

At a meeting of the Town Council holden in and for the Town of Gloucester on May 4, 2017:

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: George O. (Buster) Steere, Jr., President; Edward C. Burlingame, Vice-President; Walter M. O. Steere and Patricia Henry.

Member Absent: William E. Reichert

Also present: Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk; Tim Kane, Town Solicitor; Joseph DelPrete, Chief of Police; Diane Brennan, Finance Director; Gary Treml, Director of Public Works; Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official; and Judy Branch, Director of Human Services

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

IV. Open Forum - For Agenda Items

None.

V. Resolution - Discussion and/or action

A. #2017-08 Denise Steere - Boston Teacher of the Year

Councilor G. Steere stated that Gloucester resident, Denise Steere, is a 2nd grade Teacher at Rafael Hernandez K-8 School in Roxbury, Massachusetts. Councilor G. Steere further stated that Denise was recently awarded the Educator of the Year Award from the city of Boston and the Town Council would like to recognize that accomplishment with the following Resolution
Councilor W. Steere read the following Resolution into the record:

RESOLUTION 2017-07
Denise Steere
Educator of the Year Recognition

WHEREAS: Gloucester has long supported and encouraged the ideal of providing all children with the best education possible through the experience, knowledge, understanding, and caring of educators; and

WHEREAS: the City of Boston, Boston Public Schools, and the Boston Teachers Union are a community of dedicated, innovative professionals who acknowledge those exceptional educators who go above and beyond to impact the lives of their students each year; and

WHEREAS: in 2017 one of Gloucester's own, Denise Steere, was recognized by her peers as "an

exemplary teacher who demonstrates the qualities of an exceptional educator every day”. Denise has served as a second-grade teacher and also as school wide coordinator of the English Language Learners at the Rafael Hernandez K-8 School; and

WHEREAS: Denise’s peers acknowledge that her classroom is always open for others to observe & learn from the unique way she inspires her students to achieve at their highest level. All of this done with a positive spirit and a demonstrated total commitment to her students and her colleagues; and

The Gloucester Town Council is proud that one of “their own” has achieved this milestone and we hereby state that Denise exemplifies the ideal we strive for as an educator to our children through her hard work and dedication: and

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that the Town Council, Town Clerk, and all of Gloucester’s residents express our sincerest congratulations to:

**Denise Steere
2017 Boston Educator of the Year**

**George O. Steere, Jr.
Gloucester Town Council President**

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Dated this 20th day of April 2017

seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
 NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

Council congratulated & acknowledged Mrs. Steere for her good work.

B. #2017-09 In Opposition to R.I. D.O.T.’s Rhode Works signage
Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council has a Resolution opposing the signs being installed by D.O.T within the Historic District, which was read into the record by Councilor Burlingame:

**RESOLUTION # 2017-09
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO R.I. D.O.T. RHODE WORKS SIGNS IN THE
TOWN OF GLOCESTER**

WHEREAS, the Town of Gloucester is a rural community with flowering landscapes, spans of green and historic properties that provide us with scenic travel ways; and

WHEREAS, in the center of Gloucester we have established a Historic District where we have worked to preserve and showcase our history with a strong sense of pride; and

WHEREAS, the Town has established rules & regulations for Gloucester's Historic District and have worked towards a strict conformance on the signage that is included in that district; and

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island, Department of Transportation is dotting the entire state's landscape with an **excessive** amount of signage in support of the Governor's RhodeWorks projects; and

WHEREAS, for one project proposed in our Town **three** signs were set down in our Historic District, with no approvals, that do not compliment the rural character of the Town of Gloucester nor seem appropriate in a historic district; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation claims these signs are intended to provide Rhode Islanders with more transparency but we feel the blue signs serve no redeeming qualities to the residents of the Town of Gloucester as the signs planted in our Town do not contain any useful information; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; the Gloucester Town Council hereby respectfully requests that all RhodeWorks signs installed within the municipal limits of the Town of Gloucester be removed by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, and that no new signs be installed in the future without approval of the Gloucester Town Council.

