

At a meeting of the Town Council in and for the Town of Gloucester on April 16, 2026

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 C. Westgate; 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; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Gary Trembl, DPW Director; Karen Scott, Town Planner; Gerry Mosca, EMA Director; Melissa Bouvier, Senior Center Director

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 if anyone wishes to speak on any agenda issue to please step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

None

V. Proclamations - Discussion and/or Action

A. #2026-01 Earth Day - April 22, 2026

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has a proclamation in celebration of Earth Day which he read as follows:

**Proclamation of the Town of Gloucester  
#2026-01 Earth Day - April 22, 2026**

**WHEREAS,** The Town of Gloucester recognizes that the First Earth Day in 1970 was the beginning of the modern environmental movement which helped shape the values and priorities of an entire generation. As a result of citizen demand, Congress passed the Clean Air Act, the Clean

Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, as well as superfund legislation thereby putting a lasting framework for our future in place; and

**WHEREAS,** Rhode Islanders, and Gloucester residents in particular, have demonstrated leadership in environmental action and awareness, and expect sound environmental action from their leaders; and

**WHEREAS,** In observation of Earth Day, on Saturday April 18th, the Town of Gloucester, through its Conservation Commission and Land Trust, will host the annual Earth Day Roadside Litter Clean-Up. The general public, businesses and youth groups are invited to meet at the Pavilion at Kent Field, in Chepachet, at 9:00 a.m. for roadside clean ups in Chepachet and Harmony; and

**WHEREAS,** The Town Council supports activities celebrating Earth Day in Gloucester, statewide, nationally, and on a global level, and we encourage our youth and adults alike to take a pledge to help to keep our earth "Clean and Green"; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;** that the Town Council and Town Clerk encourage Gloucester residents to participate in the Conservation Commissions' and Gloucester Land Trusts' annual Clean Up Event, in neighborhood clean-ups, and in supporting all efforts to do our part in caring for our planet for Earth Day and every day.

Councilor William A. Worthy, Jr., President Jean M Fecteau, CMC , Town Clerk  
Councilor Walter M.O. Steere, III, Vice- President  
Councilor Jonathan Burlingame  
Councilor Stephanie C. Westgate  
Councilor Cheryl A. Greathouse

Dated this 16th day of April 2026

Seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

B. #2026-02 Arbor Day - April 24, 2026  
Councilor W. Worthy stated that we also have a proclamation in celebration of Arbor Day which he read as follows:

**Proclamation of the Town of Gloucester  
#2026-02 Arbor Day**

**WHEREAS,** In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees. This holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska and is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

**WHEREAS,** Trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife. Trees are also a renewable resource of wood for our homes and fuel for our fires. Trees in our Town enhance our property, beautify our community, and are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

**WHEREAS,** The Town of Gloucester; its' Conservation Commission; its' Tree Warden; and our Land Trust have and will continue to work towards preserving and improving our green spaces as stewards of our towns' bounty of natural beauty and clean air; and

**WHEREAS,** for Arbor Day this year the Conservation Commission in cooperation with the Gloucester 250<sup>th</sup> Commission will be planting a Liberty Tree, in Kent Field; and

**WHEREAS,** There are many events planned statewide for the celebration of Arbor Day this year that will help promote and teach our families the value of preserving our environment while providing a fun family experience; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;** That the Town Council and Town Clerk of the Town of Gloucester do hereby proclaim our commitment to Arbor Day, on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026, in the Town of Gloucester, and urge all citizens to celebrate by supporting efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and we urge all citizens to plant trees and promote this celebration of nature for future generations.

