

Approved
10-7-2019

AMENDED
The City of Warwick
Docket of the City Council
Regular Business/ Public Hearing Meeting
For
July 15, 2019
@
Council Chambers
Warwick City Hall
3275 Post Road
Warwick, RI 02886
@ 7:00 P.M.
Steve Merolla, President

Roll Call: 9/0

Time: 8:22 PM

Salute To The Flag: Howe

Executive Communications

General Communications –

Quarterly Reports

1. Dan O'Rourke - Water Department
2. Eric Hindinger – Engineering
3. Phil Carlucci - MIS
4. Scott Goodinson & Anthony Poole - WSA

A. Acceptance of minutes from council meeting held on:

May 20, 2019

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

May 28, 2019

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

May 29, 2019

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

May 31, 2019

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

June 3, 2019

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

June 17, 2019

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

Public Comment

RULE 41. After the General Communications and prior to the Consent Calendar at each City Council Public Hearing meeting there shall be a fifteen minute period during which citizens may comment about Warwick city government issues subject to the following stipulations:

- a) The total period of time for public comment shall be 15 minutes.
Comments need to be brief in order to allow as many citizens as possible to participate.
- b) The topics for comment shall be issues directly affecting City government.
- c) City Council members will not respond to questions during the public comment period.
- d) The public comment session will terminate at the expiration of 15 minutes.
Waiver of this provision requires unanimous consent.

Gene Nadeau – retired vice chair of school committee member – had a meeting @ the public library on the financial crisis of City of Warwick. Ret. Supreme Ct Justice Robert Flanders spoke to a capacity audience. He spoke w/ honesty and integrity and the facts of the situation in Warwick on taxes and possibility of what might happen. Spoke of the taxes, would not stop and the situation of Central Falls bankruptcy that took over school dept. Been in Warwick 55 years during that time, done good for the City. Rec'd tax notice – went up 16% most he's seen in 55 years been here. Bill shows 48.2% City/51.8% School. City pays \$124 million

Joseph D'Antonio – Myrtle Ave – up in arms that City is in severe financial crisis, appreciates the committee and looks forward to attending meetings. Hope we don't find savings on the backs of our City workers. Health Ins Co seems to be making a good profit. If we could find a way to put forth legislation-both city and state level to rein in healthcare costs. At the end of the day legacy costs are pension and healthcare. Focus more on why health ins companies are making

money while others are struggling. Life-long resident, loves city I'll do what it takes to get city on right track but when corp is making money we need to tighten our belts and stand up to that as a group, instead of just standing up to our workers. City workers come in good faith – restructured in good faith. We love what we do.

Rob Cote – disturbing that people waited three hours and we only get 15 minutes to speak- disingenuous. This is systematic as to what is wrong – tonight is an example of what is broken in this City, procedures, financial – Council s/h suspended rules and let people speak. Follow protocol; follow agenda, while people walk out, what do you think they think of this council? People know that the City is \$680 mil in unfunded liability and \$358 mil in unfunded healthcare costs – still giving away free lifetime healthcare. Does anyone on the council know how to balance a check book? Another 5 year report coming out – old one was good, this one will be better from same firm. Council needs to declare a financial emergency in this City and then have to face the people and when you declare; you go in and make cuts to the unsustainable give away that have been going on in this City. You have to have the fortitude to do it =- please get it done.

Donald Fife – Ward 1 Resident, 49 years homeowner – cannot afford to live here; you are taxing people out of their homes. Sr. Citizen on fixed incomes, taxes up \$650 a quarter - average salary for a fireman is \$53,000 Warwick fireman is \$96,000 and that's paid by the taxpayers. Average salary of a Warwick taxpayer, I bet is less than \$53,000. Ridiculous contracts need to go, anyone mention receivership? Had a meeting @ library speaker John Flanders – said Warwick qualifies for receivership – can't keep Kicking can down the road – fix the problem. People can't continue to pay ridiculous taxes

Stacia Huyler – doesn't dig healthcare costs going up – we pay increase taxes Don is a senior and veteran and his taxes still went up \$650 – she doesn't dig healthcare costs going up for City Employees – who are not paying their fair share. We the taxpayers carry the load. Reads comments from her blog regarding how much taxes went up. This is what we have to pay because this city doesn't know how to cut spending. Five year future plan been talking about for 20 years. No City Employee should be getting healthcare for zilch. Kids behind her have no future in Warwick

Roger Durand – offers apology to children – shouldn't have to be putting up with this. Has been attending council meetings for 13 years, nothing has been done. Told former mayor it was happening and nothing was done. Warwick does not have the money it's obvious. Warwick does not have a revenue problems we have a spending problem. There are some members of the CC trying to change things. It's Ludacris to set up commissions, how we can proportion taxes, asking council to set up commission to start

reviewing legacy costs – he introduced that terminology 13 years ago. Asks CC, some member want to solve it, we need a commission to review healthcare and pension – they are unsustainable – everyone knows that.

