

At a meeting of the Town Council in and for the Town of Gloucester on November 6, 2025

I. Call to Order

Councilor W. Worthy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Jonathan E. Burlingame; Stephanie L. Calise; Cheryl A. Greathouse; Walter M. O. Steere, III, Vice- President; William A. Worthy, Jr., President

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliazzi, Town Solicitor; Elizabeth Beltram, Finance Director; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Gary Trembl, DPW Director; Karen Scott, Town Planner; Dennis Begin, Building/Zoning Official

III. Pledge of Allegiance

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

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

Councilor W. Worthy stated that anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item please step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

V. Public Hearings

- A. Regarding the hearings originally planned for this evening, the applications filed by Factory Mutual Insurance Company have been withdrawn; thereby cancelling said public hearings**

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the applications by Factory Mutual Insurance company have been withdrawn so the public hearings are being cancelled.

No Action Taken by Council

B. Gloucester Code of Ordinance -

1. Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments - Discussion and/or Action
 - a. Addition to "Table of Use Regulations" Zoning Chart to allow earth processing (not related to an earth removal license) in a B-2 Highway/Commercial zone – Discussion

and/or Action

Applicant: Coluch Organization LLC

Owner: William & Bonnie Cooper

Location: 640 Putnam Pike a.k.a. AP 17, Lot 107

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this Public Hearing was opened on October 16, 2025 and continued, without discussion, to this meeting. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the hearing can now resume.

Councilor W. worthy stated that Council has received an Advisory Opinion from the Planning Board Meeting of October 21, 2025 which he read as follows:

Zoning Ordinance Amendment
Advisory Opinion of the Planning Board
October 21, 2025

At their October 21, 2025 meeting, the following motion was made by Planning Board member Steve Clifford:

After careful consideration and discussion, the Gloucester Planning Board hereby recommends that the Town Council does not enact revisions to the Gloucester Zoning Ordinance to add “Processing of sand, gravel and loam not associated with an earth removal operation” to Section 350-11 – Table of Use Regulations, Section 12. Industrial Uses, as a permitted use by right in the Highway Commercial (B-2) zone.

The Board recommendation is based upon the following Findings of Fact Relating to Consistency with the Gloucester Comprehensive Community Plan and Purposes of Zoning per RIGL Title 45 Chapter 24, ‘The Zoning Enabling Act of 1991’ as noted below.

Findings of Fact

Consistency with the Comprehensive Community Plan

The proposed amendments are not consistent with the following sections of the Comprehensive Plan:

1. Land Use Goal 1 - Preserve the rural character of Gloucester for future generations while enhancing services and facilities, housing, open space and recreation, natural and cultural resources, circulation and economic development.
2. Land Use Policy 1 – Protect, enhance and maintain the unique natural and historical features of Gloucester while allowing for appropriate development to occur.
3. Land Use Policy 2 – Encourage responsible and use decisions by public official and public bodies.
4. Economic Development Goal 1 - Encourage economic development that aligns with the Town’s rural character and also expands and diversifies the Town’s tax base.

5. Economic Development Policy 5 - Prevent the negative effects of economic growth, including environmental degradation and dramatic changes to community character, from occurring in the Town.

Consistency with the Purposes of Zoning

The Planning Board finds that the proposed zoning amendments are not consistent with the following general purposes of zoning ordinances per RIGL § 45-24-30:

1. Promoting the public health, safety and general welfare.
2. Providing for a range of uses and intensities of use appropriate to the character of the city or town and reflecting current and expected future needs.

Providing for orderly growth and development which recognizes:

- (i) The goals and patterns of land use contained in the comprehensive plan of the city or town adopted pursuant to chapter 22.2 of this title;

In making this recommendation, the Board has considered the following:

1. The full application for a Zoning Ordinance text amendment submitted by Coluch Organization, LLC.
2. Discussions held at the October 21, 2025 special meeting

Based on the above findings, I hereby make a motion to not recommend approval of the zoning ordinance revision as noted above to the Gloucester Town Council.