Councilor William A. Worthy, Jr. President     Jean M Fecteau, CMC , Town Clerk  
Councilor Walter M.O. Steere, III, Vice President  
Councilor Jonathan Burlingame  
Councilor Stephanie C. Westgate  
Councilor Cheryl A. Greathouse

Dated this 16th day of April 2026

Seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

VI.    Consent Items- Discussion and/or Action

- A.    Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of April 2, 2026
- B.    Tax Assessor's Additions and Abatements – March 2026
- C.    Finance Director's Report – March 2026

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the Town Council minutes of April 2, 2026; there are NO ADDITIONS or ABATEMENTS to the 2025 Tax Roll for March 2025; and to ACCEPT the Finance Directors Report for March 2026; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

VII.    Unfinished Business- Discussion and/or Action

- A.    Boards and Commissions
  - 1.    Appointments- Discussion and/or Action
    - a.    Planning Board
      - 1.    Position # 1- one 5-year term to expire 2/28/2031

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair has a recommendation at this time. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair would like to submit Brad Kettelle's name for consideration, by the town council, to fill the opening on the planning

board.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to APPOINT Brad Kettelle to the Planning Board, Position # 1, a term to expire 2/28/2031; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

b. Parade Committee

1. Position #5, #6, #7, Alt.#2 & Alt.#3

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there is no recommendation from the chair at this time. Councilor W. Worthy stated that a copy of the Clerk's ad is in council packet.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the appointments to the Parade Committee, Positions #5, #6, #7, Alt. #2 & Alt. #3; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

B. Discussion, vote or other action RE: consideration of expansion of number of annual mobile food establishment permits by resolution

Discussion: D. Iglizzi. Town Solicitor, stated that there is to be an amended proposal to clarify the code which will need a first reading. D. Iglizzi stated that the Council is still considering the expansion as to the number of annual licenses. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that her office had received another mfe on the waiting list.

No Action Taken

VIII. New Business

A. Consideration of Tax-Rate Options FY 26/27 - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: Councilor J. Burlingame stated that the proposed commercial rate in the ad for the proposed budget was lower than it was last year. Councilor J. Burlingame stated his opinion to return the rate to what it was which should reduce the residential rate.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to set the commercial rate at \$17.11/\$1000; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

B. Vendor Information per a request to consider for Broker of Record (for employee Annuity Plan) - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Greg Agnone, from Agnone and Associate Financial Services, is present tonight to discuss the possibility of assuming the position of Broker of Record for the 457 Annuity Plan available to Town of Gloucester employees.

Discussion: G. Agnone, 2 Hopkins Road, stated that his company name was changed to Chestnut Hill Wealth Management and they handle 457 plans in other parts of the state.

G. Agnone stated that he is a certified financial planner which means he has a fiduciary duty when he gives financial advice. G. Agnone stated that his approach is a holistic approach to the people he meets with to determine their financial picture and then how the 457 plan would work into their individual plan.

G. Agnone stated that his concern with Gloucester is that the plan has not been restated in several years and over that time there have been significant securities legislation which totally changed the rules of 457 plans.

G. Agnone stated he is asking that to best help the town that he become the broker of the town plan, and then analyze the plan to see if there is a better option. G. Agnone stated again that he would like to become the town's broker and evaluate the plan, restate the plan and then see if there are any better alternatives available.

Councilor J. Burlingame asked who currently is the broker. G. Agnone state that it is Tony Traverse, from Voya. G. Agnone stated that he represents Voya as well.

D. Iglizzi stated his concern that Council would need to go out to bid. G. Agnone stated his opinion that because this is a benefit that the council would not have to go out to bid. D. Iglizzi stated that he would like to do the research to be sure. Councilor W. Worthy asked for the item to be on the next agenda. Councilor W. Steere asked G. Agnone for a written proposal.

No Action Taken

C. **Resolution: In Support Of 2026 — H 8436**  
**Relating to Property Tax Exemptions for Elderly and Disabled Persons** - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Solicitor can explain the process to pass enabling legislation meant to expand and clarify the authority of providing tax relief.

Discussion: D. Iglizzi, Town solicitor, stated that based on council's direction from last meeting, he drafted a proposed bill essentially to have a senior exemption not to exceed \$2070 if 65 years or older plus an annual consumer price index (cpi) increase that is non compounding. D. Iglizzi stated that he sent the draft to Representative Chippendales' legal representative and it is now the proposed bill, H8436.

D. Iglizzi described the main points of the proposed bill that would allow the town to amend its ordinance to include an annual non compounding cpi increase to the 65 and older exemption, to add an additional \$1000 to the exemption for those 80 and older, and include the variable income exemption. D. Iglizzi described the process by which the town could support the proposed bill by passing a resolution and then if the bill passes, the Council could then amend its ordinance.

