

**GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 28, 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
Mr. Kurt P. Cavanaugh
Ms. Mary LaChance
Ms. Deborah A. Carroll
Mr. Jacob McChesney
Mr. Whit C. Osgood
Ms. Lillian Tanski

a. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Mary LaChance

2. Public Comment.

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

Kelly Hogan of 45 Lindsay Lane, explained that she is disappointed in the level of crime in town, which she attributes to the Town's expansion into a "city." She fears that the desirability of Glastonbury is being lost and hopes that we can preserve what makes this town unique. She asked if Cotton Hollow is a state-funded park or town-funded.

Daniela Pratt of 11 Sand Hill Lane, is disgusted by the lack of support in Glastonbury's police department. She asked the Council to fight to maintain the police department as is and to not support defunding.

Mr. Niland opened the floor for attendees to comment. With no comments, he closed the public comment session.

3. Special Reports.

a. Status report update on August 2020 Primary.

Mr. Johnson explained that this is a report by the registrars, as requested by the Council. Registrar Mark Dobbins explained that things are going very well. Their report succinctly puts forth their efforts regarding the primary, which he believes they are well-positioned for. Mr. Gullotta stated that they have a large number of absentee ballots. He asked if the registrars have identified the individuals who will be processing those absentee ballots. Mr. Dobbins replied yes,

they have. Mr. Niland asked what their plans are, for counting. Mr. Dobbins explained that they are requested by statute to count by a very specific time, and they will have enough workers at tables to safely do that, as well.

Mr. Osgood asked for confirmation that polls will also be open. Mr. Dobbins stated that they will be open, though there will be just one flow of traffic, with social distancing indicators, as well as PPE for poll workers, hand sanitizers, plexiglass shielding, and face masks. Mr. Gullotta asked when absentee ballots will be received. Mr. Dobbins explained that the state did not issue them in time, so they should be received within the next few days. If not, individuals can contact his office or the Town Clerk's office, and they will follow up. Mr. McChesney asked if there is a collection box at Town Hall for absentee ballots. Mr. Dobbins stated yes, there are two.

4. Old Business.

a. Discussion and possible action on Council Resolution – Racism as Public Health Crisis.

Ms. Carroll explained that she and Ms. Tanski spent a lot of time working on a draft that speaks to our community and is focused on actionable items. The resolution is an acknowledgement that health is more than just physical. Prior to their next Council meeting, she and Ms. Tanski will sit with the Town Manager to see who is best suited to sit on the commission, whose purpose will be to conduct a wide-ranging public survey on racism.

Ms. Tanski reiterated that what Glastonbury needs is not a band aid. This resolution is the first step of microsurgery. The commission the resolution calls for and describes is essential. She is very hopeful that this is a step beyond just a symbolic resolution, but one that involves great leadership and a greater policy for Glastonbury to welcome a more equitable future and bring us to where we should be.

Ms. LaChance thanked councilmembers Tanski and Carroll for their hard work on this. She really likes the resolution because it is actionable. Dr. Beckett stated that the only part of this resolution that really counts is the second half because it is tailored to Glastonbury. Mr. McChesney expressed that, in total, it reads very well. He thinks that it weaves in Glastonbury-specific elements and is a real path forward to try to address this issue. Mr. Niland echoed thank yous to councilmembers Tanski and Carroll, and also believes that the commission is a great first step.