The motion was seconded by Planning Board member John Bart. Motion approved 7-0. Ayes – Bart, Fournier, Furney, Pitocco, Calderara, Clifford, White
(end of memo)

Discussion:

Councilor W. Worthy stated that anyone wishing to speak for or against the application to please step to the microphone when called on to speak.

J. Colucci, Coluch Organization, described the process his organization has gone through in trying to be able to process earth materials at their present location.

J. Colucci stated they were told to apply for a special use variance permit which they did. J. Colucci stated that the Planning Board was in approval of the application. J. Colucci stated that when they went before the Zoning Board for the approval that would give them the permit they were told that it was the wrong application because the use is not allowed in town. J. Colucci stated that they were now told that they had to apply for a zone change that would be town wide.

J. Colucci stated a description of what the company does and it is not mining but rather they bring materials in from job sites, process the materials and then bring it to another job site. J. Colucci stated that the company does not accept materials from other companies at their site in response to Councilor C. Greathouse's question. Councilor W. Worthy stated that there have been complaints about noise and dust. J. Colucci stated that the property is 300 to 400 feet off the road and that the dust may be from all the other trucks on Rte. 44 .

Councilor S. Calise asked where the materials come from. J. Colucci stated that the materials come from their job sites and are screened and stored on their site until being brought to another job site. J. Colucci stated that by their contract, they do not handle any hazardous materials and they also do not do any demolition. J. Colucci stated that they're manufacturing of materials and then bringing the product back to a client. J. Colucci stated that the crusher and screener are not permanent fixtures. Councilor J. Burlingame asked J. Colucci if the company was processing materials currently. J. Colucci stated no and that they stopped when they were asked to stop. J. Colucci stated they have been at this location for about five years in response to Councilor J. Burlingame's question.

Councilor W. Steere asked what other towns the company does work in. J. Colucci stated that they have worked sites in Middletown, Portsmouth, Massachusetts. J. Colucci stated they are a subcontractor on these jobs.

Councilor W. Steere asked J. Colucci why he did not check with zoning before starting the earth processing because it is not allowed in this zone. J. Colucci stated that he had asked the building official at the time and he said he could do it. Councilor W. Steere asked if J. Colucci had received a cease and desist order from the current building official. J. Colucci stated yes. J. Colucci stated that if the zone change is not approved then they will most likely have to leave. J. Colucci stated that they found this site and there is an opportunity to purchase this site as well as the 80 acres behind it. J. Colucci stated that he does not feel the company is doing anything disruptive to the town.

Councilor W. Steere stated that the Council will be deciding whether to make a town wide change with this application. D. Igliozi, Town Solicitor, stated that the earth processing is not allowed in town so in order to be allowed, the Council would have to approve a town wide change in zoning by creating an ordinance.

Councilor W. Steere stated he is hearing that the processing of materials is the problem. J. Colucci stated that the company does not process materials full time but

rather sporadically. Councilor J. Burlingame stated his concern that the decision to be made is town wide and its impact.

T. Colucci stated that the company received permission from Councilor W. Worthy and former Councilor J. Forgue as well as the former building official. T. Colucci stated that they were not told they need to go before Zoning.

T. Colucci stated that the company crushes materials about once a month and it is not a full-time operation. T. Colucci stated that the company has all good intentions and put in money because they want to stay and buy the property. T. Colucci stated that if the application is not approved then they will have to move. T. Colucci stated they are town residents and he understands that it is not zoned for what they do but they were given the wrong answers.

Councilor C. Greathouse asked what materials are processed. T. Colucci stated that they crush rocks into smaller pieces.

D. Igliazzi stated that the Council, if it approves the zone change could then regulate the earth processing by creating a license with specific criteria.

M. Paolino, Reynolds Road, asked multiple questions about the type of materials in terms of regulating any waste or hazardous materials, if any, contained in them. M. Reynolds stated his opinion that licensing sounds good but stated that he still has questions about how to regulate so the materials are clean and not contaminated.

J. Lowell, Putnam Pike, stated that she was speaking from her experience living next door to a B-2 zone where contaminated material was brought in. J. Lowell stated her concerns about the noise of crushing materials especially as sound travels across Bowdish Lake. J. Lowell stated that this is not an appropriate business in Glocester and that people have moved to Glocester for peace and quiet. J. Lowell stated her request that Council follows the Planning Board recommendation and deny the application.

J. Colucci stated that the spoils of screening are rocks which would be crushed and they won't be cutting down any trees. J. Colucci stated that any site work they do on projects is approved by the bank and financing so the materials are tested and there are no contaminated materials. J. Colucci stated that the no contaminated material is also part of their contract.

K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that Coluch Org. applied for a special use variance and it was an honest mistake to do so. K. Scott stated the attorney at the Zoning Board said Coluch can't apply for a special use variance because it is not an allowed

use. K. Scott stated Coluch had only one other option and that was to apply for a town wide zone change. K. Scott stated that the Planning Board saw the special use application by Coluch and then the Planning Board received the zone change application.

D. Igliozi stated his recommendation that if Council is considering the possibility of a license for this activity then the public hearing should be continued. D. Igliozi stated the Council would need time to decide any and all limitations on a possible license as a license becomes a property right. D. Igliozi stated that a new ordinance and accompanying license would need to be approved at the same time.

Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that licensing can be a slippery slope and this is a town wide decision. Councilor J. Burlingame stated his opinion that Council needs to consider the value that this type of business brings into town. Councilor J. Burlingame stated his opinion that he is hesitant to license but he is willing to look into it.

G. King, resident, stated his opinion that it is ridiculous to entertain the idea of creating a license under this ordinance. G. King stated that the use is not allowed so Council should not entertain the proposal. D. Igliozi stated that state law allows a property owner to ask for a change and the applicant is before the Council legally. G. King stated his opinion that just because it can be done does not mean it should be done.

Councilor W. Worthy asked if anyone else wished to speak.

None

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Calise to CONTINUE the Public Hearing to a date certain of January 8, 2026 for Applicant; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VI. Consent Items- Discussion and/or Action

- A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of October 16, 2025

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Calise to APPROVE the Town Council regular meeting minutes of October 16, 2025; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VII. New Business

- A Gloucester Code of Ordinance

1. Proposed Amendment – 1st Reading - Discussion and/or Action
 - a. Replace existing Chapter #191 Itinerant or Temporary Vendors with:
 1. **Chapter # 198 Itinerant or Temporary Vendors**
(text includes Hawkers and Peddlers only)
 - AND
 2. **Chapter #206 Mobile Food Establishments**
(text includes MFE's only)

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this proposed amendment is intended to clarify existing rules and regulations relating to MFE's and Hawkers & Peddlers.

Discussion:

D. Iglioizzi, Town Solicitor, stated that these two proposed ordinances are currently combined into one and are now being proposed as two separate ordinances in order to make them clear. D. Iglioizzi stated that both proposed amendments will require a public hearing.

D. Iglioizzi stated that the language proposed in Chapter 198 is to make it cleaner.

D. Iglioizzi stated that the main changes are that the language regarding mobile food establishments (mfe s) was pulled out and made into its own section and that a license is required anywhere in town.

D. Iglioizzi stated that the proposed Chapter 206 is specific to mfe's, that the definitions were added and the license requirement applies anywhere in town. D. Iglioizzi stated mobile food trucks are licensed by the state department of health

which allows them to operate anywhere in the state subject to town regulations. D. Iglioizzi stated that the proposed ordinance makes it clear as to the three types of licenses that are allowed in town. D. Iglioizzi stated that there is an annual mfe license which the town limits; a license if someone were to have a special event and have food trucks; and a mass gathering event if there are to be over 500 people.

D. Iglioizzi stated that a public hearing date will be set and council may act after the public hearing.

No Action Taken By Council

2. Set Public Hearing Date - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that now that the Ordinance has been introduced Council can set a Public Hearing, where the public can speak to the proposal and changes can be made before Council considers adoption.