George O. Steere, Jr.
Gloucester Town Council President

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Dated this 4th day of May 2017

seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
 NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

Towns - Subdivision of Land

Councilor H. Steere stated that the Council has a Resolution opposing the subdivision of land legislation currently being considered by the House and Senate, read into the record by Councilor Henry:

RESOLUTION 2017-10

**A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO H5475 AND S0481,
AN ACT RELATING TO CITIES AND TOWNS - SUBDIVISION OF LAND**

WHEREAS, House Bill 5475, an Act Relating to Towns and Cities - Subdivision of Land, and companion Senate Bill 0481 have been introduced in the Rhode Island General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, these Acts propose to reduce the state mandated time periods for review of major land development and subdivision applications, to reduce the time periods for recording land use decisions and to impose a penalty on the municipality equivalent to 50% of the application fee if the time period is not met; and

WHEREAS, the practical effects of this legislation will be putting unreasonable time pressures on City/Town Planners, Planning Boards, Solicitors, all other Boards, Commissions and municipal employees tasked with reviewing the largest and most complex types of developments and subdivision; and

WHEREAS, these major applications represent the projects with the most site impacts, infrastructure and technical issues, involving the possible need for testimony from various experts such as engineers and lawyers, requiring the Board members to absorb design and technical details, and often times making it necessary for the Board to receive additional information and/or revised plans before a final vote can be made; and

WHEREAS, the majority of a communities Boards & Commissions tasked with reviewing these complicated applications are unpaid volunteers and this type of legislation would create more stress and could result in the Board being forced to vote with restrictive conditions due to the absence of time for due diligence and could prove to not serve the interests of applicants, developers, or the community; and

WHEREAS, these proposed changes are significant and were proposed without any initial input from the municipalities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gloucester Town Council respectfully requests that all State Senators, Representatives and the Governor oppose House Bill 5475 and companion Senate Bill 0481.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; That the Town Clerk shall submit a copy of this resolution to the Town of Gloucester's State Senator and State Representatives, the Senate President, the Speaker of

the House, the Executive Director of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, all Cities and Towns in the State of Rhode Island and the Governor in consideration of their support to defeat this amendment to the General Laws.

George O. Steere, Jr.
Glocester Town Council President

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Dated this 4th day of May 2017

seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

VI. Citations

A. Laurel Grange (First) Annual Awards - Discussion and/or action
Councilor G. Steere stated that the Laurel Grange has requested Citations for their first Annual Awards event later this month and these awards will be presented to their recipients on May 15, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Laurel Grange.

Councilor W. Steere read the following into the record.

CITATION Laurel Grange 2017 Annual Award Night

The National Grange founded in 1867 is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, fraternal organization that advocates for rural America and agriculture. With a strong history in grassroots activism, family values and community service, the Laurel Grange is part of more than 2,100 hometown granges across the United States; and

The Laurel Grange #40 has always enriched our community and celebrates the importance of citizens in our community that share their ideals and give unselfishly of their time and effort; and

The Laurel Grange acknowledges the good work of individuals in our community and at their first Annual Award Night has chosen the following honorees:

Joseph Webster, Firefighter of the Year;
Patrolman Jeffrey Jenison, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year;
Michael Joyce, Citizen of the Year;
Erica Plante, Teacher of the Year

The Gloucester Town Council and the Town Clerk wish to congratulate and express our appreciation to these citizens on this occasion and we wish to thank the membership of the Laurel Grange for their hard work, sense of community, dedication to our Town; and good sense to honor those chosen for the *2017 First Annual Award Night*.

George O. Steere, Jr.
President, Gloucester Town Council

Jean M. Fecteau, CMC, Town Clerk

Dated this 4th day of May 2017

seconded by Councilor Henry.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

VII. Consent Items - Discussion and/or action

A. Approval of Town Council regular meeting minutes of Budget Board Public Hearing of April 17th, April 20th Regular Meeting, & April 24th Special Meeting
MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to APPROVE the Town Council minutes for the Budget Board Public Hearing of April 17th, the regular meeting of April 20th, and the Special meeting minutes of April 24th, 2017; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Rules/Regulations: Pavilion Use - Discussion and/or action
Councilor Henry stated that we have rules and regulations for our park and recreation areas and asked if these could also be applied to the Pavilion. Councilor G. Steere stated that they should apply to the Pavilion because it is Town property. Councilor Burlingame suggested that the Council start with the current rules and regulations and make changes or additions, if necessary, for the Pavilion.

Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, noted that the rules and regulations were adopted approximately 20 years ago and perhaps there may be changes necessary for Gloucester Memorial Park also.

Councilor G. Steere suggested that the Council review the rules prior to the next meeting.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to TABLE Rules/Regulations: Pavilion Use - Discussion and/or action until the next Town Council meeting; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

B. Trash & Litter - Transfer Station & town wide

1. Discussion & vote on actions necessary - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that at the last meeting a motion was made to authorize an ad to be sent to the Bargain Buyer, but no second was made, therefore, no action has been taken on this item.

Discussion: Councilor Henry stated that she has revised the ad to say that trash in truck beds must be “secured” instead of “covered”. Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, noted that “R.I.S.L.” should be changed to “R.I.G.L.” in reference to Rhode Island General Law 31-25-10.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to place the ad as revised; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

Councilor Burlingame asked Gary Treml, Public Works Director, to observe the vehicles coming into the Transfer Station to determine if people are complying with the Council’s request. Councilor Henry stated that the Council had discussion concerning putting up a flashing sign asking people to make sure their loads are secure. G. Treml stated that they have tried using signs before but it was a futile effort. Councilor G. Steere stated that we could try the Police Department’s portable flashing sign if it is not already being used. G. Treml stated that he will coordinate with the Chief of Police.

C. Parade Committee

1. Two Alternate positions- Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that there are no recommendations and no new talent bank applications have been filed. Jean Fecteau, Town Clerk, noted that there are several names on the current talent bank list for the Council’s consideration.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to TABLE until the next meeting the appointments to the Parade Committee, two alternate positions; seconded by Councilor Henry.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

IX. New Business

A. Naming of Town Pavilion - Discussion and/or action

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to name the Town Pavilion “The Pavilion at Kent Field” in honor of the Kent family that gave the property to the Town; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: Councilor Burlingame commented that it is fitting to name the Pavilion after the Kent Family and stated that Mrs. Kent was a gracious lady. Councilor G. Steere stated that although there was a whole legal process that was needed to get to where we are today, it was the Kent family who originally donated the property.

Councilor W. Steere stated that he does not have a problem with the name, but to get more community involvement, we could have a naming contest with fourth or fifth graders at the elementary schools. Councilor Burlingame stated that he would like to move forward with it and be done. Councilor Henry stated that she would also like to move forward with naming the Pavilion and noted that in this instance, fourth or fifth graders may not know the history of the property.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

Councilor Henry asked how the Council would go about having a sign made for the Pavilion. It was stated that this will be on the next agenda.

B. Little League - Authorization for Use of Town Equipment - Discussion and/or action

Gary Treml, Director of Public Works, stated that he has all of the equipment from Community Resource Commission’s garden and asked if the Council wants it to stay in the garage or be put into storage.

Discussion: Councilor G. Steere stated that, during Budget discussions, it was suggested that the Little League could use the mower for the fields. G. Treml suggested that the mower be stored in the shed from the Community Garden during the season, and returned to the garage for storage during the winter.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Director of Public Works to coordinate with the Little League regarding the use of the mower; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: Councilor W. Steere asked Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, if this would be a lease since the mower is Town property. T. Kane replied that he will prepare a hold harmless indemnification agreement to be signed by the Little League.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

C. Personnel

1. Recreation

a. Accept Resignation: Recreation Director - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council has received the resignation of Anthony Parrillo.

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to ACCEPT the resignation of Anthony Parrillo from the position of Recreation Director effective upon the hiring of a replacement, upon completion of training of a replacement or September 1, 2017; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: Councilor G. Steere stated that he would like to thank A. Parrillo for his work over the past 15 years and commented that we will have to try to get someone that can get some training before he leaves in September.

