

**GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019**

The Glastonbury Town Council with Town Manager, Richard J. Johnson, in attendance, held a Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers of Town Hall, 2155 Main Street, Glastonbury, Connecticut.

1. Roll Call.

Council Members

Mr. Thomas P. Gullotta, Chairman
Mr. Lawrence Niland, Vice Chairman
Dr. Stewart Beckett III
Ms. Deborah A. Carroll
Mr. Kurt P. Cavanaugh *{excused}*
Ms. Mary LaChance
Mr. Jacob McChesney
Mr. George P. Norman
Mr. Whit C. Osgood

1. Roll Call.

(a) Pledge of Allegiance.

Led by Chairman Gullotta

2. Public Comment.

Ms. Rosemary Hokanson of 72 Leigh Gate Road spoke on behalf of the Commission on Aging to update the Town Council on the continued effort to remain an AARP designated Age Friendly Community. She said that they are building their core leadership team and are seeking an appointment for a representative to participate. She expressed appreciation to Richard Johnson and the Town Council for their support.

Ms. Geralyn Laut of 126 South Mill Road urged the support of the Council for the Tobacco 21 legislation at the state level and for a local ordinance to send the message that they don't want their youth purchasing tobacco products. She noted from her work as a cessation counselor that addiction has a powerful hold on the youth, starts with tobacco and leads to other addition as well as correlates to mental health challenges.

3. Special Reports.

None

4. Old Business.

None

5. New Business.

- (a) **Action to appropriate funds to implement the written Agreement between the Town and Glastonbury Police Officer's Association (GPOA) for the 4-year period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2021.**

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the funds necessary to implement the written Agreement between the Town and Glastonbury Police Officers Association effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2021, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated April 5, 2019.

Disc: Mr. Johnson reviewed his memo to the Council on the topic dated April 5, 2019.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}.

- (b) **Action on general wage adjustment non-affiliated full-time staff – July 1, 2019.**

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves a 2% general wage adjustment for non-affiliated, full-time staff effective July 1, 2019, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated April 5, 2019.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}.

- (c) **Action to support proposed State Legislation concerning – Prohibiting the Sale of Cigarettes, Tobacco Products, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Vapor Products to Persons Under Age Twenty-One and a referral to the Policy & Ordinance Review Subcommittee concerning a proposed ordinance prohibiting same.**

Motion By: Mr. Niland

Seconded By: Ms. Carroll

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby refers to the Policy and Ordinance Review Committee, the legislation to raise the age for the purchase of tobacco and nicotine products to 21.

Disc: Mr. Niland said his son was part of a group that picked up 77 vaping pods in the senior lot at GHS and it's been a problem in the high school restrooms. He said that the PTSO did an excellent presentation on the problem. He emphasized that 95% of those addicted to nicotine started before the age of 21 and that Connecticut alone spends \$2B annually on nicotine related illnesses. He noted that the increase of the gap from the high school and middle school aged children will greatly help prevent the pass off of the product. He noted the other towns and states that have passed such legislation. Mr. Osgood said he can't support the motion when 18-year old youth can join the military and go to war and get married. Mr. Norman said that there is a fundamental idea of liberty and he doesn't feel as if he can support it ultimately, but he would support sending it to the subcommittee and consider it as a subcommittee member.

Mr. McChesney said that someone joining the army at 18 doesn't have a negative impact on children where access to tobacco and nicotine products does. He said that when the drinking age was raised to 21, there was an 11% decline in car crashes, and he feels they should take action to protect children. Ms. Carroll said that she does support closing the gap and that youth today don't smoke but vape without understanding the risk. Dr. Beckett said he would support it going to Policy and Ordinance saying that it is the right goal but the wrong means. He said people shouldn't be half an adult and thinks that picking off selected matters for an increase in the age threshold is inappropriate instead of considering the appropriate age of adulthood. He said that there is a whole lot less smoking than when he was in high school and yet he recognized it was still a problem. Mr. Niland noted 175K service members will die of tobacco related illness. Mr. Osgood encouraged those that support it to stand up at the high school and say they don't feel the students are old enough to make these decisions for themselves.

Result: Motion carries {7-1-0} with Mr. Osgood opposing

Motion By: Mr. Niland

Seconded By: Ms. Carroll

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby directs Mr. Johnson to send a letter expressing support for HB-7200, to the Connecticut State Legislature.

Disc: Mr. Niland said he would support for the same reasons mentioned in the previous motion.