MOTION was made by Councilor to SET a Public Hearing for December 4, 2025 for the consideration of the following amendment to the Code of Ordinance:

Replace existing Chapter #191 Itinerant or Temporary Vendors

With: 1. **Chapter # 198 Itinerant or Temporary Vendors**

(text includes Hawkers and Peddlers only)

AND

2. **Chapter #206 Mobile Food Establishments**

(text includes MFE's only)

Seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Personnel

1. Resignation – DPW- Driver/Laborer 1 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received the resignation of Jonathan Rider from DPW.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to ACCEPT the resignation of Jonathan Rider from the position of DPW Driver/Laborer 1 to be effective November 14, 2025; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Authorization to seek replacement - Discussion and/or Action
Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a request from the DPW Director which he read as follows:

November 3, 2025

To: Honorable Town Council

From: Gary Trembl
Director of Public Works

Re: Driver/Laborer

On October 23, 2025 a DPW Driver/Laborer gave his notice of termination effective November 14, 2025. I am requesting permission to advertise to fill the vacant Driver/Laborer I position.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Trembl, Director

(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Calise to AUTHORIZE the DPW Director to advertise to seek to fill a pending employee vacancy, DPW Driver/Laborer 1; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

C. Authorization to sign – Historic District Commission Certified Local Government - Annual Report Form 2025 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a memo from the Town Planner which he read as follows:

To: Town Council Members
From: Karen Scott, Town Planner
Date: November 16, 2025

Re: Certified Local Government – Annual Report

Each year, the Town must submit an annual report of all activities of the Historic District Commission to maintain its status as a Certified Local Government. Status as a Certified Local Government ensures that the Town remains eligible for grants and other programs which can benefit our local historic district, Chepachet Village. I am requesting authorization for the Town Council to sign the annual report.

Thank you for your consideration.
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the annual report, for the period 10/1/2024 to 9/30/2025, to the Rhode Island Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission which outlines the HDC's activities for the previous year to maintain its Certified Local Government status; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

D. Bds. And Commissions

1. Appointments - Discussion and/or Action
 - a. Historic District Commission

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this item is for the expired terms of LeeAnn Lyons and David Colantonio, and both have indicated to the chair they wish to be reappointed. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair recommends as such.

1. Position #7 – 3yr term to expire 11/2028

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to REAPPOINT David Colantonio to the Historic District Commission, Position #7, for a 3yr term to expire 11/2028; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Alt. Position – 1yr term to expire 11/2026

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to REAPPOINT LeeAnn Lyons to the Historic District Commission, Alternate Position, for a 1yr term to expire 11/2026; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Zoning Board

1. Position #1 – 5yr term to expire 11/2030

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this item is for the expired term of Joseph Fogarty. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Mr. Fogarty wishes to be reappointed and the Chair has requested as such.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to REAPPOINT Joseph Fogarty to Position #1, Zoning Board of Review, for a 5yr term to expire 11/2030; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

E. Gloucester School Committee - Discussion and/or Action

Update on R.I.D.E. Decision 25-052K Gloucester SC v. Town of Gloucester 10-28-25.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a decision from R.I.D.E. regarding a complaint filed by the Gloucester School Committee against the Town of Gloucester.

Discussion: D. Iglioizzi stated that the school committee filed a complaint against the Town and RIDE denied jurisdiction over the complaint. D. Iglioizzi stated that the school committee will have to decide if they want to proceed in a different venue. D. Iglioizzi stated that the school committee is alleging that the school was improperly funded. D. Iglioizzi stated that RIDE said they do not have jurisdiction so the school committee has to go elsewhere.

Councilor W. Worthy stated his opinion that the problems with the school committee will continue and that he feels the school committee is derelict in their duties. Councilor W. Worthy stated his opinion that the taxpayers need to keep a close eye on the school committee.

W. Steere, resident, stated that he was at the school committee meeting where the school committee gave out raises and approved a contract but did not do an impact statement beforehand. W. Steere stated that when he was on the school committee, they always did an impact study beforehand. W. Steere stated the school committee did the item in executive session.

W. Steere stated the school committee is limiting public comment and that the attorney seems to be running the meeting. W. Steere stated his opinion that the school committee has broken the Charter and state law many times. W. Steere stated that something needs to be done. W. Steere stated the budget has no money for raises and yet there is now a 3½ percent increase. W. Steere stated his opinion that he feels the committee can be fired because they broke the Charter.

G. King, Blackinton Drive, stated that he installed the school's boiler and that the school has not maintained, cleaned or updated the boiler. G. King stated his opinion that the facilities directors are incompetent. G. King offered to do an assessment on the system and has never heard back. G. King stated his opinion that lack of maintenance has caused the problems. G. King stated his opinion that the school committee does not listen and has contempt for the Town Council, and the taxpayers and that is wrong. G. King stated his opinion that if there is a vehicle to remove the school committee then it should be done.

P. Henry, resident, stated her opinion that when she was a member of the school committee and tried to do something that she would get gas light. P. Henry stated that the school committee has limited public comment to only items on the agenda. P. Henry stated her opinion that this practice may not be against the law but it is a bad practice. P. Henry stated that the school committee no longer includes correspondence on their agenda. P. Henry stated her opinion that the school committee attorney is actually running the show. P. Henry stated that the practice followed by the school committee is to go into executive session at the start of the meeting and make all wait.

P. Henry stated her opinion that there is real disrespect from the school committee members despite their running on a campaign of doing for the students. P. Henry stated her opinion that the school has become a career and technical school within the high school. P. Henry stated her opinion that she is not sure how the town can fix this rogue school committee.

E. Beltram, Finance Director, stated that the unaudited deficit is about \$190,000. E. Beltram stated that the school budgeted \$ 300,000 of their fund balance to be used for the deficit but she is of the opinion that is not allowed. E. Beltram stated that the school began the year with \$168,000 in their fund balance. E. Beltram stated that if the \$168,000 is used to fix the current unaudited deficit then that will leave a negative balance.

E. Beltram stated that the finance department did not get an advance copy of the budget that was approved the other night that included raises. E. Beltram also stated that a financial impact statement was requested the day after the meeting to be available at the next school committee meeting.

E. Beltram stated that every time the school has made a change, which is frequently, that it is labor and time intensive to produce a budget as the town has an excel spreadsheet and not a budget program.

Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that public elected individuals should not be recalled. Councilor W. Steere stated that it is very upsetting that there is such a lack of transparency at the school.

P. Henry, resident, stated her opinion that there is not balance at the schools but just spending. P. Henry stated her opinion that there is no limit on the school as to spending and there should be as it is the taxpayers paying.

No Action Taken by Council

F. Gloucester 250th Commission - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair of the Gloucester 250th Commission would like permission for certain activities related to their celebration planning which he read as follows:

1. Authorization of Branding Agreement between Town of Gloucester & RI250 Commission

The Gloucester 250th Commission would like permission to enter into an agreement with the RI250th Commission with the following stipulations:

Gloucester 250 agrees to undertake the following responsibilities while utilizing RI250 branding:

1. Create and share content on social media platforms that aligns with the mission of the RI250 Commission.

2. Maintain a positive image and use respectful language.
3. Regularly monitor social media channels for any negative feedback, comments, or controversies and address them promptly and professionally.
4. Submit all content that contains the state 250th branding to the 250 Program Coordinator for review before posting.

(end of memo)

Discussion:

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Solicitor was asked to review the agreement.

D. Iglioizzi stated that he had reviewed the document and satisfied all necessary concerns.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President and the Gloucester 250th Chairman to sign the Rhode Island 250 “Semiquincentennial” (250th) RI250 Commission Branding Agreement; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked the turnaround time in regards to item # 4. R. Najecki, Chair 250th Comm., stated that they have not said and does not anticipate a lot of material for their review.