Councilor Henry stated that it was very generous of A. Parrillo to agree to work out the season. Councilor Burlingame stated that we must get somebody early on in the summer season because the new person cannot come in cold next May and get the job done. Councilor Burlingame further stated that we must be very careful to be sure the person has the time availability to do the job.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

b. Action to fill position - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that in Anthony Parrillo's memo, he recommends Council begin the process to hire a new Rec Director right away as he is willing to train that person during the summer program but not beyond September 1st.

Council discussion: Councilor G. Steere noted that if we hire someone to be trained by A. Parrillo, we will be paying both of them for a month or so.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Finance Director to post an ad and to begin the process of hiring a Recreation Director; seconded by Councilor Henry.

Discussion: Councilor Henry stated that once we find a qualified candidate, it can be determined how long a training period will be necessary. Councilor Henry suggested not less than 2 weeks but not to exceed 4 weeks.

Councilor Burlingame recommended putting the ad in now and using Council Contingency funds for extra salary, if needed, adding that the new Fiscal Year begins on July 1st. Councilor Burlingame stressed the importance of getting somebody on board so there is not a big gap with our recreation programs.

Councilor W. Steere asked if there is any place other than Council Contingency that this could come from, in case the Council needs the funds for something else instead of salaries. Councilor Burlingame stated that if the Finance Director can find the money somewhere else, that is great, but we should not look at that as a constraint from going forward and getting someone on board.

Councilor Henry pointed out that this is not just a summer position as there are activities every month, such as volleyball and skating.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

2. Public Works

- a. Accept Resignation - Transfer Station Attendant (Part Time)-
Discussion and/or action

Gary Treml, Director of Public Works, stated that Ron Lemire, part-time employee at the Transfer Station, is resigning due to health issues.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to ACCEPT the resignation of Ron Lemire from the position of Transfer Station Attendant, part-time effective immediately; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: Councilor G. Steere noted that R. Lemire is a likeable person who did a good job at the Transfer Station.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

- b. Action to fill position - Discussion and/or action

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Personnel Director to advertise for the position of Transfer Station Attendant (Part Time) as soon as possible; seconded by Councilor W. Steere.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

- c. Authorization - Appt. of Temporary Part-time Transfer Station Attendant(s) as needed - Discussion and/or action

Gary Treml, Director of Public Works, stated that it would be good to have a third person who would be on call to work at the Transfer Station, similar to what we have for Animal Control. G. Treml explained that this would be for when somebody takes a day or a weekend off.

Discussion: Councilor G. Steere asked G. Treml if he plans to find this person from the ad that will be placed to fill the vacant position. G. Treml replied in the affirmative.

Councilor W. Steere asked Diane Brennan, Finance Director, if this would create a new position. D. Brennan replied this would not be a new position and explained that there are two (2) individuals that work alternate weekends and this position would be to fill in if one of them needs the weekend off. D. Brennan noted that, this way, we would not have to pay somebody overtime to cover a shift. Councilor Burlingame pointed out that the important words are “as needed” and a separate motion should be made stating that.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to AUTHORIZE the Personnel Director to advertise for a part-time Transfer Station attendant, as needed; seconded by Councilor Henry.

Discussion: Diane Brennan asked if the Council wants her to run two (2) different advertisements. Tim Kane, Town Solicitor, replied that the Council needed to do two (2) motions, but one advertisement will be fine.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

D. Planning Board Clerk

- a. Authorization to fill position - (to be ratified by Council)- Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that the Town Planner and the Finance Director have indicated that they may have some viable candidates for this position. Due to time constraints and another Planning Board meeting before the next Council meeting, Councilor G. Steere asked if the Council would consider authorizing them to offer the position and ratify the appointment at the next Council meeting.

Discussion: Diane Brennan, Finance Director, stated that interviews have been conducted and there is a candidate who seems ready to fill the position.

MOTION was made by Councilor W. Steere to AUTHORIZE the Personnel Director and the Town Planner to fill the position of Planning Board Recording Clerk at the current recording clerk rate. Said appointment to be ratified with a motion of the Council at a later date; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry
NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED

E. Gloucester Town Referendum

1. Correction of Ballot Questions - Discussion and/or action

Councilor G. Steere stated that there was a question on the wording of question #1 voted on by Council. The Clerk has received extra time from the state to, again, prepare the ballot for the printers.

