

At a meeting of the Town Council in and for the Town of Gloucester on May 7, 2026:

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call

Members present: Stephanie L. Westgate; Walter M. O. Steere, III, Vice-President; William A. Worthy, Jr., President

Members absent: Jonathan E. Burlingame; Cheryl A. Greathouse

Also Present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; David Igliazzi, Town Solicitor; Christine Mathieu, Deputy Town Clerk; Elizabeth Beltram; Finance Director; Chief Joseph Delprete; Gary Treml, DPW 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 issues to please step to the microphone and state your name when called on.

D. Wright, Pound Road, stated his opinion as to the need for Pound Road to be paved in parts and for perhaps signs to be posted as to the potholes.

V. CITATION #2026-03 - CHIEF DELPRETE

Councilor W. Worthy stated that tonight, we have a citation to honor our Chief of Police as he begins his retirement. Councilor W. Worthy read the Citation as follows:

**State of Rhode Island
Town of Gloucester**

Citation

Chief Joseph DelPrete

Given in recognition of and with deep gratitude and appreciation for your
16 years of service to our Town as the leader of the
Glocester Police Department

During your years of devoted service to the Glocester Police Department you have achieved many important milestones for the Town of Glocester and, most recently, having received Glocester's third re-accreditation award from the Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission (RIPAC), in March 2026, verifying that the department continues to meet over 200 professional standards and best practices for law enforcement ensuring the department operates with high standards of professionalism in areas such as public safety, training, and use of force.

You have continuously led by operating and teaching with the use of cutting-edge technology & training, ensuring that our residents have the highest quality of protection.

Your care and dedication to the town was especially apparent with the implementation of the "Code Red" system town wide for our residents providing the resource of being informed.

Your service has been one based on achieving quality of life for our residents by working diligently to keep our community drug free and a safe haven.

The Town Council, the men and women of the Glocester Police Department, the Town Clerk, the Deputy Town Clerk, and all Town Employees, wholeheartedly represent all Glocester residents when we say "Thank You" for your commitment, dedication, and service to our community.

You have made Glocester a better place to live.

William A. Worthy, Jr., President Walter M. O. Steere, III, Vice. President

Jonathan E. Burlingame, Councilor Cheryl A. Greathouse, Councilor

Stephanie L. Westgate, Councilor David V. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk Christine D. Mathieu, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk

Adopted this 7th day of May 2026

Seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

Discussion:

J. Jenison, Captain Gloucester Police, stated his thanks and appreciation to Chief Delprete. J. Jenison stated his opinion that the Chief was professional, did the job the right way, that he learned a tremendous amount from the Chief especially about investigations. J. Jenison stated that the Chief helped him to think critically, ask the hard questions when needed and to not cut corners. J. Jenison stated his opinion that the Chief allowed him to grow, to be better and that he led by example. J. Jennison thanked the Chief.

M. Fague, retired Captain Gloucester Police, stated his opinion as to the unwavering dedication of the Chief and his deep commitment to the officers in his department as well as to the community he served. M. Fague stated that the Chief pushed the department in investigations because it is about the people the department serves and those who stand beside us. M. Fague stated that the Chief made the department more effective and fostered a culture of professionalism and commitment. M. Fague stated his thanks to Chief Delprete for his service, guidance, integrity and friendship.

Chief Delprete stated his opinion that the organization does not make the people but rather the people make the organization. Chief Delprete stated that the people he works with made it easy and he is confident that the transition will move forward. Chief Delprete stated that it is his time to move on. Chief Delprete stated that all councils he worked for supported him, the residents supported the police tremendously and it is hard to leave. Chief Delprete stated his thanks to J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, who has been his biggest supporter as well as the Council and the residents. Chief Delprete stated that all will be with him in his heart forever.

Chief Delprete stated his thanks and appreciation to his wife Gail and to his children for all their support. J. Fecteau stated that her appreciation for Chief Delprete and also especially for Chief Delprete's wife.

Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that it has been a great run for the Chief and stated he will miss seeing the Chief at all the events he attended for the town. Councilor W. Steere stated his thanks to Chief Delprete's family. Councilor W. Steere stated he appreciated the friendship that developed over the years thanked the Chief for everything he has done.

Councilor W. Worthy stated his thanks to the Chief and that he enjoyed all of the talks and wisdom because he showed that the Chief cares about the town.

Councilor S. Westgate stated her thanks to the Chief and to his family.

VI. Public Hearings- Discussion and/or Action

A. Amendments to Code of Ordinance

1. Chapter 350 Zoning, Article IV, Sec. 55 Special Flood Hazard Areas & Flood Fringe Lands

Councilor W. Worthy stated that a first reading was completed on April 16, 2026 and the Public Hearing was advertised in the Valley Breeze Observer

Councilor W. Worthy DECLARED the Public Hearing OPEN

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received an advisory opinion from the Planning Board which he read as follows:

Special flood hazard areas and flood fringe lands zoning ordinance revision
Advisory Opinion of the Planning Board

At their April 7, 2026 meeting, the following motion was made by the Planning Board:

Member Bart:

After careful consideration and discussion, the Gloucester Planning Board hereby recommends that the Town Council enact revisions to the Gloucester Zoning Ordinance as detailed in the attached Draft Section 350-55, Special flood hazard areas and flood fringe lands zoning ordinance revision, dated 3/31/26. Said revisions further specifically name the panel numbers of the Providence County Flood Insurance Rate Maps that are wholly or partially within the Town of Gloucester, as is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Board recommendation in this regard 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

1 . The proposed amendments are consistent with the goal of the Land Use Element: 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. The proposed amendments are consistent with the policies of the Land Use Element:
 - a. Protect, enhance and maintain the unique natural and historical features of Gloucester while allowing for appropriate development to occur.
 - b. Encourage responsible land use decisions by public officials and public bodies.

Consistency with the Purposes of Zoning

The Planning Board finds that the proposed zoning amendments are 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.
 - (i) The natural characteristics of the land, including its suitability for use based on soil characteristics, topography, and susceptibility to surface or groundwater pollution;
 - (ii) The values of unique or valuable natural resources and features. •
4. Promoting safety from fire, flood and other natural or unnatural disasters.

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

 1. Discussions held at the April 7, 2026 regular meeting; and
 2. Written guidance from both the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) and FEMA;

Based on the above findings, I hereby make a motion to recommend approval of the draft Special flood hazard areas and flood fringe lands zoning ordinance revision, dated March 31, 2026 to the Gloucester Town Council.

The motion was seconded by Planning Board member Lynn Furney. Approved 5-0. Ayes - Bart, Clifford, Fournier, Furney, Pitocco.

(end of motion)

Discussion: D. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor, stated for clarification purposes that this is a function at the municipal level triggered by FEMA in the update of the flood maps of the map numbers and dates. D. Igliazzi stated that all other aspects remain the same.

Councilor W. Worthy asked if anyone would like to speak.

None

Councilor W. Worthy DECLARED the Public Hearing Closed.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to ADOPT the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 350 Zoning, Article IV, Sec. 55 Special Flood Hazard Areas & Flood Fringe Lands which specifically includes the panel numbers of the Providence County Flood Insurance Rate Maps that are wholly or partially within the Town of Gloucester, as is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

2. Chapter 350 Zoning. Article IV. Section 22.A. Planned Districts

Owner: WS Enterprises, LLC

Applicant: Welcome Pastures

Assessor Plat 18, Lot 10

To consider an amendment to the existing P.U.D. to permit applicant, Welcome Pastures, a nonprofit, to have private events such as weddings, family gatherings, retreats, and corporate events for fundraising. Per the applicant, the revenue generated will directly support the care, rehabilitation and long-term well-being of retired Thoroughbred horses.

