

At a meeting of the Town Council in and for the Town of Gloucester on December 18, 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. Westgate; Cheryl A. Greathouse; Walter M. O. Steere, III, Vice- President; William A. Worthy, Jr., President  
Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliozi, Town Solicitor; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Gary Treml, DPW Director; Karen Scott, Town Planner; Chief Delprete

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items**

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

None

**V. Consent Items- Discussion and/or Action**

- A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of December 4th, 2025
- B. Tax Assessors Additions and Abatements November 2025
- C. Finance Director's Report November 2025

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to APPROVE the Town Council minutes of December 4, 2025; APPROVE the ADDITIONS to the 2025 Tax Roll in the amount of \$1,085.73; ABATEMENTS to the 2025 Tax Roll in the amount of \$1,620.56; and to ACCEPT the Finance Director's Report for the month of November 2025; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

VI. Unfinished Business

- A. Authorization of Expenditures from Restricted Opioid Fund - Discussion and/or Action
  - 1. Vehicle for Narcotics K-9 handler and cruiser kennel for K-9
  - 2. TruNarc Handheld Narcotics Analyzer
- B. Consent of Appeal (including expenditure) – Rhode Island Superior Court C.A.

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

Discussion: D. Igliozi, Town Solicitor, stated that with regards to item A. 1 and 2, he and Chief Delprete have worked out a revised memorandum that supports the use of opioid funds for these purposes. D. Igliozi stated that he is satisfied and is recommending that Council approve these funds subject to the memorandum. D. Igliozi stated that this is allowing the opioid funds to be used for this purpose and that no town funds are being used.

Chief Delprete stated a description as to how the narcotics analyzer works.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to approve the authorization of expenditures from the restricted opioid account for the vehicle for narcotics K-9 and the cruiser kennel of a 2024 Chevy Silverado in the amount of \$49, 598.35; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to authorize the expenditure from the restricted opioid account to fund the TruNarc Handheld Narcotics Analyzer in the amount of \$37,400.00; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

D. Igliozi asked Council for a motion to move item VI B to after executive session.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to move item VI. B. to after executive

session; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame  
Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

VII. New Business

A. Authorization – Daniel Owen Monument (Town Hall) - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that back in April of this year Mr. Lawrence Owen was introduced to the Council by Edna Kent, Town Historian.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that L. Owen explained his proposal, by the Owen family, to sponsor the placing of a memorial rock on town hall premises honoring his family's ancestor, Lieutenant Governor Daniel Owen. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Owen presented a power point presentation and gave a handout of the power point to each councilor describing the project.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the placing of the monument is set to coincide with the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk has spoken with the Public Works Director who will oversee the choice of a stone and set the stone in place.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that to show the Town's commitment to the project, the Clerk is asking the Council for a formal motion to move the project forward.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the placement of what shall be known as the "Daniel Owen Monument", on the property located at 1145 Putnam Pike, Gloucester Town Hall. Said monument shall include on its face a bronze plaque, donated by the Owen family, honoring Lieutenant Governor Daniel Owen. The monument stone and placement shall be completed by and with the oversight for all aspects by the Town DPW Director; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

B. Authorization for Signature – Discussion and/or Action

1. 2025 RIPDES Phase II Stormwater Annual Report - 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: January 21, 2026  
Re: RIPDES Annual Report – 2025

In accordance with the Rhode Island Pollution Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES) program general permit for Storm Water discharges from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) and from industrial activities at eligible facilities operated by regulated small MS4s, I have drafted the required Phase II Storm Water Annual Report for submission to RIDEM. This Annual Report was available the Town's website and in the Planning Department for public comment through February 5, 2025. I am requesting authorization for the Town Council President to sign the report. Thank you  
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the Phase II Storm Water Annual Report 2025 required for submission to RIDEM; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

2. Grant Agreement - Discussion and/or Action

a. Learn365 (Round 4) & Math Matters RI – Municipal Learning Project  
Between RI Dept of Education & Town of Gloucester

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk received a request from the Supt of Schools to sign the grant agreement between RI Dept of Education and the Town.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the Learn365 (Round 4) & Math Matters RI grant agreement between RI Dept of Education and the Town of Gloucester; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

C. Personnel - Discussion and/or Action

1. Appointment – DPW

a. Driver/Laborer I Appointment

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council received a request from the DPW Director which he read as follows:

December 12, 2025

To: Honorable Town Council  
From: Gary Treml  
Director of Public Works  
Re: Driver/Laborer I Appointment

The Driver/Laborer I position was advertised in the Bargain Buyer and on the Towns website.