Mr. Niland then asked what is meant by the phrase: "right to belong," as it pertains to public and open spaces. Ms. Carroll explained that that is the heart of this resolution. It speaks to our most basic expectations of our community to belong. Signs will be posted on public spaces, stating that all are welcome. Ms. Tanski referenced the 2001 Supreme Court ruling that found Greenwich's policy of residents-only beaches unconstitutional, remarking that Glastonbury does not want to be a town that spends money to keep people out. She noted that the number of times that people have contacted the police department to report on people who just look like they do not belong puts officers in a dangerous and awful position. Therefore, she sees the right to belong as a recognition of support to our police department for how they already operate.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

Resolution on the Town of Glastonbury's response to the public health crisis of racism

WHEREAS, racism is a social construct with no biological basis that unfairly advantages specific individuals and groups while unfairly disadvantaging other individuals and groups, and racism creates poverty, restricts opportunity and saps the strength of communities through the waste of human resources,

WHEREAS, racism has been a problem throughout American history, is cyclical, and can worsen without efforts to eliminate it,

WHEREAS, America's history of racism created persistent discrimination in American systems, leading to continued disparate outcomes in many areas of life, including housing, education, employment, transportation, public safety, socioeconomic status, criminal justice and public health,

WHEREAS, the public health divide between America's white majority and many racial minorities has been highlighted and exacerbated in Connecticut and the United States by the COVID -19 pandemic, leading to higher risk and mortality for Black and Hispanic communities throughout the United States,

WHEREAS, segregation is a driving force of systemic racism, and economic segregation in Connecticut correlates highly with racial segregation,

WHEREAS, the future prosperity, sustainability and wellbeing of the Town of Glastonbury depends upon Glastonbury creating and maintaining an equitable and welcoming community for all residents and visitors regardless of race,

WHEREAS, the Town of Glastonbury has shown an interest in anti-racism and equitable access to opportunity through long term support of community programs such as the Glastonbury ABC House and the MLK initiative, and through support of the Glastonbury Public Schools' participation in Connecticut's Open Choice program for public school students,

WHEREAS, The Glastonbury Town Council recognizes the opportunity at this time to reiterate and continue Glastonbury's efforts to be as welcoming and equitable a town as possible for all Glastonbury residents and visitors,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF GLASTONBURY THAT

1. The Glastonbury Town Council shall appoint a Commission on Racial Justice and Equity, composed of nine members. This commission shall include members of the Town Council from each political party and members appointed by the Town Council from the Glastonbury public. The Town Manager shall provide support and report information to the Commission as needed. The purpose of this commission will be to conduct a wide ranging public survey on racism and the experiences of Glastonbury residents, hold public hearings to hear from the community on issues of racism and equity, and make recommendations to the Town Council for possible action to promote racial equity in all aspects of public and community life in Glastonbury. The Glastonbury Commission on Racial Justice and Equity shall hold hearings and collect data on minority residents'

experiences of Policing, Education, Recreation, and Housing in Glastonbury, as well as other concerns brought forward by Glastonbury residents or Commission members. The Commission shall then provide written reports of their findings to the Glastonbury Town Council, as well as recommendations for action as necessary. The Commission shall submit initial findings and recommendations to the Town Council after no less than three months and no more than one year after the Commission is formed.

2. The Glastonbury Town Council affirms a Right to Belong for residents and visitors in our public, open, and recreational spaces and facilities regardless of race or socioeconomic status. The Town Manager shall prepare a report to the Council on Town ordinances and protocols governing the use of town-owned public, open and recreational spaces and facilities, and identify for the Council any ordinances or protocols that the Town Council should review in light of the affirmation of a Right to Belong. Following the Town Manager's report, the Glastonbury Town Council will conduct a review of signage and policies governing use of town-owned public, open and recreational spaces to ensure equitable access while maintaining necessary safety protocol. The Town of Glastonbury will install new signage at public open and recreational spaces to reinforce that all are welcome to share in these community resources regardless of race or socioeconomic status. Additionally, the Town of Glastonbury will use public communications channels to communicate this to the town and the broader community within Hartford County.
3. The Town Manager, with the support of the Glastonbury Chief of Police, shall report to the Town Council regarding what measures the Glastonbury Police Department takes to ensure fair and equitable treatment of all residents and visitors by the Glastonbury Police Department. This will include information on hiring, training, community policing and local partnerships, and data currently available on crime rates and traffic stops. This report will provide necessary information for the Town Council and the Commission on Racial Justice and Equity as they begin their charge.
4. The Town of Glastonbury shall continue to identify opportunities to enhance diversity and ensure open and equitable principles across our leadership, staffing and contracting.