Amendment By: Dr. Beckett

Seconded By: Mr. Osgood

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby change the motion on the floor directing Mr. Johnson to include in the letter that 18 year old youth are not full adults and that adulthood, and all the rights of adulthood, should be bestowed at the age of 21.

Disc: Mr. Osgood said he didn't feel the amendment was necessary. Dr. Beckett said he was pointing out the fallacy of the line of thinking.

Result: Motion to amend fails {1-7-0} with Dr. Beckett favoring.

Disc: Mr. McChesney asked if the vote is conveyed but Mr. Jonson said the letter usually says the Town Council voted to support.

Amendment By: Mr. Osgood

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby amends the motion on the floor to include that Mr. Johnson convey the vote.

Result: Motion to amend passes {7-1-0} with Chairman Gullotta opposed

Disc: Chairman Gullotta said he would support the motion as they need to say to the state that they need to listen to the residents and towns and not the lobbyist for tobacco companies that have contributed to the deaths of so many.

Result: Motion carries {5-3-0} with Dr. Beckett, Mr. Norman and Mr. Osgood opposing.

(d) Action on transfer from Contingency Fund to Parks and Recreation Contractual Services – tree removal.

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves a \$30,000 transfer from Contingency to Parks and Recreation Contractual Services for removal of dead trees located within the Town street right of way and public parks and grounds, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated April 5, 2019.

Disc: Mr. Johnson reviewed his memo to the Council on the subject dated April 5, 2019. Mr. McChesney asked if the funds in future years would be less. Mr. Johnson said that they need to get through the next three months and hopefully it would be largely addressed. Chairman Gullotta asked them to come back and with a plan to replace the trees to which Mr. Johnson agreed. Ms. LaChance questioned whether there may be interest from the citizens to sponsor trees.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}.

6. Consent Calendar.

None

7. Town Manager's Report.

Mr. Johnson reviewed his report to the Council dated April 5, 2019.

Motion By: Dr. Beckett

Seconded By: Mr. Niland

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby acknowledges the expense report from the Town Manager for January through March, 2019.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}.

Chairman Gullotta asked residents that are seeking private testing for their wells to let the town know of the results so they can tabulate overall data. Mr. Norman asked about compost which was explained by Mr. Johnson. Chairman Gullotta asked about the schools selling leftover food and Mr. Johnson said that Dr. Bookman would represent education in such an analysis. Chairman Gullotta asked Mr. Johnson to ask Dr. Bookman to get rid of the Styrofoam as well. Mr. Osgood expressed thanks and appreciation for the work on the trees on Glastonbury Boulevard.

8. Committee Reports.

(a) Chairman's Report.

Chairman Gullotta reiterated that residents that are seeking private testing for their wells should let the town know of the results so they can tabulate overall data.

(b) MDC.

None

(c) CRCOG.

Dr. Beckett said he had forwarded programs such as online permitting out to the other Members.

(d) Policy and Ordinance Review Subcommittee – Status Report (plastic bags).

Ms. Carroll said that they met with Mr. Johnson to discuss the draft and plan to have it back to the Council for action.

9. Communications.

None

10. Minutes.

(a) Minutes of March 26, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves as submitted, the minutes of the meeting held March 26, 2019.

Result: Motion carries {7-0-1} with Mr. McChesney abstaining.

(b) Minutes of March 21, 2019 Final Budget Hearing and Special Meeting.

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves as submitted, the minutes of the meeting held March 21, 2019.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}

11. Appointments and Resignations.

(a) Appointment of Philip T. Markuszka to the Commission on Aging to fill the unexpired term of Eva Bowden (R-2021).

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby appoints Philip T. Markuszka to the Commission on Aging to fill the Eva Bowden (R-2021).

Result: Chairman Gullotta again spoke to the contributions of Eva Bowden.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}

12. Executive Session.

(a) Potential property acquisition.

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby enters into Executive Session at 7:48 pm, for the purpose of discussing a potential land acquisition. In attendance will be Council members and the Town Manager.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}.

Present for the Executive Session were council members, Mr. Tom Gullotta, Chairman, Mr. Lawrence Niland, Vice Chairman, Dr. Chip Beckett, Ms. Deborah A. Carroll, Ms. Mary LaChance, Mr. George Norman and Mr. Whit Osgood with Town Manager, Richard J. Johnson.

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby exits executive session at 8:00 pm.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}.

13. Adjournment

Motion By: Ms. Carroll

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby adjourns their regular meeting of April 9, 2019, at 8:01 pm.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Meanix Miller

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Recording Clerk

Thomas Gullotta
Chairman