Councilor W. Steere asked if a cost analysis had been done by the finance department. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that he calculated the math and stated the impact by his calculations to be about \$51,000. Councilor W. Steere stated that Councilor J. Burlingame may be right but he would like to make sure . Councilor J. Burlingame stated that he asked the finance director but has not received the information.

G. Steere, resident, stated that he agrees with Councilor W. Steere as to getting a cost analysis. G. Steere asked if the proposed amendment would still include the

current 10 year residency requirement.

D. Igliazzi stated that this proposed bill if passed would allow the town to create an ordinance. Councilor J. Burlingame stated that Council can create an ordinance that would allow council each year to review and include cpi that year. J. Fecteau stated that there will be a public hearing regarding any proposed ordinance. J. Fecteau stated that the 10 year residency requirement is in the tax ordinance. D. Igliazzi stated that if council were to consider adding the cpi increase or not each year would not give the stability to the exemption that is typically associated with exemptions.

D. Igliazzi stated that this proposal is changing one section of the ordinance and that the 10 year residency requirement is in a different part of the ordinance that is not being changed.

Councilor W. Steere asked the time frame. D. Igliazzi stated that the legislature is in session through June so there is time.

Councilor W. Worthy asked to put this matter on the May 7<sup>th</sup> agenda.

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to get a fiscal tax statement note of cpi at 2.5% for the elderly exemption for those 65 and older and to table this matter; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

D. Septic Loan Program – Exception to consider property held in trust –  
Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that RIhousing has received a septic loan program application from a Gloucester resident. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the property is held in a trust. Councilor W. Worthy stated that RIhousing is questioning if the town will allow the application due to the trust. Councilor W. Worthy stated that research was done and that the town has allowed an application with ownership in a trust to go forward with certain stipulations.

Discussion: D. Igliazzi stated that whenever there is a loan program, it is triggered to be paid back when the property is sold or the owner passes away. D. Igliazzi stated that the settlor of a trust must agree to certain loan conditions in order for the loan to be paid. D. Igliazzi stated that those loan conditions to be: the settlor has to

personally guarantee the loan, the loan will be due upon the settlor's death, the loan will be due upon the termination of the trust, and the loan will be due upon the sale of the property.

Councilor W. Steere asked if these conditions cover the town. D. Iglizzi stated that the terms of the loan get recorded in land evidence.

J. Fecteau stated that RI housing has typically asked for town council approval when they see different anomalies as to any loans in consideration. Councilor W. Steere asked if the individual resides at the property. J. Fecteau stated that the individual does reside at the property.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to APPROVE RIhousing considering a septic loan application for a property, held in a trust, located at 338 Lake Washington Drive, Gloucester, contingent upon the following loan stipulations being included on application:

1. The loan will be personally guaranteed by the settlor.
2. The loan will be due upon the death of the settlor.
3. The loan will be due upon the termination of the Trust.
4. The loan will be due upon the sale of the property.

Seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

- E. Code of Ordinance – Zoning Ordinance  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading Proposed Amendment – Section 350-55 Special Flood  
Hazard Area – Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Planner, with Council permission, has begun the process to amend the Code of Ordinance – Zoning Chapter 350- Section 55 Special Flood Hazard Area

Councilor W. Worthy read the proposed ordinance for the first reading as follows :

**Glocester Code of Ordinance**  
**Part 4: Land Use Chapter 350 Zoning**

**§ 350-55. Special flood hazard areas and flood-fringe lands. [Amended 2-24-2009, effective 2-24-2009]**

1. Applicability.

- a. The Town elects to comply with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-488, as amended). The National Flood Insurance Program, established in the aforesaid act, provides that areas of the Town having a special flood hazard be identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and that floodplain management measures be applied in such flood hazard areas. The requirements of this § 350-55 shall apply to any construction or other development which lies wholly or partly within an area of special flood hazard, as identified as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, AI- 30, A99, V, VI-30, VE on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Hazard Boundary Map prepared by Federal Emergency Management Agency. The map panels of the Providence County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Gloucester are panel numbers ~~44007C0120H and 4007C0235H, 44007C0164G, 44007C0277G, 44007C0280G, and 44007C0260G,~~ dated March 2, 2009, and 44007C0235H dated July 19, 2023, 44007C0120J, 44007C0145H, 44007C0165H, 44007C0255H, and 44007C0140H dated June 23, 2026