Councilor G. Steere read what was previously approved:

Question #1: Shall the Town Budget for fiscal year 2017/18 appropriate a sum of \$29,017,726 which includes Municipal Services & Capital Expenses; Gloucester School Dept. Operating & Capital Expenses; Gloucester's share of the Foster/Glocester Regional Operating & Capital Expenses; and includes a Levy of Property Tax not less than \$ 21,525,000 nor more than \$21,655,000 which is \$131,885 less than last years tax levy”

Discussion: Diane Brennan, Finance Director, stated that the last line would be changed to read “which is \$131,885 less in tax revenue than last year”. D. Brennan stated that there was confusion in the comparison between levies as opposed to revenues.

Councilor Burlingame asked if there is also a technical problem regarding the range of “not less than \$21,525,000 nor more than \$21,655,000”. D. Brennan replied that this is to give her room for the certification. Councilor Burlingame stated that this change takes care of it. D. Brennan agreed and stated that it makes it clearer to the voters to understand that we are raising less taxes than last year.

Councilor W. Steere suggested taking the last sentence out to eliminate any confusion. Councilor G. Steere disagreed, stating that it is important to have it there to get this Budget passed. Councilor W. Steere stated people will be confused because they see the range but the \$131,885 does not equal the range. Councilor G. Steere suggested that we keep it simple and say “less than last year”, period. Councilor G. Steere stated that he does not want anyone to interpret it a different way.

Councilor Henry stated that she feels strongly that we let the taxpayers know how hard the Budget Board and Town Council worked to deliver a Budget that is \$131,885 less than last year. Councilor Henry further stated that she would like to see that in bold print on the ballot question.

Councilor W. Steere again suggested that we take it out of the ballot wording, but then advertise that the Budget is less than last year. Councilor W. Steere commented that the average person will not understand the wording on the ballot question. Councilor Burlingame disagreed.

Councilor Henry recommended the wording as follows: “\$131,885 less than last year’s taxes”. Councilor W. Steere stated his opinion that we are making it more complex. Councilor Henry stated that the few people that come to the Referendum know what is going on and that’s why they show up. Councilor G. Steere agreed that it needs to be on the ballot and needs to be in bold print.

MOTION was made by Councilor Burlingame to AMEND Gloucester Financial Town Referendum 2017, Ballot question #1, (previously voted & approved on April 24, 2017), to read as follows:

Question #1: Shall the Town Budget for fiscal year 2017/18 appropriate a sum of \$29,017,726 which includes Municipal Services & Capital Expenses; Gloucester School Dept. Operating & Capital Expenses; Gloucester’s share of the Foster/Glocester Regional Operating & Capital Expenses; and includes a Levy of Property Tax not less than \$ 21,525,000 nor more than \$21,655,000, **which is \$131,885 less than last year’s taxes.**

seconded by Councilor Henry.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame & Henry
NAYS - W. Steere

MOTION PASSED

- X. Town Council Correspondence /Discussion
 - A. Councilor G. Steere stated that an invitation was received from the Gloucester Light Infantry regarding their Memorial Day Parade on May 29th.
 - B. Councilor G. Steere stated that a resignation was received from Anthony Parrillo.
 - C. Councilor G. Steere stated that a letter was received from GM2 Associates, an engineering and design firm interested in doing work for the Town of Gloucester.
 - D. Councilor G. Steere stated that a Resolution was received from the Town of Smithfield regarding no concealed weapons on school grounds.
 - E. Councilor G. Steere stated that correspondence was received from the Friends of Harmony Village inviting the Council to attend their 200 year celebration of the Harmony Meeting House on May 20th at 2:00 PM.
 - F. Councilor G. Steere stated that correspondence was received from the RI Health and Educational Building Corporation announcing the sale of \$58.96 million in tax exempt bonds.

G. Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council has received the Trust's annual report.

XI. Department Head Reports/Discussion

A. Councilor W. Steere asked Ken Johnson, Building/Zoning Official, for the status of the work being done on the house on the Kent property. K. Johnson stated that they have started on the roof and have worked on the porch and the fence. K. Johnson stated that if we can keep water out of the building, it can probably be saved. Councilor Henry noted that the landscaping has been cleaned up and the property looks much better.

XII. Bds. and Commissions Reports/ Discussion

None.

XIII. Open Forum

A. Walter Bienieki, resident, spoke about property at 145 Spring Grove Road stating that it is a "new junk yard in town". W. Bienieki stated that the property is owned by David Moniz, who resides in Burrillville. W. Bienieki stated that Ken Johnson, Building Official, has sent letters to the owner, but has received no reply. W. Bienieki stated that he has seen rats on the property and commented that it is a health problem. W. Bienieki stated that he called the State Health Department and was told that Gloucester is too far for them to come out. Councilor G. Steere stated that the Council will follow up on the situation.

B. Walter Steere, Jr. spoke regarding the ballot language and asked if our taxes are going down. Councilor Burlingame replied that the amount to be raised by taxes is going down by \$131,885. W. Steere, Jr. asked if the overall budget is going up. Councilor Burlingame stated that we have reduced expenses this year by over \$200,000. W. Steere, Jr. asked if we are spending more money next year than we did this year. Councilor Henry stated that the numbers from the revaluation are not done yet. Councilor Henry stated that we need to tell the taxpayers when they vote on the Budget that it is less than last year's. Councilor Burlingame stated that on the Capital side, we are spending more this year than last, but we transferred some surplus, therefore there is no appropriation impact. Councilor Burlingame stated that on the Operations side, there is the reduction of \$135,000 and also has the set aside for the proration of students at the Region. Councilor Burlingame stated that the answer to W. Steere, Jr.'s question is no, we are not spending more than last year.

C. Edna Kent suggested that the Pavilion be named "Pavilion Park at Kent Field" because it is a park as well as a pavilion.

E. Kent commented that the Dorr Rebellion Museum has mowing to do and could also make use of the mower because it is costly to ask people to do it. E. Kent stated that on June 10th, there will be an Open House and Garden at the Museum with URI Master Gardeners.

E. Kent reported that there is an incredible amount of litter around the Family Dollar store, in the back around the dumpster and in the front parking lot. Councilor Henry stated that we should send a letter to the owner of the property that houses the Family Dollar and the Post Office telling them to clean up the parking lot. Ken Johnson, Building Official, stated that the manager of Family Dollar came to his office to complain that the roof was leaking and several ceiling tiles had fallen inside the building. K. Johnson stated that he is in touch with the owners of the property and he hopes they will cooperate.

D. Don Simpson, of 150 Lake View Drive, spoke regarding the intersection where Chopmist Hill Road and Chestnut Hill Road egress onto Putnam Pike. D. Simpson stated that it seems to have been badly designed and suggested that a roundabout be built to make it easier for vehicles to turn onto Putnam Pike and Chopmist Hill Road. D. Simpson asked why the State decided to put a roundabout in at the light on Putnam Pike. Councilor G. Steere replied that it is because of the traffic backup that occurs at that intersection. D. Simpson commented that he sees drivers on Chopmist Hill Road exit into CVS and go through the parking lot to get to Putnam Pike.

D. Simpson asked if the Town or the State can do anything regarding the oncoming invasion of gypsy moth caterpillars. Councilor Burlingame stated that Davey Tree Service gave him a quote for spraying his driveway and the perimeter of his house, which would require 1000 gallons at \$1.00 per gallon. Councilor Henry commented that the State has not addressed the situation. D. Simpson noted that there isn't a problem in Putnam or Greenville, only Chepachet.

D. Simpson stated that he travels on Chestnut Oak Road and the trash along both sides of the road is devastating. Councilor Henry stated that education is necessary and we are starting by placing the ad asking people to secure their loads.

XIV. Adjourn

MOTION was made by Councilor Henry to ADJOURN at 8:55 p.m.; seconded by Councilor Burlingame.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: AYES - G. Steere, Burlingame, W. Steere & Henry

NAYS - 0

MOTION PASSED