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received a request from the applicant to continue this Public Hearing to June 4th, 2026.

D. Iglizzi stated that Council needs to vote to a date certain and cannot take any comment tonight.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to CONTINUE the Public Hearing for Zoning amendment, applicant: WS Enterprises, LLC, to June 4th, 2026; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VII. Consent Items- Discussion and/or Action

A. Approval of Town Council Minutes: Regular meeting of April 2, April 16th, April 20th, April 27th, & May 4th, 2026

B. Tax Collector Abatements: 2014 & 2015 Receivable Tax Roll

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to APPROVE the Town Council meeting minutes of April 2nd, April 16th, April 20th, April 27th, and May 4th, 2026; and to APPROVE the Tax Collector Abatements for 2014 in the amount of \$43,375.36 and to APPROVE the Tax Collector Abatements for 2015 in the amount of \$41,794.05; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Unfinished Business- Discussion and/or Action

A. Boards and Commissions

1. Appointments- Discussion and/or Action

a. Parade Committee

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

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there are no recommendations by the Chair. Councilor W. Worthy asked if anyone has anyone they would like to appoint.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the appointments to the Parade Committee, Position #5, #6, #7, Alt. #2, and Alt. #3; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, 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: Councilor W. Steere stated that Council needs to determine if they want to change the number of annual mobile food establishment (MFE) licenses they issue.

Councilor W. Worthy asked about MFE licenses on private or public land. D. Igliazzi stated that the ordinance dictates location for food trucks and all trucks in town needs a town permit.

Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion to ease into the number and see how that works.

Councilor S. Westgate asked about the one-day permit. D. Iglizzi stated that a one day permit is only part of an event. Councilors discussed potential issues such as locations and time limits- both of which are covered in the ordinance. J. Fecteau, Town Clerk, stated that there are currently 7 annual licenses and 7 on the waiting list.

C. Wilson, stated his opinion that residents should be given preference. R. Baumann, Phillips Lane, asked for clarification as to the one-day permit. D. Iglizzi stated that the ordinance is based on state law and that a one-day permit is only associated with an event whether it is private or public property. M. Verrier, Tourtellot Hill Road, stated his opinion to open up more licenses as competition is healthy and would support more local businesses.

Councilor W. Worthy stated he was open to 10 licenses. Councilor W. Steere stated to open It up to all 7 on the waiting list for a total of 14. J. Fecteau stated that if Council expands the number of licenses then the police need to be more on top of the allowed locations and especially the 4-hour time limit.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate for a Resolution at the Town council meeting of May 21, that limits the number of MFE town licenses to 14; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

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

Discussion: Greg Agnone, Chestnut Hill Wealth Management, stated that at the last meeting he gave Council a proposal and his qualifications. G. Agnone stated his opinion that he can provide more value to the town as he is a certified financial planner.

Councilor W. Steere asked D. Iglizzi if Council needs to go out to bid. D. Iglizzi stated that if the town is going to change their vendor then he would advise to notify the current Vendor and then do the competitive bid process.

G. Agnone stated that he understands the bid process.

No Action Taken by Council- matter returned to this Item after Item E.

D. Boards and Commissions– Discussion and/or Action

1. EDC – Request to authorize EDC to establish and administer a Facebook page

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the Chair has requested Council TABLE this item.

MOTION by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the EDC – Request to authorize Facebook page; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

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

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council is prepared to send a resolution to our legislators while legislative session is still open which he read as follows:

State of Rhode Island
Town of Glocester
Resolution #2026-06

IN SUPPORT OF 2026 - H 8436
RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR
ELDERLY AND DISABLED PERSONS

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Glocester recognizes the importance of providing meaningful property tax relief to elderly and disabled residents who are on fixed or limited

WHEREAS, 2026-H 8436 proposes to amend Rhode Island General Laws§ 44-3-13.5 to expand and clarify the authority of the Town of Glocester to provide such tax relief through local