We received 5 applications. Of the 5 applicants 3 were interviewed. I am requesting that Harrison Tesseris of Chepachet, RI, be appointed to the Driver/Laborer I position effective December 22, 2025 at the rate of \$29.40/hr. and all other benefits as stated in the current NAGE Union Contract.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Treml, DPW  
(end of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to APPOINT Harrison Tesseris to the position of DPW Driver/Laborer I position, effective December 22, 2025 at the rate of \$29.40 per hour; said appointment to include all other benefits as stated in the current NAGE Union Contract; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

D. Bds. and Commissions - Discussion and/or Action

1. Resignation

a. Gloucester 250th Commission

One term to expire 12/31/2027 - Position #3

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Clerk received the resignation of Mark Rechter from the Gloucester 250<sup>th</sup> Commission.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ACCEPT the resignation of Mark Rechter, with thanks, from Position #3, Gloucester 250<sup>th</sup> Commission; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Appointments - Discussion and/or Action

a. Gloucester 250<sup>th</sup> Commission

1. One term to expire 12/31/2027- Position # 3

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Marie Penta volunteered in the first round and has been attending meetings.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair has recommended Marie Penta to fill Position #3, Gloucester 250<sup>th</sup> Commission.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to APPOINT Marie Penta to Position #3, Gloucester 250<sup>th</sup> Commission; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Conservation Commission

1. Two expired 3-year terms to expire 12/31/2028  
Position #1 & Position #2

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this item is for the expired terms of Kathy Bucci and Gayle King. Councilor W. Worthy stated that both wish to be reappointed and have been recommended for reappointment.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to REAPPOINT Kathy Bucci to Position #1 and Gayle King to Position #2 on the Conservation Commission; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

c. Zoning Board

1. Two expired 1-year Alternate terms to expire 12/31/2026

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this item is for the two alternate expired 1-year terms of John Kitson and Brendan Fogarty.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to REAPPOINT John Kitson, Alternate #1, and Brendan Fogarty, Alternate #2, to the Zoning Board of Review for a one-year term to expire 12/31/2026; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

E. Building/Zoning Department – Authorization of “fill in” inspectors -  
Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Building/Zoning Official has requested the following:

To: Town Council

From: Dennis Begin

Date: 12/17/2025

Subject: Inspector Coverage

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend this council meeting but would like to ask for back up coverage for the Town's inspectors. This coverage would be for emergency situations if the appointed full-time inspector was out sick or vacation and there is an inspection that cannot wait till they returned. They will only be utilized on an as needed basis. This week we have been faced with an inspector out due to illness and had to call around and get someone from Foster to cover a service inspection that needed to be done. It would be nice to have a plan in place with coverage when and if needed instead of scrambling to find someone at the last minute.

Currently we have one inspector for each classification except for Roland Belanger who is certified in both Plumbing as well as Mechanical.

I would like to add Michael Paolucci, a certified Electrical Inspector for the town of Foster and Robert Lubera, who is certified in Mechanical and Plumbing. This coverage would not change our existing budget and these individuals would be compensated just as our appointed inspectors are.

This will also include Larry Desormier.

Thank you,

(end of memo)

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked if these positions needed to be advertised. D. Igliozi stated that he does not believe so as they are on an as needed basis and not town employees as they get paid a flat fee.

J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that the reason this item was on the agenda was for authorization so the Finance Department would be able to pay them. J. Fecteau stated that their certificates were requested.

#### 1. Electrical Inspector

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Building/Zoning Office to utilize Michael Paolucci, to fill in for current Electrical Inspector, on an as needed basis. Said fill in inspector shall earn the current inspection fees, seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

#### 2. Plumbing/Mechanical Inspector

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Building/Zoning Office to utilize Robert Lubera, to fill in for current Plumbing or Mechanical Inspector, on an as needed basis. Said fill in inspector shall earn the current inspection fees, seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

## MOTION PASSED

F. 2026 Tree Warden Appointment – Discussion and/or Action  
Councilor W. Worthy stated that Sandra Shepard, current Tree Warden, wishes to be reappointed for 2026. Councilor W. Worthy stated that Ms. Shepard possess a valid arborist license as required by law.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to APPOINT Sandra Shepard to the position of Gloucester Tree Warden for 2026; contingent upon maintenance of a valid Arborist License; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked if there had been any feedback regarding the tree warden. J. Fecteau stated there has been no issues.

VOTE: AYES- Burlingame, Westgate, 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. Councilor W. Steere stated that the legislative session would be starting again soon.