Disc: Mr. Osgood commended councilmembers for this resolution, which has several items that are actionable specific to Glastonbury. However, he proposes an amendment to change the title to “Glastonbury Against Racism.”

Motion by: Mr. Osgood

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

Disc: Mr. Cavanaugh asked if there is any science or data to back up the original title. Ms. Carroll replied yes, access to healthcare and the quality of healthcare available to people of color is significantly reduced and less than what is available to majority whites. Mr. Cavanaugh asked how they are responding to a health crisis in Glastonbury. Ms. Carroll explained that health is not simply about physical health, but also emotional and mental health and the ability to remain safe and happy. She feels very strongly that the original title cannot be changed without changing the spirit of the resolution. Ms. Tanski added that they wanted to tailor this resolution to Glastonbury, and the actionable items contained within it are true to her experience in the U.S. as

a mixed-race person. She explained that she knows white residents in town who do not see the urgency of those things as she does, so it is important to contextualize why the actions are important. Glastonbury should address how racism impacts people's lives on even the most minute levels.

Mr. McChesney is not in favor of changing the name. "Public health" has a wider connotation just simply medical health, as Ms. Carroll mentioned. They are talking about a holistic approach to health, and he would also add economic health to the bucket. Keeping the name as it is gives it the public health crisis the weight that it needs and deserves. Mr. Osgood explained that his reasoning for the title change was because he believes it would be more attention-grabbing in the Glastonbury Citizen.

Result: Amendment failed {3-6-0}, with Ms. Carroll, Ms. LaChance, Mr. McChesney, Mr. Niland, Ms. Tanski, and Mr. Gullotta voting against.

Disc (on original motion): Mr. Cavanaugh asked if the sixth "whereas" is not a slap at the Town? Ms. Tanski explained that it was not written to suggest that the Town of Glastonbury needs to correct its behavior, but rather, that the Town has the opportunity to lead. They have received public comment feedback pushes from the community that are marginalizing and othering to minority residents and painful to hear. Those residents feel excluded because the Town has not made public what they do in practice. Ms. Carroll agreed, stating that this is a chance to lead publicly, by example, and hopefully, set a precedent that others will want to follow. Scrutiny is not criticism, and it would be a mistake to view this as an indictment on Town governance.

Mr. Cavanaugh asked about the appointment process of the commission. He believes that the commission should be comprised of ordinary citizens with no governance obligations. Mr. Gullotta agreed. Mr. Cavanaugh then asked what they hope to conclude from the information they are gathering from the police department. Ms. Tanski stated that any conversation around policing in Glastonbury needs to start with them hearing from the Town Manager, the Police Chief, and town residents. They do not have all of this data on hand. There is no agenda of fault finding, but the Council has a duty to learn more in this moment when so many questions are asked.

Ms. LaChance stated that this problem goes way back. She shared a story of a black woman who, years ago, was denied a mortgage in town and only received it when her white friend put in the bid. Ms. LaChance explained that she is a data person, so she would like to look at the data, too. Mr. Osgood supports the motion. He suggested people check out an Instagram account which highlights instances of racism in Glastonbury. Dr. Beckett also supports this motion. He thanked Ms. Carroll and Ms. Tanski for their thoughtful insight and everyone on the Council for addressing this very difficult issue.

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

b. Continued discussion and possible action concerning Bulky Waste Closure Fund.

Mr. Johnson explained that, right now, the per ton rate stands at \$72. In addition to the 75% revenue to offset operating expenditures, they would have a fund that would grow to offset the closure cost. He noted that they looked at a bifurcated rate, and considered other options, looking out at 12 years and 15 years. Some reasonable options to consider include scenarios 3 and 4. Mr. Osgood explained that he would support scenario 4, starting on September 1. Mr. Niland disagreed, stating that there is no reason to rush this. Come July 2021, they can ease into scenario 3, which poses a 36% increase, as opposed to the 50% increase off the gate in scenario 4. Dr. Beckett disagreed with Mr. Niland. He thinks that the bifurcated rate is very important to help reduce and reuse, but the \$107 in scenario 4 just means that the taxpayers a decade out from now would be helped a little.

Ms. Carroll is in favor of a bifurcated rate but would like to wait until July 2021. Ms. LaChance echoed Ms. Carroll. Mr. Osgood stated that he understands the concern of increasing the rate, but it is still lower than other towns. Rather than having the taxpayer cover the burden of the closure, it should be funded by those who are using it. Dr. Beckett added that a September 1 start date is plenty of notice for what is largely a commercial enterprise. Mr. Johnson remarked that this has no bearing on the transfer station. Mr. Gullotta agreed with Mr. Niland. He stated that, given the state of this economy, he is not comfortable with even a small shortfall in the budget. Dr. Beckett asked for more clarity on the numbers before voting. He proposed tabling the motion.

Motion by: Dr. Beckett

Seconded by: Mr. Cavanaugh

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby tables action concerning the Bulky Waste Closure Fund until their August 4, 2020 meeting.

Result: Motion passed {6-3-0}, with Mr. Gullotta, Dr. Beckett, Mr. Cavanaugh, Ms. Tanski, Ms. Carroll, and Ms. LaChance voting in favor.

5. New Business.

a. Action to schedule referendum on November 3, 2020 – Reserve for Land Acquisition and Preservation.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

RESOLVED, that a referendum be held pursuant to the provisions of Section 312 of the Town Charter, at the election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, to approve or disapprove the resolution appropriating \$3,000,000 for purchase of development rights and acquisition of land pursuant to ordinance establishing the town's reserve for land acquisition and authorizing the issue of \$3,000,000 bonds and notes to finance said appropriation. The wording of the question shall be as stated in the resolution.

Voters approving said resolution shall vote "Yes" and voters opposing said resolution shall vote "No".

Voting shall take place between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. at the six polling places in the Town.

Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.

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

PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING – 8:00 P.M.

NO 1: ACTION ON RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$3,000,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS AND ACQUISITION OF LAND PURSUANT TO THE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE TOWN'S RESERVE FOR LAND ACQUISITION AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$3,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the attached resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$3,000,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS AND ACQUISITION OF LAND PURSUANT TO THE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE TOWN'S RESERVE FOR LAND ACQUISITION AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$3,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- a. That the Town of Glastonbury appropriate THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$3,000,000) for the purchase of development rights and the acquisition of land pursuant to the Town's Ordinance establishing a Reserve for Land Acquisition, as it may hereafter be amended from time to time. Such funds shall be used for the purchase of development rights and/or the acquisition of land but only after referral of the proposed purchase or acquisition to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission and after public hearing as required by said ordinance and approval by the Town Council. The appropriation may be spent for survey fees, feasibility and planning studies related to any potential acquisition, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing.
- b. That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$3,000,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The amount of bonds or notes authorized to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the Town for the project, unless the Town approves an additional appropriation to spend such grants. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town.
- c. That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of

the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$3,000,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes if the notes do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

- d. That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- e. That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.
- f. That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- g. That the Town Manager, on behalf of the Town, is authorized to apply for and accept federal and state grants to help finance the appropriation for the project, and to enter into any grant agreement necessary to obtain such grants. Any grant proceeds may be used to pay project costs or principal and interest on bonds, notes or temporary notes.
- h. That the Town Manager or his designee shall administer and supervise the project. The Town Manager, the Treasurer and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

- i. That this resolution shall not become effective until approved at referendum pursuant to Section 312 of the Town Charter. The wording of the question for the referendum ballot shall be:

“SHALL THE TOWN OF GLASTONBURY APPROPRIATE \$3,000,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS AND ACQUISITION OF LAND PURSUANT TO THE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE TOWN’S RESERVE FOR LAND ACQUISITION AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION?”