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would authorize the Town to modernize its property tax exemption structure, including:

- Establishing a base exemption for elderly and disabled residents;
- Providing additional exemptions for residents aged eighty (80) years and older;
- Allowing for a variable income-based exemption program;
- Authorizing a minimum tax provision; and
- Implementing a non-compounded Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) adjustment to maintain

the value of exemptions over time; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that these changes will enhance local flexibility, promote fairness, and better align state law with the Town's existing and anticipated ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the legislation enables the Town to respond more effectively to economic conditions and the needs of its senior and disabled population while maintaining fiscal responsibility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Glocester hereby supports passage of 2026 - H 8436 entitled "*An Act Relating to Taxation – Property Subject to Taxation - Glocester - Exemption of Elderly and Disabled Persons.*"

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council respectfully urges the members of the Rhode Island General Assembly to enact this legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to

- The Glocester Legislative Delegation;
- The Speaker of the House;
- The President of the Senate; and
- The Governor of the State of Rhode Island.

This RESOLUTION shall take effect upon passage.

Passed this 7th day of May, 2026

GLOCESTER TOWN COUNCIL
Councilor President, William A. Worthy, Jr.
Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: D. Igliazzi stated that this enabling legislation, if passed, would allow the Town to make an ordinance. D. Igliazzi stated that he has been told that a Sub-A amendment will be added to ensure that all other parts of the current ordinance remain the same.

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0
MOTION PASSED

J. Fecteau asked if Council could return to Item C.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to return to Item C.; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

RETURN to ITEM C Unfinished Business

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

J. Fecteau asked if council wanted to take any action on this matter. J. Fecteau stated that if the matter did go out to bid then the bids would go to the Board of Contracts. D. Iglizzi stated that the present broker needs to be notified beforehand.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to authorize the Finance Director and the Board of Contracts to issue proposals; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

RETURN to Regular agenda items

IX. New Business

A. Personnel

1. Appointments - Discussion and/or Action

a. Tax Assessor

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council has received correspondence from the HR Director which he read as follows:

TO: Honorable Members of the Gloucester Town Council
FROM: Don Zimmerman, Acting Director of Human Resources
DATE: May 6, 2026
SUBJECT: Appointment of Tax Assessor

Please accept the recommendation of the interview panel to appoint Rene Mae Fisher of Cranston to the vacant position of Tax Assessor effective May 27, 2026, at an annualized salary of \$71,021, increasing to \$73,152 beginning on July 1, 2026, per the 2026-2027 budget.

This is a fulltime, exempt, benefitted, non-bargaining-unit position reporting to Finance Director Elizabeth Beltram.

There were six applicants for the position. The interview panel (Ms. Beltram, Town Clerk Jean Fecteau and I) interviewed two candidates including an internal candidate.

Ms. Fisher is currently the Accounts Payable Administrator for the Town of Johnston where she also served in clerical roles in the assessor's office and zoning office. Previously, she served as deputy clerk of the Providence Probate Court. She has core skills that include the use of QDS, Vision Government Solutions & OpenGov software and other programs used in Gloucester's Tax Assessor's Office (end of memo)

Councilor W Worthy stated that there was a note from the Town Clerk which he read as follows: Ms. Fisher was interviewed by members of the Council as well as the interview panel and Mr. Zimmerman. Due to her assessment and municipal experience, as well as her understanding of the importance of public service, Ms. Fisher was felt to be a good candidate for the position of Tax Assessor by all that interviewed her. (end of note)

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked about the salary increase if the budget does not pass. D. Iglizzi stated a recommendation to make the motion subject to the approval of the budget.