[Amended 6-15-2023, effective 6-15-2023]  
(end of proposed ordinance)

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to DECLARE the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading complete for the proposed amendment to the Code of Ordinance, Zoning Chapter 350-55 Special Flood Hazard Areas and Flood Fringe Lands Section B. Applicability and to set the Public Hearing to consider this amendment for May 7, 2026; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

F. Boards & Commissions

1. EDC – Request to authorize EDC to establish and administer Facebook page – Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a request from EDC to establish & administer a Facebook Page. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the proposal has attached the purpose, objectives, Facebook Policies Compliance, and Conclusion and Requested Action.

Discussion: Councilor W. Worthy asked EDC chair, B. MacArthur, if she had sent the proposal to the HR Director and the IT Director for review. B. MacArthur stated that she had not. J. Fecteau stated that she would send the proposals to both the HR Director and the IT Director for review. Councilor W. Worthy asked for this matter to be on the May 7 agenda.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the Gloucester Economic Development Commissions request to create and manage a Facebook page following the policies and procedures as outline in proposal; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

G. Board of Contracts & Purchases

1. RFQ #2026-01 Gloucester Emergency Operations Center - Discussion and/or Action

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

Memo: Honorable Town Council  
From: Elizabeth A. Beltram, Finance Director  
Re: RFQ #2026-01- Gloucester Emergency Operations Center Request for Qualifications for A-E Services  
Date: April 20, 2026

The Gloucester Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) drafted and distributed a Request for Qualifications {RFQ} for engineering/ Architectural work for the development and building of an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Gloucester.

The RFQ included Submission Procedure, Project Description, Scope of Work and Selection Criteria.

Due to the time constraints for completion of this project under the grant funding agreement, GEMA decided to use the State of RI Master Price Agreement (RI MPA) list. Copies of the RFQ and invitations to submit were sent to 32 companies listed on the RI MPA for Engineering and/or Architectural work. Of the 32 companies, 4 submitted their qualification materials to the Town.

The qualification materials were scored by a scoring team of 4 town employees. The company which obtained the highest score was called to negotiate contract terms. That company was Saccoccio & Associates. Attached is a copy of the proposed contract with Saccoccio & Associates for your review. It is my recommendation, along with our EMA Director's, that this contract be accepted and executed as this company is the best qualified and has knowledge of the building site which will expedite the project's completion.

Respectfully,  
Elizabeth A. Beltram  
(end of memo)

The Board of Contracts & Purchases met on April 9<sup>th</sup> 2026 to review the information and discuss the process utilized by the EMA Director and voted to recommend Saccoccio & Associates.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked G. Mosca, EMA Director for an update. G. Mosca stated that he has a meeting with the engineer on Tuesday morning and he is aware of the deadlines. G. Mosca stated that both Senator Reed and Senator Whitehouse have asked for updates which he has given. G. Mosca stated that he is hoping the project is completed by October or November.

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign a contract between Saccoccio & Associates, per RFQ #2026-01 Gloucester Emergency Operations Center Request for Qualifications for Architectural and Engineering Services, for the development and building of an Emergency Operations Center in Gloucester; said contract shall be for fees and expenses as stated in contract;  
seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

NAYS-0  
MOTION PASSED

H. Consideration of amendment to Town employee's pharmacy coverage for FY 27 for potential savings - Discussion and/or Action  
Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Finance Director has sent the following message to the Clerk which he read:

I received a communication/update from the Trust regarding our health and dental rates for next year. I believe we need to share with Council and ask for them to make a decision at their next meeting. We are looking at a potential of about a \$22,000 savings on our cost of health coverage for FY 27 by taking the option to eliminate Wegovy and Zepbound from our pharmacy coverage. We only have until April 30<sup>th</sup> to notify the Trust of our decision. The proposed FY27 budget given to Council last month includes the higher cost of coverage.  
(end of message)

Councilor Worthy stated: the Trust has explained the option is for the Town to decide whether to retain the GLP-1 weight loss drug coverage or exclude the GLP-1 weight loss drug coverage effective July 1, 2026, in an effort to help mitigate the FY27 rate increase. It is important to clarify that this only impacts drugs that are FDA approved for weight loss which primarily impacts Wegovy and Zepbound and not the GLP-1 drugs prescribed for diabetes. The local school committee was given this option and chose to exclude the GLP-1 drugs in question.