Disc: Mr. Johnson explained that this is a proposal for the 12th bond issue and appropriation presented at referendum. The Council could take action tonight or continue to their August 4 meeting. Mr. Niland opened the floor for public comment.

Jared Soper at 39 Fawn Run, asked if the Town’s focus is on purchasing land and developing rights or on maintaining open space and land preservation? He noted that there appears to be an issue in terms of how land in Glastonbury is taxed. Mr. Gullotta was surprised to hear that, between the assessor and the appeals process, this issue could not be resolved, so there may be something structural that needs to occur. He asked Mr. Johnson to look into it.

With no further comments, Mr. Niland closed the public comment session.

Mr. Osgood supports the motion but suggested extending the public hearing so that they have a second opportunity for the public to comment. Ms. Carroll disagreed, preferring to vote on it this evening. She explained that the public had a chance to speak tonight and to vote on the referendum in November. Mr. Cavanaugh also felt comfortable moving forward on this tonight. However, he wished that the amount was for \$5 million instead of \$3 million. Mr. Niland also supports this going forward, remarking that the program has been fantastically successful. Ms. LaChance echoed Mr. Niland and added that an article in today’s Washington Post stated that access to green space plays a positive role in people’s perception of their community. Mr. Gullotta explained that he was a part of the council that created this fund decades ago, and it has been a bipartisan success.

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

b. Discussion and possible action concerning release of recreation easement – refer to Town Plan and Zoning Commission. (Tabled from July 14, 2020 meeting).

Mr. Johnson explained that the Council asked him to advise the homeowners association, and as of today, they are still seeking comments from homeowners. The Council agreed to table the discussion to August 4, 2020.

c. Action to extend Purchase and Sale Agreement for proposed sale of Town-owned land – Western Boulevard.

Mr. Johnson explained that Dave Sessions is proceeding through the approval process for two buildings. However, he has asked to extend the site approval process through December 2020 and have a marketing and tenant period for 6 months thereafter. Mr. Osgood is in favor of extending the permit for 6 months, but an August closing is too far out. Instead, he suggested an April close. Mr. Johnson explained that if the Council agreed to move ahead with that decision, he anticipates that Mr. Sessions would like some ability to be able to further extend the process, come April. Mr. Gullotta suggested tabling the discussion. Mr. Osgood stated that something along the lines of an extension of April 1 to August 31 would be reasonable. He asked Mr. Johnson to speak to Mr. Sessions. Mr. Johnson agreed to do so.

Motion by: Mr. Osgood

Seconded by: Mr. Cavanaugh

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby tables action concerning the Purchase and Sale Agreement for proposed sale of Town-owned land - Western Boulevard until their August 4, 2020 meeting.

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

6. Consent Calendar. None

7. Town Manager's Report.

Mr. Johnson explained that Fire Chief Thurz will send notices to all of the property owners, letting them know of the upcoming fire department training and scheduling that will take place. Just over a week ago, they closed the overwhelmed facility at Cotton Hollow. Additional signage will be put in place and there is a recommendation for a parking pass system, which used to exist decades ago. There will also be staffing at the entrances, and a transition to a park ranger position. Additional safety improvements will include tree removal and markers for public safety. The State Bond Commission approved the Town's \$1 million library grant project. They have 1.5 approvals yet to go before going out to bid. Mr. Johnson also shared that he grouped together some thank you notes from Town staff of all departments.