MOTION was made by Councilor to APPOINT Rene Fisher to the position of Tax Assessor for the Town of Gloucester, effective May 27, 2026, to fill an unexpired 2-year term to expire 12/31/2027 with next reappointment scheduled for January 2028, at an annualized salary of \$71,021, increasing to \$73,152 beginning July 1, 2026, subject to the ratification of the 2026-2027 budget; said position has a certification requirement which Ms. Fisher will complete within the first year of employment or as soon there after as possible; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

b. Town Clerk's Office - Senior Clerk Position

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

TO: Honorable Members of the Gloucester Town Council
FROM: Don Zimmerman, Acting Director of Human Resources
DATE: May 6, 2026
SUBJECT: Appointment of Senior Clerk in Town Clerk's Office

Please accept the recommendation of the interview panel to appoint Stacie Arnold Puccetti of North Smithfield to the position of Senior Clerk in Town Clerk's Office effective May 29, 2026, filling a vacancy due to a retirement.

This is a fulltime, non-exempt, benefitted position in the clerical bargaining unit reporting to Town Clerk Jean Fecteau.

There were more than 100 applicants for the position. The interview panel (Ms. Fecteau, Deputy Town Clerk Christine Mattieu and Finance Director Elizabeth Beltram) interviewed three candidates. There were no internal candidates.

Ms. Puccetti is currently a licensing aide in the Department of Environmental Management and has experience as a real estate salesperson and as a data clerk in the office of Rhode Island's Federal Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Trustee. She has a bachelor's degree in Telecommunications from Rhode Island College.

(end of memo)

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there is a note from the Town Clerk which he read as follows: Ms. Puccetti works with licensing software and OpenGov software. She has experience with real estate recording and customer service. Her state experience is similar to our municipal office organization. (end of note)

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to APPOINT Stacie Arnold Puccetti to the position of Senior Clerk, Town Clerk's Office, effective May 29, 2026, said position is a full

time, benefitted position in the clerical bargaining unit; and is contingent upon BCI check seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

c. Interim Police Chief

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that an interim police chief is needed to serve until a new Chief is appointed. Councilor W. Steere stated his recommendation to appoint Capt. J. Jennison as the interim police chief. Councilor W. Worthy stated he agrees.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to APPOINT Captain Jeff Jennison to serve in the capacity of Interim Police Chief until a replacement chief is hired, said position will come with a differential salary adjustment equal to the current Chief's present salary; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: Capt. J. Jennison stated that he will need to perform official duties tomorrow so need to know when this is effective.

Councilor W. Steere withdrew his motion. Councilor S. Westgate withdrew her second.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to APPOINT Captain Jeff Jennison to serve in the capacity of Interim Police Chief until a replacement chief is hired, said position will come with a differential salary adjustment equal to the current Chief's present salary; and may take effect May 8, 2026;

No second was made.

Discussion: E. Beltram, Finance Director stated that date was a problem for the payroll and asked if it could be effective on Sunday.

D. Iglizzi stated that J. Jennison is saying he needs to do official duties and is willing to do those duties without the additional pay for 3 days. J. Jennison stated that was correct.

D. Iglizzi stated his recommendation to make the appointment effective 5/7/2026 and the salary effective 5/10/2026 by agreement.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to APPOINT Captain Jeff Jennison to serve in the capacity of Interim Police Chief until a replacement Chief is hired, said position will come with a differential salary adjustment equal to the current Chief's present salary, said differential to be effective on 5/10/2026 and said duties to be effective on 5/8/2026;
Seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

B. Finance Office – Switch Deputy Treasurer/Signatory personnel –
Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that in May of 2025 the Town Council ratified the temporary appointment of Christine Mathieu to the position of Interim Deputy Treasurer to provide a second signatory for the Finance Department. Councilor W. Worthy stated that the assistant in that office is now experienced and capable of filling that position.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to APPOINT Lori Chirico to the position of Deputy Treasurer, seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to MOVE Item C Request to Change letterhead to after Item XIV Open forum

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM Moved

D. Special Event Application

1. Applicant: Gloucester Business Association

Event: Trick or Treat on Main Street

Location: Pavilion and Main Street (Putnam Pike)