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to exclude the GLP-1 weight loss drug coverage drugs (this only impacts drugs that are FDA approved for weight loss which primarily impacts Wegovy and Zepbound and not the GLP-1 drugs prescribed for diabetes) for all town employees effective July 1, 2026; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

I. Gloucester Schools budget projection update for FY26 - Discussion and/or Action

Discussion: R. Palazzo, Supt. Gloucester Schools, stated that she and E. Beltram, Finance Director, have been meeting on a regular basis. R. Palazzo stated that as of today, the school is not in a deficit but if all goes on the same track then there could be in a deficit.

R. Palazzo stated that the three buckets that came in over budget are: out of district tuition, out of district transportation, and health and dental benefits. R. Palazzo stated that she is waiting to meet with the auditor general to then devise a deficit reduction plan. R. Palazzo stated she does not have a deficit reduction plan tonight. R. Palazzo stated that she is looking to the auditor general for that plan. R. Palazzo stated that she will provide Council with more information but it depends upon when the auditor general sets the meeting.

Councilor W. Worthy asked about an update to the maintenance of effort number from the Foster/Glocester Regional meeting. R. Palazzo stated that she needs clarification as the reduction was part of debt service and not maintenance of effort. R. Palazzo stated that she is unsure of the number as it has not been discussed.

No Action Taken

J. Personnel

1. Appointments

a. Geographic Information Systems Technician - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the HR Director submitted a memo which he read as follows:

Karen Scott and I are recommending that Council appoint Lincoln Dark of Providence as a part-time Geographic Information Systems Technician in the Planning Department at an hourly rate of \$41.42. This is a budgeted, 8-hour-per-week, non-benefited, non-bargaining-unit position reporting to Karen. Lincoln has over two years of experience as GIS Specialist with the Providence Water Supply Board. He has a bachelor's degree and master's degree from the University of Rhode Island. He will replace Heidi Blank who recently relocated to Florida after serving in this role for more than 20 years.

Lincoln was selected from among 31 applicants. He is expected to begin in early

May with the arrival and configuration of a laptop computer that is on order. I recommend that the effective date of the appointment be May 5, 2026.  
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to APPOINT Lincoln Dark to the position of part time GIS Technician, in the Planning Department, at the hourly rate of \$41.42, for 8-hours-per-week, non-benefited, non-bargaining-unit position, effective May 5, 2026; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

2. Extension of effective date of retirement, Chief of Police  
Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chief has submitted a memo which he read as follows:

To: Don Zimmerman Personnel Director  
From: Chief Joseph DelPrete  
Date: April 13, 2026  
RE: Retirement

This correspondence will be in support of my formal intention to retire as Chief of Police of the Gloucester Police Department on Saturday May 16, 2026. This formal notice is a continuation from May 2nd, as to allow me to further use accumulated vacation time.

My last duty day will be Friday May 1, 2026 and anticipate utilizing 80 hours vacation time from Monday May 4th, through Friday May 15, 2026.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Thank you and Respectfully,  
Joseph DelPrete  
Chief of Police

MOTION was made by Councilor C. Greathouse to AMEND the date of retirement from the Town of Gloucester for Chief of Police, Joseph DelPrete, from May 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 16, 2026; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

K. Authorization for signature

1. Renewal contract (SOW) for OpenGov e-permitting software  
07/01/2026 to 06/30/2027 - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the IT Director has sent the following request:

Respectfully requesting this be put on the next Town Council agenda for President Worthy's signature. This is the renewal contract (SOW) for OpenGov e-permitting software.

A portion of this (~\$15,328.97) will be reimbursed to us by the State of RI DBR in accordance with RIGL § 23-27.3-108.2(e). The MAT and Records Data export modules are paid with local money, and will remain for this year, but may be revisited for future contracts when the new Tax Assessor and GIS Consultant are onboarded and we have a chance to discuss workflows.

Thank you!!