Mr. Cavanaugh asked if the houses for the fire training are currently vacant. Mr. Johnson stated that he will double check. Mr. Cavanaugh then asked about Cotton Hollow and whether the deed excludes use by non-residents. Mr. Johnson explained that it was deeded to the Town in 1964 by a group called Cotton Hollow, Inc. There is no restriction on Glastonbury residents use only in the deed. The code of ordinances states that it is for Town of Glastonbury residents and their guests. Mr. Cavanaugh stated that he likes the park ranger idea. He asked if the ranger has to be POST certified, and would they need to defend themselves? Mr. Johnson does not believe so, but he will double check with Chief Thurz. As for the means of defense, they are looking at pepper sprays and batons, but the intention is that the ranger would call for assistance rather than enforce disciplinary action. Mr. Cavanaugh asked if the hotel ceased construction because of the pandemic. Mr. Johnson said yes, but he would prefer to clarify before responding. If the hotel resumes construction, would they have to dig up the road that would be serviced by

water/utilities or could that be accessed by their site? Mr. Johnson agreed to look into that question posed by Mr. Cavanaugh.

Ms. LaChance thanked the Town Manager for all of the thank you notes and asked the general population to continue keeping COVID-19 cases down in Connecticut. She then inquired about the water situation. Mr. Johnson explained that the process is moving forward. The Metropolitan District has serviced most of the area in that Chestnut Hill corridor. The Town has not yet contacted Manchester because, in order to keep the project eligible for clean water funding, they have to go through a few steps with the state, and that was slowed down. The intention was to ensure that no actions would disqualify them from funding. Ms. Tanski thanked the Town Manager and Lisa Zerio, Director of Parks and Recreation, for walking them through Cotton Hollow this weekend. It was helpful to see the plan of action.

Mr. Osgood noted that, during the public hearing, Mr. Soper mentioned the concept of looking at how the Town's tax structure relates to undeveloped land. Mr. Osgood asked if they could consider how to move forward on that. Mr. Johnson explained that Mr. Soper was referencing the fact that when there is excess land that is part of a property, generally speaking, it is assessed 100% at \$800,000, and the tax is greater than the purchase rate per acre. Mr. Osgood then asked about the pension contribution, noting that it looks a little light. Mr. Johnson explained that they budgeted what their actuaries told them. However, their original assumptions for the mortality and new entrance were off. Next year's line item for the pension will not increase by \$500,000 again because they have already put that money in place.

8. Committee Reports.
a. Chairman's Report.

Mr. Gullotta explained that he has received a letter from Mr. C. J. Mozzochi, requesting a meeting with the entire Council regarding the issue of racism: Mr. Gullotta volunteered himself and Dr. Beckett to meet with Mr. Mozzochi. Ms. Carroll stated that if Mr. Mozzochi would like to meet with the entire Council, that would fall under the public comment session. Mr. Cavanaugh asked to look at the Town Charter because he does not think that it is appropriate to have an entire council meeting with just one individual. Mr. Osgood requested that Mr. Mozzochi put his comments in writing. Mr. Gullotta asked the Town Manager to send communication to Mr. Mozzochi that the three of them (Mr. Gullotta, Dr. Beckett, and the Mr. Johnson) would be willing to meet with him.

b. MDC. *None*

c. CRCOG.

Dr. Beckett explained that CRCOG is conducting interviews and trying to decide what they need for a new Executive Director.

9. Communications.

- a. Letter from Letter from CT Siting Council regarding request for extension of construction time for a telecommunications facility located at 63 Woodland Street.

10. Minutes.

- a. Minutes of July 14, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Dr. Beckett

Result: The minutes were accepted as presented {8-0-1}. Ms. LaChance abstained, since she did not attend the meeting.

11. Appointments and Resignations. None

12. Executive Session.

- a. Potential land acquisition.
- b. Draft Terms and Conditions – Lease of Town-owned Property.

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 and draft terms and conditions on the lease of Town-owned property at 9:15 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 9:40 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lilly Torosyan

**Lilly Torosyan
Recording Clerk**

**Thomas Gullotta
Chairman**