Date: October 24, 2026

a. Determine if exempt from Public Hearing and/or Set Public Hearing Date - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the current application states there are no changes from last year's event.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked Interim Chief J, Jennison if there had been any issues last year. Chief J. Jennison stated there were no issues last year.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to WAIVE the public hearing pursuant to Gloucester Code of Ordinance, Chapter 175.4-B for the Applicant: Gloucester Business Association for proposed event: Trick or Treat on Main Street, October 24, 2026; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

b. Consider Application (if exempt from hearing) - Discussion and/or Action

Councilor W. Worthy stated that Council can now discuss the application for a Special Event as it is now exempt from a Public Hearing.

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to APPROVE the application submitted by the Gloucester Business Association for Trick or Treat on Main Street to be held on Saturday, October 24th, 2026 from noon to 3:00 p.m. starting locations: the Pavilion at Kent Field, a second and a third location for the start of the event to be determined and approved by the Chief of Police; said use of town property subject to:

1. Authorization by signature of the Gloucester Recreation Director on Field Permit;
2. Adhering to the stipulations of the previously adopted "Pavilion at Kent Field Use

Policy” with the following waivers:

- a. Chapter 221-18 I. To allow banner on grounds
 - b. Chapter 221-18 N. To allow local business coupons and other “promotional” items to be distributed to adults during the event.
3. Permission is granted for a canopy to be set up with tables and chairs at the exit point of parking lot; in addition, Committee shall notify DPW prior to the event to request the blocking of the parking lot exit point;
 4. Police and Fire Approval shall be received by applicant and filed with the Town Clerk prior to issuance of license. Both Police and Fire may require safety measures, including manpower details, as they deem necessary.
 5. Additional stipulations may be made and added by a vote of the Town Council prior to the event;
- seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

E. Boards & Commissions

1. Resignation - Discussion and/or Action

- a. Gloucester Economic Development Commission- Position # 4 one unexpired term to expire 12/31/2026

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this resignation is for Gary Turner, position #4.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ACCEPT, with thanks, the resignation of Gary Turner from the EDC ,Position #4; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES- Westgate, Steere, Worthy

NAYS-0

MOTION PASSED

- b. Gloucester Housing Authority – Position #5 one unexpired term to expire 6/2030

Councilor W. Worthy stated that this resignation is for Jacqueline Muollo from the Gloucester Housing Authority.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ACCEPT, with thanks, the resignation of Jacqueline Muollo from the Gloucester Housing Authority, Position #5; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

2. Appointments - Discussion and/or Action

- a. Gloucester Economic Development Commission- Position # 4 one unexpired term to expire 12/31/2026

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there is no recommendation from the Chair at this time, and asked if Council would like to Table.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to TABLE the appointment to the Economic Development Commission, Position #4; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

- b. Gloucester Housing Authority – Position #5 one unexpired term to expire 6/2030

Councilor W. Worthy stated that there is no recommendation from the Chair at this time, and asked if the Council would like to Table.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to TABLE the appointment to the Gloucester Housing Authority, Position #5; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

F. Request for funds – Memorial Day Parade Expenses - Discussion and/or Action
Councilor W. Worthy stated that last year the Council contributed funds, not to exceed \$2,000 from their Contingency Account for parade expenses.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked R. Shields, Recreation Director, if he had funds in his budget. R. Shields stated that he has money in his budget for materials and flowers but not for the two busses.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to AUTHORIZE an amount not to exceed \$2000.00 to be allocated from the Town Council Contingency Account for Memorial Day Parade Expenses; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

G. Bid Extension -IFB 2001-10 Low Sulfur Diesel and Gasoline - Discussion and/or Action

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

May 4,2026

To: Honorable Town Council
From: Gary Tremel
Public Works Director
Re: Bid Extension

Bid extension was requested from the vendor on the following bid:

IFB 2001-10 Low Sulfur Diesel and Gasoline

The vendor has agreed to extend the bid at original pricing and conditions. (See attached bid extension agreement)

I am requesting this bid extension be approved.