### IX. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy asked if any Councilors had any correspondence.

Councilor W. Steere stated he wanted to thank all the town employees, and the volunteers on the town boards and commission and that all are appreciated. Councilor W. Steere stated that the residents of the town are fortunate and wished all Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas. Councilor W. Steere stated that it has been a challenging year and thanked the Council. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that the Council works well together.

Councilor W. Worthy stated his agreement with Councilor W. Steere's statements. Councilor W. Worthy stated he feels the town is blessed to have the staff that it does.

### X. Department Head Reports/Discussion

1. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that there is only one Council meeting in January. J. Fecteau stated that she and the Deputy Clerk have started a list of items that will need to be discussed with Council regarding the budget for the upcoming year.

J. Fecteau stated that the Budget Board Chair is asking for a workshop with the Council to discuss any items, goals etc that Council may have. J. Fecteau stated that the potential dates are either January 7 or January 12<sup>th</sup>. Council agreed to January 12.

2. Chief Delprete stated that the new town cadet would be graduating from the Academy tomorrow. Chief Delprete extended an invitation to all present to come to the new officer's swearing in tomorrow at town hall about noon or so. Chief Delprete stated he was excited to have this new officer.

Chief Delprete stated that he expects a dispatcher resignation soon so he will need to fill that position.

Chief Delprete stated that Gloucester sent two police officers to Providence on Saturday night in response to a mutual aid request. Chief Delprete and Captain Fague set up a schedule to have officers at all the schools this week.

#### 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.

None

#### 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.

W. Steere, 1318 Putnam Pike, stated his opinion that the school has violated the town Charter by using money in a separate fund to pay for over expenditures from last year.

W. Steere stated his opinion that the only money that can be used is what the voters approve. W. Steere stated his opinion that the schools have used over 2 million dollars from funds that were not approved by the voters. W. Steere stated a suggestion for the Charter Review Commission to look into this matter. W. Steere stated his opinion that the consequences for this type of violation is that the individuals lose their position. W. Steere stated that no fiscal impact statement was done before the new school contracts were signed and the reasons he was given.

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

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

DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL, VOTE OR OTHER ACTION RE:

1. RIGL 42-46-5(A)(1) Any discussions of the job performance, character, etc.;
  - a. One Personnel Session (Employees notified)
2. RIGL 42-46-5(A)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, litigation or work sessions pertaining to potential litigation:
  - a. Negotiations for successor union contracts (Police & Dispatcher Unions)
  - b. Rhode Island Superior Court C.A. No. PC 2019-10870- Evergreen Litigation
  - c. Pending Litigation

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

- A. Seek to Convene to Closed Executive Session Pursuant to:

DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL, VOTE OR OTHER ACTION RE:

1. RIGL 42-46-5(A)(1) Any discussions of the job performance, character, etc.;
  - a. One Personnel Session (Employees notified)
2. RIGL 42-46-5(A)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, litigation or work sessions pertaining to potential litigation:
  - a. Negotiations for successor union contracts (Police & Dispatcher Unions)
  - b. Rhode Island Superior Court C.A. No. PC 2019-10870- Evergreen Litigation
  - c. Pending Litigation

seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

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

Councilor Burlingame- Aye

Councilor Westgate- Aye

Councilor Greathouse- Aye

Councilor Steere- Aye

Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

All were asked to leave the room and could return after Executive Session

## Executive Session

All were invited back into the meeting room.

XIV. Reconvene Open Session, Disclosure of votes taken in Executive Session & to Consideration of the sealing of minutes- Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to Reconvene Open Session, Disclose one Vote was taken in Executive Session & to SEAL the minutes of Closed Executive Session; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

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

Councilor Burlingame- Aye  
Councilor Westgate- Aye  
Councilor Greathouse- Aye  
Councilor Steere- Aye  
Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

MOVED TO THIS LOCATION BY MOTION

## VI. Unfinished Business

B. Consent of Appeal (including expenditure) – Rhode Island Superior Court C.A. No. PC 2019-10870 Evergreen Lawsuit - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: D. Igliozi stated that this matter is the subject of an appeal. D. Igliozi stated that as of tonight the Council now knows that the cost to remain in this litigation would be \$ 8,249.27 . D. Igliozi stated Council needs to decide whether to stay in the litigation or not.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to not participate in the appeal in the Evergreen lawsuit; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

NAYS-0  
MOTION PASSED

XV.           Adjourn  
MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ADJOURN at 8:58 p.m.; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

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