Jay Bongiovani – represents warwick financial crisis committee. Thanks CP for courage Displayed tonight on resolution presented and looks forward to hearing about it.

Mr. Simmons – found unclaimed money city will not file it. He’s found thousands of dollars and he’s being ignored – provided information 5x over to the Mayor and to Mr. Howell and keeps being ignored.

8:50 Moved to Unanimous Consent

1. Announcement of Appointments – None

2. Appointments Requiring Confirmation –

Municipal Court

Kelly A. McElroy

27 North St.

Warwick, RI 02886

Vice: Joel Gerstenblatt

Ward 8

Term to Expire: October 1, 2021

Committee Report: **Favorable**

Action:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

Kevin B. Murphy

110 Bow Street

East Greenwich, RI 02818

Vice: Joel Gerstenblatt

Term to Expire: October 1, 2021

Committee Report: **Favorable**

Action:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

3. Consent Calendar –

1. PCR-107-19 Resolution Relative to Bids

(Councilman Ladouceur)

Committee Report: Finance: **Favorable As Amended**

Action:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

2. PCR-108-19 Resolution Relative to Abatements (Councilman Ladouceur)

Committee Report: Finance: **Favorable**

Action:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Consent calendar vote:

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

1. PCR-110-19 2019-060 HVAC Maintenance & Repair Thayer/Warburton Arenas (Councilman Ladouceur)

Committee Report: (Finance) To Withdraw

Action:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

2. PCR-111-19 2020-053 Security System Monitoring & Maintenance
(Councilman Ladouceur)

Committee Report: (Finance): **Favorable as Amended**

Action:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

3. **PCR-112-19 2019-277B Fire Apparatus Repair (add'l Vendor)**

Committee Report: (Finance): To Hold 8-19-19

Action:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Vote:

Referred Business

1. **PCO-14-19 An Ordinance amending the Zoning of the City of Warwick, 528 Greenwich Ave., Carpionato Group LLC, Petitioner**
(Councilman Sinapi)

Public Hearing First Passage

Committee Report: (Land Use): Recommends Public Hearing

Action: Sinapi to open public hearing

Moved by: Sinapi

Seconded by: all

Vote: vv

Speaking For:

K. Joseph Shekarchi, Esq.

Kelly Coates - Carpionato

Speaking Against:

Darlene & Gary Melao's - Naples Ave.

Action: To Close

Moved by: Ladouceur

Seconded by: McAllister, Travis

Vote: vv

Action: Favorable

Moved by: Sinapi

Seconded by: McAllister, Travis, Ladouceur, McElroy

Vote:

12:00 PM – no objection to continue the hearing
Action: Favorable to Amend
Moved by: Sinapi
Seconded by: Ladouceur, McAllister, McElroy
Vote: 9/0

Action: Favorable as Amended
Moved by: Sinapi
Seconded by: Ladouceur, McAllister, Travis, McElroy
Vote: 9/0

Ladouceur objects to continuing after midnight

Unfinished Business

1. **PCO-11-19 – Amendment to the Ordinance relative to parking on Herff Jones Way** (Councilman Rix, Councilman Ladouceur, Councilman Corley)

Second Passage

Committee Report: (Public Safety): **Favorable**

Action:
Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote:

2. **PCO-18-15 Neighborhood Improvement Program- An Ordinance that will make Landlords responsible for the costs to pick up debris left on the street by tenants.** (Councilman Ladouceur, Councilwoman Travis)

First Passage – Not Drafted

Committee Report: (Ordinance): **Hold 8-19-19**

3. **PCO-3-18 Rocky Point – Ordinance to Protect the Rights of Private Property Owners** (Councilman Ladouceur)

First Passage – Not Drafted

Committee Report: (Health, Education & Welfare): **Hold 8-19-19**

4. **PCO-7-19 – Pension Board** (Councilman Ladouceur)

First Passage – Not Drafted

Committee Report: (Finance): **Hold 8-19-19**

5. **PCO-10-19 Ordinance in regards to water discharge** (Councilman Ladouceur, Councilwoman Travis, Councilman McElroy, Councilman McAllister, Councilman Sinapi)

First Passage – Not Drafted

Committee Report: (Ordinance): **Hold 9-4-19**

6. **PCO-13-19 Ordinance in regards to No Parking here to corner on Chapmans Ave (406 Chapmans to 420 Chapmans)** (Councilman McAllister)

First Passage

Committee Report: (Ordinance): **Hold 9-4-19**

7. **PCR-94-17 Bid 2017-147 State of RI Telecommunication Services/Installation & Parts** (Councilman Ladouceur)

Committee Report: (Finance): **Hold 8-19-19**

8. **PCR-148-17 Bid 2018-143 Installation of Sprinklers @ Cooper Bldg. Drill Hall** (Councilman Ladouceur)

Committee Report: (Finance): **Hold 8-19-19**

9. **PCR-16-18 Tree Damage Claims** (Councilman McAllister)

Not Drafted

Committee Report: (Public Safety): **Hold 9-4-19**

10. **PCR-69-18 Resolution to Establish a Buckeye Brook Advisory Committee** (Councilman Ladouceur)

Not Drafted

Committee Report: Heath, Education and Welfare: **Hold 9-4-19**

11. **PCR-134-18 Resolution to create a Charter Review Committee** (Councilman Ladouceur, Councilman Howe, Councilman Corley, Councilwoman Travis)

Not Drafted

Committee Report: Intergovernmental: **Hold 9-4-19**

12. **PCR-94-19 Claim – Gary Roy** (Councilman Sinapi)

Committee Report: (Public Safety): **Favorable \$205.50**

Action:
Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote:

13. PCR-95-19 Claim – Donna DiBiasio (Councilman Sinapi)

Committee Report: (Public Safety): **Favorable \$54.89**

Action:
Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote:

14. PCR-96-19 Claim – Brandon Bovill (Councilman Sinapi)

Committee Report: (Public Safety): **Hold 8-19-19**

15. PCR-88-19 Resolution in support of Legislation to establish an Ocean State Climate Adaption and Resilience Fund (OSCAR) (Councilman Rix)

Committee Report: (Intergovernmental): **Hold 8-19-19**

New Business

1. PCO-15-19 An Ordinance in regards to Healthcare (Councilman Ladouceur)

First Passage – Not Drafted

Committee Report: (Ordinance): **Hold 8-19-19**

2. PCR-104-19 A Resolution to the Warwick School Committee to fully fund all School sport programs for the 2019-2020 year (Councilman Howe)

Committee Report: (Intergovernmental): **Favorable**

Action:
Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote:

3. PCR-105-19 Resolution to form a Commission to study potential means of tax relief for Warwick Residents via general exemptions for consideration relative to Fiscal Year 2021 and thereafter (Councilman Rix)

Not Drafted

Committee Report: (Finance): **Hold 8-19-19**

4. **PCR-106-19 A Resolution relative to installing a stop sign on Grotto Ave.**
(Councilman Howe)

Committee Report: (Public Safety): **Favorable**

Action:

Moved by:

Seconded:

Vote:

Unanimous Consent

1. **PCR-109-19 – A Resolution committing to appropriate an additional 1.3 Million Dollars to the School Department if the School Committee Commits to Utilize the Additional Funds for School Sports Programs** (Council President Merolla, Councilman Corley, Councilman Rix, Councilman Howe, Councilman McElroy, Councilman Ladouceur, Councilwoman Travis, Councilman McAllister, Councilman Sinapi)

Action: **Favorable**

Moved by: **Ladouceur**

Seconded by: **all**

~~Vote:~~

Motion: To suspend the rules – Ladouceur

Second by: Rix, Corley, McAllister

Vote: vv

Speaking:

Troy Seiderfield – Warwick Resident – Ponaganset HS for Music Program

Ron Tvenstrup – Ward 5, Retired City Worker

Gene Nadeau – retired Warwick School Committee Member

Jillian Ricci – Sr. @ Pilgrim HS

Brooke Gigaletti – Student Pilgrim HS

Jacob McDougal

Jackie Brooks – Warwick Resident – Child @ Toll Gate

Alise Van Leuin – Student

Olivia Kinsley – Student

Tom Flanders – Pilgrim Girls Soccer Coach

Samantha Bertrand – 3 sport athlete

Motion to Close PH – Ladouceur

Seconded by: Travis, Howe

Vote: vv (8/1 – Sinapi)

Motion to Re-open PH – Sinapi

Seconded by: McAllister, Travis, Rix

Vote: vv

Speaking:

Maureen Kinsley – parent

Nicole Bertrand – parent Ward 8 Resident

Angela Fauchie – Ward 9 resident

Scott Bayhay- Pilgrim Coach

Joe Dantonio

James Williams – taxpayer parent of TG Student

Karen Bachus – School Committee

Brendan Russo – Toll Gate Student

Karen Bachus – School Committee

Scott Phelps – Ward 1

Joe Pasquina – Ward 9

Motion to Close PH – Ladouceur

Seconded by: McAllister

Vote: vv

Motion for Recess: Ladouceur

Seconded by: McAllister

Vote: vv

Time: 10:48 PM – 11:09 PM

Motion: Favorable To Amend – Sinapi

Seconded by: McAllister, Travis, McElroy, Howe

Vote: 9/0

Motion: Favorable As Amended

Seconded by: McAllister, Travis, McElroy, Howe, Corley

Vote: 9/0

No Objection to Move to #1 – Referred Business

Motion to Adjourn: Travis

Seconded by:

Vote: VV

Time: 12:18 PM

Next Available Numbers: PCR- 110-19
PCO-16-19

DOCKET SESSION

Sinapi – Appropriation of Funds to the School Department (Fin)
Merolla – Resolution 5 year Plan (Fin)

Attest,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn D'Abrosca". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lynn D'Abrosca, Acting City Clerk

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the City Clerk's Office at 738-2006 ext. 6 at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.