Thank you

Gary Tremel
DPW Director
(end of memo)

Discussion: None

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to APPROVE the Bid Extension for IFB 2001-10 Low Sulfur Diesel and Gasoline with Reichert & Sons Fuel Oil Co., Inc. at original pricing and conditions to supply low sulfur diesel and gasoline (89 octane) at a price of \$0.085/gal over cost; said extension to run to May 31st, 2027; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

H. Authorization for signature - Discussion and/or Action

1. Finance Dept: Department of Municipal Finance Transparency Report as of 12/31/25

Councilor W. Worthy stated that each year the Finance Office must file this report.

MOTION was made by Councilor S. Westgate to AUTHORIZE the Town Council President to sign the Department of Municipal Finance Transparency Report as of 12/31/25; seconded by Councilor W. Steere

Discussion: None

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

X. Legislative Updates - Discussion and/or Action

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

Councilor W. Worthy stated that the current speaker has stepped down. Councilor W. Steere stated that council needs to keep their eyes out.

XI. Town Council Correspondence/ Discussion

Councilor W. Worthy stated that council has received the following as correspondence:

1. Council has received a "Certificate of Special Recognition" from Gov. McKee to our Dept. of Public Works acknowledging their extraordinary efforts during the blizzard of 2026.

Councilor W. Steere stated it is nice to hear. Councilor W. Worthy stated DPW did a great job.

2. Employee request for advance of sick time

Councilors asked to have this item be on the next agenda on May 21, 2026

3. Invite from the Town Clerk for the Owen Monument celebration.

J. Fecteau stated that the celebration would be held on June 18, 2026.

XII. 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.

None

XIII. 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.

W. Morin, Land Trust Chair, stated a description of how the Land Trust is funded based on the a percentage of the real estate conveyance tax by Charter as well as donations and grants. W. Morin stated that the money in the savings account is to fix the Hawkins Dam as it has been categorized as hi hazard. W. Morin stated the steps the Land Trust has been doing to mitigate the expense of fixing the dam.

XIV. 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.

None

ITEM MOVED to this location

C. Request to change letterhead – Gloucester School - Discussion and/or Action

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

At some point during the past year or so, the Superintendent's office redesigned the Gloucester School Department's letterhead (see attached). I am concerned about the fact that they have included my name, title with the Town, and (incorrect) phone number on this new version. This seems to give the impression that the Town and its Finance Director are directly responsible for school department activities. Given the current issues we have been experiencing, I would like to ask that Council instruct them to remove my name from their communications.

Thank you,
(end of memo)

Discussion: D. Iglizzi stated that this is a request of the school department which the school department does not have to comply with. D. Iglizzi stated that the town can't require the school department comply but can only request.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to request the Gloucester School Department remove the name, phone number of Elizabeth Beltram, Finance Director on the letterhead;
Seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

Councilor W. Worthy stated that we now need a motion to adjourn to Closed Executive Session.

XV. 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 (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. 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 (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)

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

Councilor Westgate- Aye

Councilor Steere- Aye

Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

All were told that they can come back into the room after Executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

All were invited back into the room

XVI. Reconvene Open Session, Disclosure of votes taken in Executive Session & Consideration to Seal the Minutes of Closed Executive Session

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to Reconvene Open Session, Disclose one (1) Vote was taken in Executive Session & to Seal the Minutes of Closed Executive Session; Seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

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

Councilor Westgate- Aye

Councilor Steere- Aye

Councilor Worthy- Aye

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED

XVII. Personnel

A. IT Contract - Discussion and/or Action

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to TABLE to 5/21/2026, IT Contract; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

XVIII. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ADJOURN at 10:08 p.m.; seconded by Councilor S. Westgate

Discussion: None

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

MOTION PASSED

