

**GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020**

The Glastonbury Town Council with Town Manager, Richard J. Johnson, in attendance, held a Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom video conferencing. The video was broadcast in real time and via a live video stream.

1. Roll Call.

Council Members

Mr. Thomas P. Gullotta, Chairman
Mr. Lawrence Niland, Vice Chairman
Dr. Stewart Beckett III
Ms. Deborah A. Carroll
Ms. Mary LaChance
Mr. Jacob McChesney
Mr. Kurt P. Cavanaugh
Mr. Whit C. Osgood
Ms. Lillian Tanski

a. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Kurt Cavanaugh

2. Public Comment.

Ms. Carroll read the two written comments received, as listed on the Town website:

Alison Bliss of 34 Hubbard Run Drive, asked for all public restrooms to be opened and equipped with proper sanitizing products, so as to reduce the spread of germs.

Jonathan Caron of 129 Moseley Terrace, stated that the boat launch situation has gotten out of control, and it is turning into a safety hazard. ‘No Parking’ signage needs to be enforced.

Mr. Niland opened the floor for comments from attendees:

Ms. Aleta Naujunas of 294 Wickham Road, expressed concern with having no lifeguards at the Eastbury pond. She asked what the lack of monitoring would do to their natural resource, and in the future, would it end up costing them more money than it saves this year?

Ms. Tori McBrien of 4 MacIntosh Lane, finds it problematic that the Council has not yet addressed racism in Glastonbury. She stated that her black friends from high school are no longer in Glastonbury because of racism. She also noted that a Hartford police officer, who proudly announced that he was a GHS graduate, was removed from his position for using excessive force. The Glastonbury Police Department has a similar police budget to surrounding towns but answers a fraction of incidents, which means that the town police force budget is overblown. She concluded by stating that Glastonbury could start a movement of white towns holding

themselves accountable, which could go a long way in increasing positive race relations nationally.

Mr. Gullotta explained that he tried to get in contact with Ms. O'Brien but was not able to. He listed his phone number and asked her to call him tomorrow. He would like to hear her statements and concerns, as would the Town Manager.

Kennedy Williams of 32 Plank Lane, explained that she was one of the planners of the BLM march in town and she is black. She is upset about racial profiling in Glastonbury and hopes that the police department has more sensitivity training. She explained that she is having a difficult time finding access to police department contracts.

Mr. Johnson explained that Ms. Williams' FOI request was made on June 18, but it was received by his office today. He takes these matters very seriously. Mr. Gullotta also asked her to call him and requested that Dr. Beckett join him on those meetings with Ms. O'Brien and Ms. Williams. Dr. Beckett agreed.

3. Special Reports.

4. Old Business.

5. New Business.

- a. Action on donation of land – Echo Lane – Carini Estate (approve acceptance, refer to Town Plan and Zoning Commission).**

Motion by: Mr. Niland

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby refers to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission the proposed acquisition of the .7± acre parcel located off Echo Lane for a report and recommendation under CGS Section 8-24, and approves Town acceptance of the donation of the referenced parcel subject to a favorable report and recommendation by the Commission, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 19, 2020.

Disc: Dr. Beckett stated that it is a wonderful idea. He appreciates the Carini family's generous donation. Mr. Gullotta agreed.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

- b. Discussion and possible action concerning Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) – letter of support regarding options for disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW).**

Mr. Gullotta stated that MIRA is preparing a letter that would help the Council guide their letter. He asked, where does this Council stand in terms of shipping its waste to Ohio, as opposed to dealing with its waste in Connecticut? Dr. Beckett remarked that shipping it off is very short-sighted and disrespectful. Landfilling is the worst choice of all. Mr. Gullotta agreed.

c. Action on Personal Services Agreement and Conservation and Public Recreation Easement – DEEP Open Space Grant for Town purchase of 542± from PFL.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby authorizes Richard J. Johnson, Town Manager, to execute on behalf of the Town of Glastonbury the Personal Services Agreement and Conservation and Public Recreation Easement as required by State DEEP for a \$1M State grant to the Town of Glastonbury for Town purchase of the 542± acres formerly owned by the Pension Fund Land of the Metropolitan District, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 19, 2020.

Disc: Dr. Becket stated that he will not be supporting this motion. He stated that they are once again let down by the state of Connecticut, where they were promised \$10 million for these parcels and now, they will receive just \$1 million. Ms. Tanski expressed that she will also be voting no. The Town has invested a lot of money and years in accessing this property and she wants the Town to be able to decide how to use the land in the future. Mr. Osgood will also vote against this.

Ms. LaChance is in favor of keeping this as conservation land into the future and added that receiving \$1 million from the state is a bonus. Ms. Carroll will also be supporting this motion. She stated that turning down \$1 million from the state, at this point, does not make a lot of sense. The people of Glastonbury voted for a referendum to keep this open space. Mr. Niland is also in favor of keeping it as open space.

Result: Motion passes {5-4-0} with Mr. Gullotta, Mr. Niland, Ms. LaChance, Ms. Carroll, and Mr. McChesney voting in favor.

d. Action on lease for restaurant operations at Minnechaug Golf Course.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves a Sublease Agreement between Guilmette Golf and DeVaux Restaurant Management in accordance with the Lease between the Town of Glastonbury and Guilmette Golf effective March 2019 and subject to approval of the Town for operation of the restaurant at Minnechaug Golf Course, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 19, 2020.