Matt Floor  
IT Director  
(end of memo)

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the Renewal Contract/SOW for OpenGov e-permitting software for the period 7/1/2026 to 6/30/2027; said contract is for the amount of \$23,199.24, with \$15,328.97 to be reimbursed by the State of RI; seconded by Councilor C. Greathouse

Discussion: None

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

IX. Legislative Updates - Discussion and/or Action

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

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Second amendment legislation has been tabled. Councilor W. Steere asked K. Scott, Town Planner, if any important proposed legislation that would be a town concern.

K. Scott stated that there is no legislation that would be important to Gloucester.

#### X. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has correspondence from:

1. The Div. of Municipal Finance approving the ad the town utilized for the Town of Gloucester's "Notice of Proposed Property Tax Rate Change"
2. Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Town of Putnam Zoning Regulations: Proposed text amendment of the Town of Putnam, Connecticut Zoning Commission, Zoning Regulations Amended through July 13, 2024  
Article VII Special Requirements, Section 702 - Multi-Family Housing, B. Requirements.
  - 1 . Relation to Transportation.  
And, Section 703 - Condominiums, C. Requirements, 8.  
And, C. Requirements, 9. m

Copy available in the Town Clerk's Office

#### XI. Dept. 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.

K. Scott, Town Planner, stated that the town received a \$500,000 grant from DEM Which will be used at Gloucester Memorial Park (GMP) for pickleball courts, a one quarter mile walking trail, to restripe the tennis courts and some landscaping.

B. Shields, Recreation Director, stated that he will begin the process of advertising for summer employees. B. Shields, stated that he has some funds set aside for the Memorial Day parade but is asking the Council to consider funding the buses for the bands as they have in the past at their May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. B. Shields stated that the Gloucester Light Infantry will be marching this year as they have in past years.

#### XII. 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. Najacki stated that he had reports from the Conservation Commission,

## 250<sup>th</sup> Commission and Land Trust

R. Najecki stated that the Conservation Commission has a clean up scheduled for April 18 and any could meet at 9 am at the Kent Pavilion. R. Najecki stated that the Commission received a \$500 state grant and also a \$300 donation from the Gloucester Business Assoc. (GBA) which will be used for the expenses.

R. Najecki stated that the 250<sup>th</sup> Commission will be planting a Liberty Tree at Kent Pavilion at 11 am on May 10 and invited the Town council to attend. R. Najecki stated that the tree is a red maple which is the state tree. R. Najecki stated that on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Legacy of Liberty Program will be held at Ponaganset High School from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. R. Najecki stated that the 250<sup>th</sup> commission is a sponsor. R. Najecki stated the 250<sup>th</sup> commission has scheduled speakers on June 10, 12, 16, 29 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall who will be giving lectures on various topics. R. Najecki stated that the Gloucester Light Infantry will hold an encampment at Kent Field in June of 2-3 tents. R. Najecki stated that 250<sup>th</sup> t shirts will be sold.

R. Najecki stated that Land Trust will be starting next week with a listening to your Arts scavenger hunt at Sprague Farm. R. Najecki stated that the Trek tunes event will be held again this year.

2. B. MacArthur, EDC chair, stated that the EDC is hosting a presentation as part of their monthly meeting by the RI Commerce Comm about starting a small business in RI.

### XIII. 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.

G. King, Blackinton Drive, stated that the two blasting that occurred this week were flawless and the communication had been great.

G. King asked if Council could have safety look into the area of Durfee Hill Road and Gold Mine Road as it seems to be tricky especially as to speed.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that we now need a motion to convene to closed executive session.

### XIV. 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. One Personnel Session (Employee 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 & Clerks)

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to 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. One Personnel Session (Employee 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 & Clerks)

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

All were informed that they could come back into the room after Executive session

Executive Session

All were invited back into the room

XV. Reconvene Open Session – Disclosure of votes taken in Executive Session & to Consider Sealing the Minutes of Closed Executive Session

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 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

XVI. Personnel

A. IT Contract - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor J. Burlingame to TABLE the IT Contract to the Town Council meeting of May 7, 2026;  
Seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

XVII. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ADJOURN at 9:47 p.m.; seconded by Councilor J. Burlingame

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED



