor Reichert -Aye

Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Position # 4 expired term - New term to expire 12/2023

Councilor Forgue stated that this position is for the expired term of Henry Haczynski. Councilor Forgue stated that the Budget Board Chair has indicated that Mr. Haczynski wishes to be reappointed.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPOINT Henry Haczynski to the Budget Board, Position #4, for a term to expire 12/2023; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. Conservation Commission
 - Position # 3 expired term - New term to expire 12/2023
 - Position # 4 expired term- New term to expire 12/2023
 - Position # 5 expired term - New term to expire 12/2023

Councilor Forgue stated that these terms are for the three expired terms of Albert Aubin, Roy Najecki, and Thomas Yanni, and that all of them wish to be reappointed.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to APPOINT Al Aubin to the Conservation Commission, Position #3, for a term to expire 12/2023; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to APPOINT Roy Najecki to the Conservation Commission , Position #4, for a term to expire 12/2023; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye

Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to APPOINT Thomas Yanni to the Conservation Commission, Position #5, for a term to expire 12/2023; seconded by Councilor Arnold

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Tax Assessor's Board of Assessment Review

Position # 1 expired term- New term to expire 12/2026

Councilor Forgue stated that this is for the expired term of Eric Croft and the Chair has indicated Mr. Croft wishes to be reappointed.

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to APPOINT Eric Croft to the Tax Assessor's Board of Assessment Review, Position #1, for a term to expire 12/2026 ; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: Councilor Reichert stated that Eric Croft is excited to be re-appointed and that he has done a great job.

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Zoning Board

Position #2 - One Alternate Position to expire 11/2021

Councilor Forgue stated that the Chair is still seeking out a volunteer for this position and asks Council to table to next meeting.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to TABLE the appointment to the Zoning Board for a term to expire 11/2021; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Parade Committee - Discussion and/or Action
Positions #6, 7, 8 & 9 Voting Members

Councilor Forgue stated that the Clerk has not reached out to the board for recommendations as the Chair has resigned. Councilor Forgue stated the Clerk's Office will reach out to the other members listed: five (of nine) voting members; 2 Alternate members; and 7 Ad-Hoc non-voting members to determine if those members are still interested. Councilor Forgue stated the Clerk's office could also reach out to the names on the talent bank listing to see if those people are still interested in serving on the parade committee. Councilor Forgue stated the Council can table tonight until after the Clerk's office determines interest or appoint from the existing talent bank

Discussion: The Council began to discuss possible names for appointments but then decided to table the appointments to allow the Clerk's office time to see if the current members are still interested as well as possible new interested people.

MOTION was made by Councilor Reichert to TABLE the appointments to the Parade Committee; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Terms concurrent with the Town Council - Discussion and/or Action
 - a. Correction to Safety Commission- School Bus Coordinator

Councilor Forgue stated that when the Safety Commission members were reappointed at the last meeting the former School Bus Coordinator's name was given to Council. Councilor Forgue stated that the current School Bus Coordinator is Jacqueline Young-Dussault. Councilor Forgue stated that a Motion is now needed to correct the appointment.

MOTION was made by Councilor Arnold to REPLACE Lisa Santamaria with appointee Jacqueline Young-Dussault as School Bus Coordinator representative to Safety Commission for a term to expire 1/2023; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- C. Town Council Liaison - Information Technology Department - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Forgue stated that the IT Director has inquired to the Clerk about having a Town Council liaison.

Discussion: Councilor Worthy asked Councilor Steere if he would like to be the liaison for the IT Director as he is already the liaison for the police department of which the IT Director is a member. Councilor Steere agreed to be the liaison for the IT Director.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to APPOINT Councilor Steere to the position of liaison to the IT Director; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Gloucester Scarecrow Festival, Re: Food Trucks - Discussion and/or Action
Councilor Forgue asked if Mark Rechter was present and could speak to this matter.

Mark Rechter, Co-Chair of the Scarecrow Festival, stated he was speaking on behalf of the Gloucester Libraries and the Chepachet Grange as sponsors of the Scarecrow Festival. M. Rechter voiced his concerns about the location and hours of operation of food trucks at the festival. M. Rechter stated that having the food trucks at the festival adds an unfair competition with the non profit vendors of food at the festival. M. Rechter stated that the festival is a one day event and the food trucks should not be allowed on that day as they take profits away from the non profit vendors. Councilor Forgue inquired of D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor if he could look into this matter. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor stated that food truck registrations are mandated by the State and that the Council may grant permits. Councilor Forgue asked if Attorney Igliazzi could look into this and get back to the Council. Attorney Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that he will work with J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, and have an answer for the council at the next meeting. Councilor Worthy asked if the Council has the power to black out a food truck as to hours and location. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk stated that there is nothing in our Town Ordinance allowing that.

E. Sand Dam Association - Presentation to Council - Discussion and/or Action
J. Colaluca, resident, introduced J. Baker, President of the Sand Dam Association, who gave a detailed and concise explanation of the invasive species known as milfoil that is and has been an existing problem in the lake. J. Baker, stated that the Association has treated the milfoil in the lake with various interventions; has conducted education classes; and has done fund-raising to pay for these efforts. J. Baker stated that due to COVID, the Association has not been able to do the fund-raising needed to be able to purchase and apply a new type of herbicide. J. Baker stated that the herbicide costs \$22,000 and that they have \$13,000 so they are before the Council today asking for a one time request of \$9,000 for the purchase of the herbicide. Councilor Arnold thanked J. Baker for the presentation and that he is familiar with this problem. Councilor Arnold stated he applauds the efforts of the Association; and, that he is not familiar with this particular herbicide. Councilor Forgue stated that perhaps this item could be tabled. Councilor Steere stated that the Association could speak with State representatives and Senators for possible grants.

Council requested this item be placed on the next agenda

F. Regional School Committee - Financial Referendum Meeting 1/19/2021- Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Steere voiced his concerns with the process used by the Regional School Committee at their meeting this past week in that the Board of Canvassers did not have the time required by state law to canvass and correct a list so the Region used a voter list from May 2020. Councilor Steere stated that the Region has not followed the proper process for meetings. Councilor Steere stated that this was brought to the council last year also and that the council did not act on correcting the process. Councilor Steere stated he is now bringing it before the Council again. Councilor Forgue asked D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor for his advice. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, summarized that there is a state law that allows the Region to use the voter roll from the last financial town meeting. D. Igliazzi stated that the Board of Canvassers provided that list only and they did not certify the list. D. Igliazzi stated the Board of Canvassers was not hired to run the meeting. D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated that it seems Councilor Steere's issue is directed towards the role the Town plays in the Region and that as a separate entity created by state law with authority, separate from the

Town, there is not much the Town can do. Councilor Steere stated that there is nothing the Town can do except ask the Region to follow the rules because he is worried that this is a trend. Councilor Worthy asked D. Iglizzi, Town Solicitor, if everything was done on the up and up and nothing was “snuck in” to which D. Iglizzi, Town Solicitor, agreed. D. Iglizzi, Town Solicitor, reiterated the process that occurred regarding the voter list. K. Sorenson, resident, stated that she saw the ad for the meeting in the Valley Breeze or the Bargain Buyer and that the ad did not have a location stated. Ms. Sorenson stated that she called the Region to ask where the vote was to be held; and, the Region would not disclose the location but told her to wait for the agenda to come out. M. Worthy, resident and Regional School committee member, stated that the first meeting had different restrictions due to COVID than this meeting. M. Worthy stated that the Town Clerk did give the Region the voter list and that this list was used to check in the people, M. Worthy stated that the meeting was advertised; and that as Councilor Worthy and D. Iglizzi, Town Solicitor, stated nothing “sneaky” was done for this meeting of a time sensitive matter. M. Worthy stated that it sounds as though Councilor Steere is against education. M. Worthy stated that e mails from Dr. Barnes had been sent to the Town Clerk for forwarding to the Town Council and if the Council is not receiving the emails then that is another discussion that may need to be had. Councilor Steere stated that the Council had received the emails and clarified again that he is not against education but rather it is the process that concerns him. M. Worthy stated that she would like to invite Councilor Steere to the Regional meetings. Councilor Forgue stated that they all understood the viewpoints of Councilor Steere and M. Worthy. M. Worthy stated that Covid requirements have impacted meetings and it is hard to keep up with the changes. Councilor Steere stated he does not use COVID as an excuse; that Foster held their Town meeting; that Gloucester did also; that he hopes the taxpayers will be allowed to show up at the meeting this year. Councilor Steere stated that he appreciates the job M. Worthy has as a school committee member; but, in his opinion, it is the process that protects people and gives them trust in the government.

No action was taken by the Council

G. Boards & Commissions - Advertising for Volunteers - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Reichert stated that the Parade committee asked if an advertisement could be done to get more volunteers. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk stated that she would prepare an advertisement. A. Muccino, Finance Director, asked if the advertisement could include the Budget Board and J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the advertisement would include the Budget Board. Councilor Arnold stated that the advertisement could apply to any vacant positions in the Town’s Board and Commissions.

H. C.I.P. (Capital Improvement Program) 2021-2022 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor Forgue stated that per the Home Rule Charter the Planning Board reviews large Capital Improvement requests from Departments each year to determine if the requests are consistent with the Comprehensive Community Plan. Councilor Forgue stated the Planning Board reviewed these requests, found them to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and, in their motion, is asking Council to forward to Budget Board.

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to FORWARD the C.I.P. 2021-2022 requests, reviewed by the Planning Board, to the Budget Board for their consideration in budget preparations for fiscal year 2021/2022; seconded by Councilor Steere

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold -Aye
Councilor Worthy -Aye
Councilor Steere -Aye
Councilor Reichert -Aye
Councilor Forgue-Aye

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

1. Councilor Forgue stated that Council has received a notice from DEM regarding a release of violation for Lake Washington Dam #401. Councilor Forgue stated that DEM states in their letter “the dam is no longer considered unsafe and DEM hereby releases Notice of Violation”. Councilor Forgue offered congratulations and kudos to Councilor Arnold for his hard work. No action taken
2. Councilor Forgue stated that Council has received a notice from TRI Utility Cost Reductions Inc. stating they have concluded their review of our energy bills and finds there were no billing errors, therefore, they will not be filing for refunds. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that the notice stated that there were no errors in billing; that the Town is being billed correctly; and, that the Town does not owe any money to TRI.
No action taken
3. Councilor Forgue stated that Council has received a request from Kady Rogler, GBA, asking the town to extend the areas in town they clear after a snow storm. Councilor Forgue stated he would like to discuss this matter with G. Treml, Director of Public Works. Councilor Steere stated that he would like the entire council to discuss so he asked for this matter to be placed on the next meeting’s agenda.
No action taken
4. Councilor Forgue stated that Council has received a notice from the Secretary of State’s Office stating the town will receive \$2,591.50 in grant money to use towards some of the expenses we will incur for the states March 2, 2021 Referendum. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the election will probably cost an additional \$2,500 and that she anticipates going over in her current budget as this is not an expected election.
No action taken

IX. Department Head Reports/Discussion

Councilor Forgue inquired if any department heads wished to speak.

1. R. Shields, Recreation Director, stated that he wants to pay an individual who stepped in for him as the market manager at the farmers market this past summer. R. Shields felt that because he has the money in the Recreation Department account that he could just request payment from the Finance Department but he was told by the Finance Department that he

would need to come before the Council to request that expenditure. R. Shields, Recreation Director, stated that he asked the prior Council and that they did not act, therefore, he is before the new Council asking for guidance. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that this amount was requested in the fiscal 2021 budget for a basketball coach which was denied and as such, A. Muccino, Finance Director, did not feel comfortable reallocating the funds to a different person doing a different function. Councilor Arnold and Forgue requested this item be placed on the next meeting agenda.

2. Chief Delprete stated that all police have been vaccinated. Chief Delprete stated he spoke to the Human Resource Consultant and A. Muccino, Finance Director, about placing an advertisement for a shelter worker/part time animal control officer due to a resignation. Councilor Steere stated that perhaps the Council could do a citation for Officer Bertholic who recently retired at one of the next meetings to thank her for her service. Chief Delprete stated that Officer Bertholic was a great officer, dedicated to the town and he would like to recognize her.
3. A. Muccino, Finance Director, stated that the town reimbursed C. Wilson, resident, for money he spent for a portable restroom for public use from funds received with the "Take It Outside Grant". C. Wilson, resident, has given A. Muccino, Finance Director, an invoice for months outside the time frame of the grant. Councilor Forgue and Steere requested this item be placed on the next agenda.

Councilor Forgue inquired if K. Johnson had anything to add . K. Johnson, Building Official explained that he did not as he had been quarantining at home due to a COVID exposure.

Councilor Forgue inquired if J. Fecteau, Town Clerk , had anything to add. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated she did not.

X. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

1. C. Wilson, Historic District Commission Chair, stated that he did not have anything for the Council but wanted to let K. Johnson, Building Official, know that the house in town that had been destroyed by the tree in a past storm would be presenting their plans to the commission in the next week. C. Wilson, Historic District Chair, answered K. Johnson's , Building Official, question by stating that the work being done at the house was only to protect it .
2. S. St. Pierre, Gloucester Land Trust , stated he wanted to bring the Council up to date on several projects. S. St. Pierre thanked the Department of Public Works for all their help and stated they did a great job. S. St. Pierre stated that fields have been mowed at Steere Hill, Sprague Farm and Hawkins Pond; that trails have been inspected at Steere Hill; a new trail will open at Sprague Farm in the spring; and that a meeting is to be planned with the Department of Environmental Management at Hawkins Pond. Mr. St. Pierre thanked all the Land Trust trustees and volunteers for their hard work.
3. Laurie Gaddis-Barret, resident and Economic Development Commission (EDC) member, stated that she wanted to let the Council know that the EDC had a great meeting in January. L.Gaddis-Barret, EDC member, stated that the commission reviewed the Chepachet

Revitalization Plan provided by K. Scott, Town Planner, and the EDC has lots of great ideas and are very excited to use the plan to foster their own work. L. Gaddis-Barret, EDC member, stated that the EDC is not sure of the proper use sub committees and asked for the name of the best person to work with in the Town to make sure the EDC follows the rules.

XI. Open Forum

None

Councilor Forgue stated that the Council will now seek to convene to Executive Session. Councilor Forgue stated everyone will be placed in the waiting room and following the closed session anyone still waiting will be allowed back in.

XII. Seek to Convene to Executive Session Pursuant to:

- A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(5) Land Acquisition - Discussion and/or Action
Appraisal/negotiation: 162 Chopmist Hill Road, also known as A.P. 14, Lot 92
- 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. RE: Case No. EE-3753 Town of Gloucester -and- National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) **REPRESENTATION CASE** – Petition by or on behalf of employees seeking certification of any Employee Organization - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to Convene to Executive Session pursuant to:

- A. R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(5) Land Acquisition - Discussion and/or Action
Appraisal/negotiation: 162 Chopmist Hill Road, also known as A.P. 14, Lot 92
- 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. RE: Case No. EE-3753 Town of Gloucester -and- National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) **REPRESENTATION CASE** – Petition by or on behalf of employees seeking certification of any Employee Organization - Discussion and/or Action

seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: None

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye
Councilor Worthy - Aye
Councilor Steere - Aye
Councilor Reichert - Aye
Councilor Forgue- Aye

MOTION PASSED

Councilor Forgue stated that all present will be place in a waiting room now and Council will

reconvene open session when the closed meeting is complete.

After Executive Session

XIII. Reconvene Open Session

MOTION was made by Councilor Steere to RECONVENE Open Session, Disclose one vote was taken in Executive Session, and SEAL the minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor Worthy

Discussion: none

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye

Councilor Worthy - Aye

Councilor Steere - Aye

Councilor Reichert - Aye

Councilor Forgue- Aye

MOTION PASSED

XIV. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor Worthy to ADJOURN at 10 :28 P.M.; seconded by Councilor Reichert

Discussion: none

Councilor Forgue requested the Clerk poll the council:

Councilor Arnold - Aye

Councilor Worthy - Aye

Councilor Steere - Aye

Councilor Reichert - Aye

Councilor Forgue- Aye

MOTION PASSED