Disc: Mr. Osgood asked how the Town gets paid on the sublease. Mr. Johnson explained that they wanted to have a good relationship between the golf course and the restaurant, and they will execute an agreement with them. They will protect the Town's interests, and the sublease rent will come to the Town.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}.

e. Action on transfer from Debt Service to Capital Reserve Fund – \$174,000.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the transfer of \$174,000 from Debt Service to the Capital Reserve-Unassigned Fund Balance, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 19, 2020 and as recommended by the Board of Finance.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

f. Action on general wage adjustment – non-affiliated full-time staff – July 1, 2020.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves a 1.5% General Wage Adjustment for non-affiliated, full-time staff effective July 1, 2020, and a .25% increase to the employee contribution to the Legacy Defined Benefit Pension Plan also effective July 1, 2020, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 19, 2020.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

g. Action on wage re-opener with Wastewater Treatment and Facilities Maintenance (AFSCME) for general wage adjustment effective July 1, 2020.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves a 1.5% General Wage Adjustment for the Wastewater Treatment and Facilities Maintenance (AFSCME) work group effective July 1, 2020, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 19, 2020.

Disc: Mr. Johnson explained that the 1.5% is consistent with the action the Council just took. As part of that contract, the contribution for the pension to this group will increase by 0.5%.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

h. Action to approve License Agreement – Daybreak Coffee Roasters – use of Town Right of Way.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby authorizes the Town Manager to execute the License Agreement between the Town of Glastonbury and Daybreak Coffee Roasters for outdoor seating within the Right of Way of Main Street, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 22, 2020.

Disc: Mr. Johnson explained the history of agreement, which was first executed in 1999. After the business opened, the owner approached the town about having outdoor seating.

Unfortunately, the agreement lapsed. They have since fixed the issue. They advised the current owner of the business that they would have to reestablish the agreement and the certificate of insurance.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

Motion by: Dr. Beckett

Seconded by: Mr. Osgood

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council adds Item I: Collective Bargaining Agreement – Highway, Vehicle Maintenance, Refuse (IUOE) to the agenda.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

i. Collective Bargaining Agreement – Highway, Vehicle Maintenance, Refuse (IUOE)

Motion by: Dr. Beckett

Seconded by: Ms. Carroll

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves a one-year extension to the Agreement with the Highway, Vehicle Maintenance and Refuse Group (IUOE) effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 to include a 1.5% General Wage Adjustment effective July 1, 2020 and a .5% increase to the employee contribution to the Legacy Pension Plan, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 23, 2020.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

6. Consent Calendar.

a. Action on proposal for the 2020 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program (set public hearing).

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby schedules a public hearing for 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 on the proposals submitted by The Maffe Foundation, Connecticut River Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of CT, Inc. d/b/a KIDSAFE CT and the Town of Glastonbury – Open Space Land Acquisition Fund under the 2020 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 19, 2020.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

b. Action to approve Investment Pool – Town Funds.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the State of CT Short-Term Investment Fund (STIF) and Northern Capital Investments for the deposit and investment

of Town funds, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated June 19, 2020 and as recommended by the Board of Finance.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

7. Town Manager’s Report.

Mr. Johnson provided an update on three comments from the public comment session:

- The restrooms that the Town operates at Addison Park are open. They will be sanitized at least once a day. All public restroom facilities in town have been fully open as of Monday.
- They are aware of the boat launch situation. The Riverfront has been extremely busy, and they understand the parking concerns. By week’s end, they will enforce that parking restriction be restriping the area and adding ‘No Parking’ signs.
- They are struggling to employ enough lifeguards to cover all of the facilities in Glastonbury, but they will stay on top of them.

Mr. Johnson noted that, at a previous meeting, Mr. Osgood has asked for an update on the subdivision projects in Town. Mr. Johnson provided a document of two pages with approved subdivisions under review (83) and listed those projects for which a building permit was issued (32) in the past year. Minnechaug Golf Course is doing very well. Mr. Johnson noted that he has spoken with Laura Wildman about follow up on the Slocomb Dam project. Mr. Osgood asked when construction would begin. Mr. Johnson explained that they await state and federal permits and are looking at the pros and cons of going out to bid.

Discussions continue over the Cotton Hollow mill. Mr. Johnson also provided a development update. Mr. Osgood asked if they are collecting fees for the boat launch. Mr. Johnson replied yes, there is an annual permit that one can purchase. Mr. Osgood also requested that they not lose track of the discussion on the bulky waste closure fees. Mr. Johnson noted that he has a draft for that, and if all things come together, it would be on the Council’s docket for their July 14 meeting. Mr. Niland asked for a briefing on the food pantry donations. Mr. Johnson stated that they were approaching \$70,000 the last time he checked.

8. Committee Reports.

- a. **Chairman’s Report.** *None*
- b. **MDC.** *None*
- c. **CRCOG.** *None*

9. Communications. *None*

10. Minutes.

- a. **Minutes of June 9, 2020 Regular Meeting.**

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the minutes as submitted for the meeting held June 9, 2020.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

- 11. **Appointments and Resignations.** *None*
- 12. **Executive Session.**
 - a. **Potential land acquisition**

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby enters into executive session to discuss a potential land acquisition at 8:10 P.M.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

Present for the Executive Session item were council members, Mr. Tom Gullotta, Chairman, Mr. Lawrence Niland, Vice Chairman, Dr. Chip Beckett, Ms. Deb Carroll, Ms. Mary LaChance, Mr. Jake McChesney, Ms. Lillian Tanski, Mr. Kurt Cavanaugh, and Mr. Whit Osgood with Town Manager, Richard J. Johnson.

No votes were taken during the Executive Session, which ended at 8:30 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lilly Torosyan

Lilly Torosyan
Recording Clerk

Thomas Gullotta
Chairman