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Authorization of fundraisers for Gloucester 250th Commission
 - a. Sales of replica items

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair has submitted the following projects they would like permission to do which he read as follows:

1. Sell commemorative T-shirts for approximately \$20 each by subscription and/or walk-in sales at Town Hall or events authorized by the Town. Cost to the Town would be from the Commission budget. Income to be put into the Commission account
2. Sell commemorative pins/buttons/key fobs, etc. for approximately \$2.50 each by walk-in sales at Town Hall or events authorized by the Town. Also sell such items to the members of the Gloucester Business Association for resale with payment made by check payable to the Town. Materials to be donated with no cost to the Town. Income to be put into the Commission account.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the sales of commemorative and replica items as outlined, record keeping and collection of funds shall be reviewed with Finance Director and conducted as advised; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked R. Najecki if had spoken to the Town Clerk or the Finance Director about if this is going to work. R. Najecki stated that he has spoken with the Town Clerk briefly but not the Finance Director. R. Najecki stated his concern of committee members handling money. R. Najecki offered a suggestion for items to be purchased in the Clerk's office and payable by check only made out to the town. Councilor W. Steere stated that the clerk's office is very tight right now. Councilor W. Steere stated he likes the idea but the mechanics need to be worked out. Councilor W. Steere stated he would be okay with going forward so long as it gets resolved before it goes into effect.

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Authorize a T-Shirt design contest with school's participation
Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair of the Commission is seeking authorization to do the following:

"Authorization to contact the school superintendent for the purpose of holding a T-shirt design contest. The winner would be awarded a \$100 cash prize donated by a Commission member. The winner would be determined by the Commission or TC. The design may be used for T-shirts produced by the Commission and/or printed materials such as banners, signs, announcements, brochures, etc. No cost from the Town"

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Calise to AUTHORIZE the Gloucester 250th Commission to contact the Gloucester School Superintendent regarding a commemorative tee-shirt design contest; funds received from said contest, if held, will be handled as directed by the Finance Director for the Town of Gloucester; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated that the financials need to be worked out.

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

G. Disclosure of Vote (Executive Session of 10/16/2025)

Added to agenda for discussion only - Re: Evergreen Contract

Councilor W. Worthy stated that at the Town Council meeting of 10/16/2025 in an Executive Session called by Council a vote was taken to add to Executive Session, for discussion only, an agenda item to discuss Superior Court Case C.A. No. PC-2019-10870 “Lifetime Contracts Law” (Evergreen).

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to DISCLOSE a vote taken in Town Council Executive Session of 10/16/2025 to “add to agenda for discussion only” Evergreen litigation; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

H. Ratify permission for water surface testing by FM Global Environmental Consultant

Town Property AP. 2, Lot 10 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Town Clerk was asked by FM Global to allow FM to test ground water samples at Town Property (Plat 002/Lot 010) as requested by DEM.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk obtained a consensus of the Council, individually, and Council now needs to ratify the action.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to RATIFY the granting of permission to FM Global to test ground water samples on Town Property (Plat 2, Lot 10) as requested of FM Global by R.I. DEM; seconded by Councilor S. Calise

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Legislative Updates - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any Councilors had updates on legislation.

None

IX. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received correspondence from the following:

1. Just Peace RI requesting Council's support.
2. Correspondence from resident with a question/concern as to why Mulberry Vineyard was granted a special event without a public hearing.
3. Correspondence requesting a response from a question previously asked about Mulberry Vineyard being granted a special event without a public hearing.

Councilor W. Steere asked the Town Solicitor to review the matter of correspondence items # 2 and #3.

X. Department 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.

Councilor W. Steere asked E. Beltram, Finance Director, about the relationship with the school since the new arrangement was put into place. E. Beltram stated that things are going okay and she has designated a point person. E. Beltram stated that she is copied on all matters and pulled in as needed. Councilor W. Steere stated that if E. Beltram needs anything to just ask.

J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that on Tuesday, November 11, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. the Annual Veterans Day ceremony will be held at the Senior Center and all are invited.

XI. 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.

1. R. Najecki, Land Trust member, stated that the Land Trust held an event at Sprague Farm that was a successful event with over 300 people enjoying the music played at various locations.
2. Councilor W. Steere asked C. Wilson about Candlelight Shopping for the next agenda. C. Wilson stated next agenda would work.

XII. Open Forum

Councilor W. Worthy stated that if anyone wishes to speak on any issues to please step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

1. J. Tucker, Sprague Hill Road, stated his concerns about the PFAS he has heard about at FM Global and wants to know if the Council is being transparent. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that DEM is working with FM and that Council was notified of the issue about the same time as all. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that Council does not have any authority over this matter but DEM does.

Councilor W. Steere stated that this is an ongoing investigation. Councilor W. Worthy stated that they are in touch with FM and that he has heard FM is doing their due diligence.

2. T. Wagner, Reynolds Road, described how she learned of the PFAS contamination from a recent newspaper article. T. Wagner described her opinion as to how and why the PFAS contamination occurred. T. Wagner stated that DEM has said they can only test one well at a time and follow that water. T. Wagner stated that DEM has said their investigation could take months or years.
3. C. Dillon, Reynolds Road, stated that she learned of this matter on social media and is researching companies to have her water tested.
4. R. Najecki, Gloucester Conservation Commission stated the Commission used to have a town garden on the field in this area and used water from the stream to water the plants.
5. W. Steere stated he is sympathetic to Coluch because what they are asking for is not much but he does not think it is a good idea to approve for the entire town. W. Steere stated the issue of regulation and monitoring if this becomes a town wide approved endeavor. W. Steere stated his opinion that he is not in favor.
6. P. Lowell stated that earth processing can involve a lot more materials than stone and dirt which is a concern.

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

A. DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL, VOTE OR OTHER ACTION RE:

1. RIGL 42-46-5(A)(1) Any discussions of the job performance, character, etc.;
 - a. Personnel (Employee notified)

2. RIGL 42-46-5(A)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, litigation or work sessions pertaining to potential litigation:
 - a. Rhode Island Superior Court C.A. No. PC 2019-10870- Evergreen Litigation
 - b. West Glocester LLC v. Jessica Parker, in her capacity as Tax Assessor for the Town of Glocester- administrative tax appeal
(re: taxes assessed as of 12/31/2024, for tax year 2025)
 - c. Negotiations for successor union contracts (Police & Dispatcher Unions)

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

A. DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL, VOTE OR OTHER ACTION RE:

1. RIGL 42-46-5(A)(1) Any discussions of the job performance, character, etc.;
 - a. Personnel (Employee notified)
2. RIGL 42-46-5(A)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, litigation or work sessions pertaining to potential litigation:
 - a. Rhode Island Superior Court C.A. No. PC 2019-10870- Evergreen Litigation
 - b. West Glocester LLC v. Jessica Parker, in her capacity as Tax Assessor for the Town of Glocester- administrative tax appeal
(re: taxes assessed as of 12/31/2024, for tax year 2025)
 - c. Negotiations for successor union contracts (Police & Dispatcher Unions)

seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

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

Councilor Burlingame- Aye
Councilor Calise- Aye
Councilor Greathouse- Aye
Councilor Steere- Aye
Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

All were asked to leave the room

All were invited back into the room after Executive Session

XIV. 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 C. Greathouse

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

Councilor Burlingame- Aye

Councilor Calise- Aye

Councilor Greathouse- Aye

Councilor Steere- Aye

Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

XV. Building/Zoning Official

A. Terms of Employment - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to reappoint Dennis Begin as a salaried employee effective October 31, 2025; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XVI. Consent of Appeal (including expenditure) – Rhode Island Superior Court C.A.

No. PC 2019-10870 Evergreen Lawsuit - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to CONTINUE this matter; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

XVII. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ADJOURN at 11:50 p.m.; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Calise, Greathouse, Steere, Worthy
 NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED