

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES- WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026**

The council met on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, and called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, Council Chambers, Council Chairman Calouro presiding:

PRESENT: Council Chairman, Nathan Calouro  
Vice-Chairwoman, Mary Parella  
Councilman, Antonio "Tony" Teixeira  
Councilman, Timothy Sweeney  
Councilman, Aaron Ley

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator, Steven Contente  
Assistant Town Solicitor, Amy Goins, Esq  
Town Sergeant, Archie Martins

**6:30 PM Public Service Interviews and Appointments**

**The Pledge of Allegiance**

Council Chair Calouro led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

North & East Burial Grounds Commission - 2 unexpired 5-year terms (1 - Member expiring January 2029 and 1- Auxiliary Member expiring January 2028)

- a. William Leary, 9 Patricia Ann Drive - interest/appointment
- b. Carol Gafford, 36 Church Street Apt. 1, Warren - interest in Auxiliary Position/appointment

Parella/Teixeira- Voted unanimously to appoint William Leary to the North & East Burial Ground Commission with a term set to expire in January 2029 and to appoint Carol Gafford as the auxiliary member with a term set to expire in January 2028

The Council heard from Mr. Leary who expressed his interest in becoming a member of the North & East Burial Ground Commission. Discussions ensued between members of the Council and Mr. Leary pertaining to Mr. Leary's qualifications and experiences. Mr. Leary also stated why he would consider himself to be a good fit for the position.

The Council heard from Ms. Gafford who expressed her interest in becoming a member of the North & East Burial Ground Commission. Discussions ensued between members of the Council and Ms. Gafford, pertaining to Ms. Gafford's qualifications and experiences. Ms. Gafford also stated why she would consider herself to be a good fit for the position.

Bristol Housing Authority - (1 unexpired, 5-year term set to expire January 2029)

a. Donna Wilson, 5 Jenny Lane - interest/appointment

b. Jeanne Bundy, 1 Tina Court - interest/appointment

Teixeira/Ley- Voted unanimously to appoint Donna Willson to the Bristol Housing Authority with a term set to expire in January 2029 subject to an advisory opinion by the ethics commission.

The Council heard from Ms. Willson who expressed her interest in becoming a member of the Bristol Housing Authority. Discussions ensued between members of the Council and Ms. Willson pertaining to Ms. Willson's qualifications and experiences. Ms. Willson also stated why she would consider herself to be a good fit for the position.

The Council heard from Ms. Bundy who expressed her interest in becoming a member of the Bristol Housing Authority. Discussions ensued between members of the Council and Ms. Bundy pertaining to Ms. Bundy's qualifications and experiences. Ms. Bundy also stated why she would consider herself to be a good fit for the position.

- **Recess:**

At this point in the meeting, Council Chairman Calouro declared a brief recess from 7:05 PM until 7:08 PM.

**Motion RE: Consent Agenda - To Approve the Consent Agenda**

Sweeney/ Teixeira- - Voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda withholding Item GG4 for further consideration.

*It is noted for the record that discussion on item GG4 occurred at the conclusion of the public agenda, and the actions related to item GG4 are reflected, in place, as found within*

**A. Submission of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

- A1.** Town Council Meeting Minutes (Draft) - April 22, 2026
- A2.** Town Council Executive Session Meeting Minutes (sealed, council only) - April 22, 2026
- A3.** Town Council Special Meeting Minutes (Draft)- April 27, 2026
- A4.** Town Council Special Meeting Minutes (Draft) - April 29, 2026

Sweeney/Teixeira- Voted unanimously to approve the minutes of Town Council meeting - April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Executive session April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Special Meeting- April 27<sup>th</sup> , and Special Meeting- April 29<sup>th</sup> as prepared and presented.

**B. Public Hearings**

**B1. Public Hearing - Cancellation**

To receive notice that the public hearing scheduled for the reconsideration of Alicia V. Saldana, Qhali Corporation d/b/a Qhali Kitchen, regarding the transfer of a Class BV Liquor License to Toufic Walid Assi, Qhali Bar & Grill, LLC d/b/a Qhali Bar & Grill, 34 Gooding Avenue has been canceled at the request of both the transferor and transferee, who have submitted formal withdrawn of their petition for transfer.

Sweeney/Teixeira - Voted unanimously to receive and file

**B2. Public Hearing - Cancellation**

To receive notice that the public hearing scheduled for David Fierabend, The Franklin, LLC, 195 Franklin Street, request for Modification of BV Intoxicating Beverage License (to expand alcohol service area to include outdoor seating) has been canceled, as the applicant did not obtain the required prerequisite approval(s) necessary to proceed with the hearing.

Sweeney/Teixeira - Voted unanimously to receive and file

**C. Ordinances**

- C1.** Ordinance (2026-06) Amendment to Chapter 16 - Motor vehicles and traffic, Article V - Stopping, standing, and parking, Section 16-143 - Parking prohibited at all times, Section 16-152 Curb loading zones, Article IX - Residential Parking, Section 16-345 Designated residential parking streets (parking regulations for Burnside Street) **(1st reading)**

Teixeira/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to consider this action to constitute the first reading of Ordinance #2026-06. Advertise in the local newspaper.

- C2.** Ordinance (2026-07) Amendment, Chapter 11 -Fees and Charges, Section 11-1 - Comprehensive schedule of fee (Zoning and Planning Related Fee Changes) **(1st reading)**

Sweeney/Teixeira - Voted unanimously to consider this action to constitute the first reading of Ordinance #2026-07. Advertise in the local newspaper.

- C3.** Ordinance (2026-08) Amendment to Chapter 16 - Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article IX Residential Parking, Sec. 16-345 Designated residential parking streets (to amend the parking on Bradford Street between Hope and Central) **(1st Reading)**

Teixeira/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to consider this action to constitute the first reading of Ordinance #2026-08. Advertise in the local newspaper.

**D. Licensing Board - New Petitions**

**D1. WITHDRAWAL OF PETITION TO TRANSFER LICEESE**

Withdrawal of request for transfer of license for Class BV Liquor License for Toufic Walid Assi, Qhali Bar & Grill, LLC, d/b/a Qhali Bar & Grill, 34 Gooding Avenue

- a. Correspondence from transferor and transferee

Teixeira/ Sweeney- Voted unanimously to receive and file

**E. Licensing Board - Renewals**

**E1. Sidewalk Use License Renewals 2026-2027**

- a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police
- b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Fire Chief
- c. recommendation - Town Administrator and Code Compliance Officer

Sweeney/Teixeira- Voted unanimously to grant this license per the recommendations received and conditions, if any, as delineated, and also subject to conformance to all laws and ordinances and payment of all fees, taxes, and levies

**E2. Sidewalk and Alcohol Use License Renewals 2026-2027**

- a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police
- b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Fire Chief
- c. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Public Works

Sweeney/Teixeira- Voted unanimously to grant this license per the recommendations received and conditions, if any, as delineated, and also subject to conformance to all laws and ordinances and payment of all fees, taxes, and levies

**F. Petitions - Other**

**F1.** Ana Isabel dos Reis Couto- RI Day of Portugal Committee request to fly Portuguese Flag with a flag-raising ceremony on Monday, June 1, 2026, 11:00 AM at the Bristol Town Hall

- a. memo from Clerk of Canvassers re qualifying signatures received

Teixeira/Sweeney - Voted unanimously to approve this petition, allowing that a 3 X 5 foot 'Portugal' flag may be flown on a Town flagpole at Town Hall, with the Town assuming no responsibility for the care of this flag beyond its raising.

**F2.** Kristina Rubin, 32 Pearse Avenue requesting removal of accessible parking space located in front of residence **(2nd Reading)**

- a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police
- b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Public Works
- c. Resolution 2026-5-13-F2 (Draft)

Teixeira/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to consider this action to be the second reading for the to remove an accessible parking space. Inform the Public Works Department.

- F3.** Bristol Police Department request for financial support (\$1,500) for the Bristol Police Youth Leadership Academy

Teixeira/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to appropriate \$2000 from the Town Council Contingency account in support of this program

Prior to the vote being taken The Town Council considered a request from the Bristol Police Department for financial support for the Bristol Police Youth Leadership Academy.

Councilman Teixeira moved to approve funding in the amount of \$2,000 from the Council Contingency Account, increasing the original request of \$1,500. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ley.

During discussion, Councilman Teixeira expressed strong support for the program, citing its positive impact on Bristol youth and the community. Councilman Ley noted that sufficient contingency funds remained available and described the Academy as an example of effective community policing.

Sergeant Batista of the Bristol Police Department addressed the Council and thanked members for their continued support. He explained that he would be assuming leadership of the program and noted that Town funding helps keep participation costs affordable for local families. Sergeant Batista reviewed the program structure, including its focus on leadership development, character building, teamwork, and community engagement for youth ages 8 to 14, with older participants serving as counselors-in-training. He reported that the 2026 Academy is scheduled for August 10-14 and that enrollment remains consistently strong.

Councilman Sweeney praised the program's role in fostering leadership, social interaction, and meaningful connections among young people.

- F4.** Director Zipf, Bristol Historical and Preservation Society request for financial support (\$1,000) to cover the cost for a travel cover for the Nathaniel Byfield Flag

Parella/Teixeira- Voted  
unanimously to appropriate \$1000  
from the Town Council Contingency  
account to cover the cost for a  
travel/display cover for the  
Nathaniel Byfield Flag

Prior to the vote being taken, Council members considered a request from Catherine Ziff, Director of the Bristol Historical & Preservation Society (BHPS), for \$1,000 in financial support to purchase a protective travel/display cover for the Nathaniel Byfield flag.

Ms. Ziff explained that the Byfield flag, currently conserved and housed at the Varnum Armory, is planned to return to Bristol for public display as part of the Town's 250th anniversary commemorations. She stated that a custom protective travel cover is necessary to safely transport and exhibit the fragile artifact and noted that the cover would be reusable for future displays. Ms. Ziff outlined plans for the flag to be displayed in Bristol from June 10-14, including opportunities for school field trips and public viewing.

During discussion, Council members expressed support for the request and highlighted the historical significance of the Byfield flag and the opportunity to bring the artifact back to Bristol for community viewing. Discussion included the history of the flag's conservation, the educational value of the display, and the long-term benefit of purchasing reusable transportation and display equipment.

Treasurer Carulli advised that the requested funding could be provided from the Council Contingency Account.

## **G. Appointments**

- G1.** Rogers Free Library Board of Trustees - 1 unexpired 3  
-year term set to expire January 2029
- a. Kaitlyn Carmody, 12 Ellen Street -  
interest/appointment

b. Christina Palmer, 7 Church Cove -  
interest/appointment

c. Anne Silvia, Chair Board of Trustees -  
recommendation for Kaitlyn Carmody

Parella/Teixeira- Voted unanimously to  
instruct the Clerk to set a special  
meeting for interviews to be held at  
the next council meeting of June 3,  
2026, or at the convenience of the  
parties

Prior to the vote being taken, Chairman Calouro requested  
clarification regarding the number of applicants considered  
during the recruitment process.

Town Clerk Cordeiro explained that five applications had  
originally been received; however, after follow-up by the  
Clerk's Office and Board Chair Andy Silva, the previously  
interested applicants indicated they were no longer interested  
in serving. Following additional advertising and outreach  
efforts, only the two current applicants remained interested and  
were before the Council for consideration.

Chairman Calouro and Councilwoman Parella noted that the  
explanation clarified prior questions regarding the applicant  
pool and confirmed that the current candidates represented those  
still willing to serve.

**H. Old Business**

**I. Other New Business Requiring Town Council Action**

- 11.** Library Director Dyer - requests council consideration  
to adopt the (draft) Resolution in support of fully  
funding state aid to libraries to the full Twenty-five  
(25) percent

Teixeira/Sweeney - Voted  
unanimously to adopt the  
resolution in support of fully  
funding state aid to libraries at  
25% and to authorize the Clerk to

send to the General Assembly a resolution in support of same.

Prior to the vote being taken, Director Dyer addressed the Council regarding the proposed resolution and explained that it requests the Rhode Island General Assembly fully fund library grant-in-aid at the 25% level established under state law. She stated that the resolution urges the State to meet its statutory obligation and provide funding consistent with the requirements of Title 29

### **Combining items**

\* Ley/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to suspend the regular order of business to combine agenda item I2 with I3.

- I2.** Discussion and possible action regarding the distribution of income funds held in the Public Schools Retirement Fund of Bristol, subsequently designated to the Friends of Rogers Free Library for the benefit of children's library programs, and including new funds expected to be added from the trust established under the Will of Isabella M. Wardwell dated March 29, 1938, as amended by a codicil dated May 16, 1939 ("Isabella Wardwell Trust") including consideration of redirecting such funds directly to the Rogers Free Library

Sweeney/Teixeira- voted unanimously to accept the funds distributed from the Isabella Wardwell Trust, with the principal to be deposited into an account managed by the Town, and any interest or earnings generated therefrom to be distributed directly to the Rogers Free Library in accordance with the purposes of the Isabella Wardwell Trust; contingent upon court approval of the trustee's petition to terminate and distribute the Wardwell Trust.

Prior to the vote being taken, Solicitor Goins provided an overview of the Isabella Wardwell Trust and advised that Bank of America, as trustee, intends to petition the court for

termination of the trust due to the relatively small size of the remaining assets and the inefficiency of continued administration. Upon termination, the remaining assets would be distributed to the named beneficiaries, including the Public Schools Retirement Fund of Bristol and Rogers Free Library.

The Council discussed whether future income derived from the Public Schools Retirement Fund and related Wardwell Trust distributions should continue to be directed through the Friends of Rogers Free Library, as established by Council action in 2010, or be distributed directly to Rogers Free Library.

Peter Maloney, Chair of the Friends of Rogers Free Library, addressed the Council and outlined the Friends' longstanding financial support of library services, including children's books, programming, performers, and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. He noted that the Friends have historically directed trust income toward children's services and expressed concern that changing the funding structure would provide little practical benefit to the Library since the funds are already used for library purposes. He requested that the matter be referred to the Town Administrator for additional review and recommendation.

Library Director Eileen Dyer explained the State's library grant-in-aid and endowment aid programs and advised that direct distribution of trust income to the Library would provide a more reliable and transparent means of qualifying for additional state endowment aid. She noted that recognized endowment income can generate an additional 25% state match, thereby increasing the overall funding available to the Library.

Steve Avison, a member of the Friends of Rogers Free Library, also addressed the Council and sought clarification regarding the anticipated Wardwell Trust distribution and the financial impact of the State's endowment grant-in-aid program. He questioned how the projected additional state funding would be calculated and whether the benefit would recur annually. Avison noted that both the Friends' endowment and Town-managed funds have historically performed well and emphasized that the Friends have successfully managed and distributed the teachers' trust income for many years. He stated that the Friends could provide any reporting requested by the Town and encouraged further discussion regarding the advantages and disadvantages of maintaining the current structure versus directing the funds directly to the Library in order to maximize state aid.

Treasurer Carulli and Town Administrator Contente reviewed the financial and administrative implications of the proposal. They

advised that the Town already manages similar restricted trust funds through professional investment management and that directing the trust income directly to the Library would maximize eligibility for additional state funding. They estimated that the proposed structure could generate several thousand dollars annually in additional state aid while maintaining appropriate oversight and administration of the funds.

Council members discussed investment performance, reporting requirements associated with the current arrangement, endowment certification procedures, and opportunities to maximize state grant funding. While expressing appreciation for the Friends of Rogers Free Library and their longstanding support of library programs and community initiatives, several Council members concluded that direct distribution of trust income to the Library would provide the most predictable and financially advantageous approach for supporting children's services and maximizing available state aid.

Chairman Calouro summarized that all parties shared the common goal of strengthening Rogers Free Library and ensuring that the trust funds provide the greatest possible benefit to library services and programs.

- 13.** Discussion and possible action regarding the distribution of funds expected to be added from the trust established under the Will of Isabella M. Wardwell dated March 29, 1938, as amended by a codicil dated May 16, ("Isabella Wardwell Trust"), to be spent in accordance with the purposes of the Henry Wardwell Fund, for the benefit of the Rogers Free Library, including consideration of directing such funds.

Sweeney/ Teixeira- voted unanimously to accept the funds distributed from the Isabella Wardwell Trust, with the principal to be deposited into an account managed by the Town, and any interest or earnings generated therefrom to be distributed directly to the Rogers Free Library in accordance with the purposes of the Isabella Wardwell Trust; contingent upon court approval of the trustee's petition to terminate and distribute the Wardwell Trust.

*It is noted for the record that a motion was made by Councilman Ley and seconded by Councilman Sweeney to combine Agenda Items I.2 and I.3 for purposes of discussion. The motion passed unanimously. Discussion of both matters occurred under Agenda Item I.2; however, any actions taken on each item are separately reflected under their respective agenda headings herein*

**I4.** Bristol Town Council- Consideration of Proclamation Recognizing Small Business Month

Teixeira/Sweeney-Voted unanimously to support the Proclamation Declaring the month of May Small Business Month, and send to the 38 other Rhode Island municipalities

Prior to the vote being taken, Chairman Calouro noted that the proclamation had been placed on the agenda at the request of Councilman Teixeira and invited him to speak.

Councilman Teixeira expressed his support for recognizing Small Business Month, noting that locally owned and family-operated businesses are an important part of Bristol's economy and community character. He highlighted the Town's many long-standing businesses and their contributions to the community.

Chairman Calouro then read portions of the proclamation into the record, recognizing the vital role small businesses play in creating jobs, providing services, strengthening the community, and contributing to the unique character of Bristol. The proclamation encouraged residents to support local businesses during Small Business Month and throughout the year.

Chairman Calouro thanked Councilman Teixeira for bringing the item forward and reiterated the significant contributions small businesses make to the Town.

**I5.** Discussion and possible action regarding House Bill 7676 concerning proposed changes to Open Meetings requirements, and potential Council correspondence or legislative advocacy related thereto

Parella/Teixeira -moved to authorize correspondence to the Town's legislative delegation, with particular attention to the Senate delegation and Senate leadership,

expressing concerns regarding House Bill 7676, including the implementation timeline, lack of funding, need for extended deadlines or phased implementation, and the impact on municipalities that have already adopted budgets. The motion further directed the Town Clerk and Town Solicitor to prepare the correspondence based on prior communications and the Council's discussion and authorized the Council Chairman to sign the letter on behalf of the Council. Voting in favor were Calouro, Parella, Teixeira, and Sweeney. Voting opposes was Ley.

Prior to the vote being taken, The Council considered House Bill 7676, which proposes substantial amendments to the Rhode Island Open Meetings Act, including expanded requirements for remote participation, live streaming, and online posting of meeting materials for municipal boards and commissions.

Town Clerk Cordeiro provided an overview of the legislation and advised that, while she supports the goals of transparency and public access, a closer review of the bill revealed broad mandates that extend beyond advisory boards and could create significant financial, technological, and administrative challenges for municipalities. She explained that the proposal would require expanded video participation and live-streaming capabilities, impose new requirements for posting meeting backup materials, and establish implementation deadlines that do not align with municipal budget cycles. She further expressed concern regarding the costs associated with upgrading facilities, training staff and volunteers, managing compliance across the Town's numerous boards and commissions, and provisions that could require meetings to be adjourned due to technical failures beyond a municipality's control. Cordeiro emphasized that she supports increased accessibility but believes the proposed timelines and requirements are unrealistic without additional funding, guidance, and phased implementation.

Vice Chairwoman Parella agreed that the bill's underlying intent is positive but noted that municipalities face challenges very different from those of the General Assembly. She stated that many municipal boards and commissions meet in facilities that lack the technology and staffing necessary to support hybrid meetings and questioned whether all boards should be subject to identical requirements. She also expressed concern that meeting interruptions caused by technical failures could negatively

impact applicants and residents seeking timely decisions from local boards. Vice Chairwoman Parella suggested that the legislation would benefit from further study and recommended consideration of a phased approach that distinguishes between advisory bodies and boards with significant regulatory authority.

Councilman Ley acknowledged the concerns raised regarding implementation and costs but emphasized the importance of expanding accessibility for residents with disabilities. He noted that individuals who rely on wheelchairs, paratransit services, or other accommodation(s) often face significant barriers to attending public meetings in person. He stated that remote participation can provide meaningful access to government proceedings and cautioned against taking a position that could be viewed as opposing efforts to improve accessibility. While recognizing the operational challenges identified by staff, he stressed the need to balance those concerns with the public benefits of increased participation opportunities.

In response to questions and comments from the Council, Town Clerk Cordeiro directed attention to specific provisions of the legislation that, in her reading, would require all city and town councils, school committees, and municipal boards and commissions to comply with expanded requirements for remote participation, live streaming, and the posting of meeting materials. She noted that by January 1, 2028, city and town councils and school committees that permit public comment would be required to provide an effective means for public participation by video conference, while other provisions of the bill would impose additional posting and participation requirements on all public bodies. Clerk Cordeiro reiterated her concern that the scope of the legislation extends far beyond advisory boards and would create significant compliance obligations for municipalities on an accelerated timeline.

Solicitor Goins reviewed the legal implications of the proposal and advised that the bill represents a comprehensive revision of several sections of the Open Meetings Act. She confirmed that the legislation would expand requirements related to online posting of meeting materials, remote participation, and live streaming, and would significantly alter current municipal practices. She advised that the Council's concerns regarding both legal and practical implementation issues were reasonable considerations.

During discussion, Council members generally expressed support for the goals of transparency, public engagement, and accessibility, while also recognizing the substantial fiscal and

operational impacts the legislation could have on municipalities. Concerns raised included unfunded mandates, implementation deadlines, technology costs, staffing requirements, document-posting limitations, meeting disruptions caused by technical failures, and the need for clearer statutory definitions and guidance.

When asked by the Council what the next step would be, Town Clerk Cordeiro explained that she had raised the matter because she believed the proposed legislation would have a significant impact on municipal operations and wanted to determine whether the Council shared those concerns and wished to weigh in on the proposal. She stated that the decision on how to proceed rested with the Council. If the Council chose to take a position, she suggested preparing correspondence to the General Assembly and Bristol's legislative delegation expressing support for the bill's goals of transparency and accessibility while outlining municipal concerns regarding funding, implementation timelines, technical feasibility, and operational impacts. She further suggested that any correspondence could recommend consideration of a phased implementation schedule, funding assistance, clarification of key provisions, and the creation of a study commission involving municipal officials, clerks, information technology professionals, and accessibility advocates to develop practical and sustainable statewide standards.

Vice Chairwoman Parella moved that the Council authorize correspondence to the Town's legislative delegation, with particular attention to the Senate delegation and Senate leadership, expressing municipal concerns regarding House Bill 7676, including the proposed implementation timeline, the absence of funding to support the mandates, the need for extended deadlines and phased implementation, and consideration of a study commission involving municipal representatives. The motion further noted that many municipalities, including Bristol, have already adopted their budgets and cannot reasonably absorb the proposed requirements within the stated timeframe. The motion directed the Town Clerk and Town Solicitor to prepare the correspondence based upon the Clerk's prior communications and the concerns expressed during the Council's discussion.

Councilman Teixeira requested, and the maker of the motion agreed, to amend the motion to authorize the Council Chairman to sign the correspondence on behalf of the Town Council so that it is clearly presented as the official position of the Council.

Councilman Ley indicated that his opposition reflected a differing view on the legislation and was not directed toward the Town Clerk.

**CF. Citizens Public Forum**

*PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK DURING THE CITIZENS PUBLIC FORUM MUST NOTIFY THE COUNCIL CLERK PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING*

**J. Bills & Expenditures**

**K. Special Reports**

**K1.** Bristol County Water Authority - Tri-Town Monthly Report - April 2026

Teixeira/Sweeney-voted unanimously to receive and file

*At this point in the meeting, the Council considered Consent Agenda Item GG.4, which had been removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. The discussion regarding this item is reflected below under its respective agenda heading.*

**L. Town Solicitor**

**M. Executive Sessions**

M1. RIGL § 42-46-5, (a) (2) - pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation

Teixeira/Sweeney - Voted unanimously to convene in Executive Session pursuant to RIGL Section 42-46-5 (a) (2) concerning the Potential litigation at 8:47 PM.

Parella/Sweeney - Voted unanimously to resume open session and seal the minutes of the Executive Session at 9:00PM.

Solicitor Tietz announced that no motion was made and no vote was taken in Executive Session

Solicitor Ursillo announced that a motion was made and voted on in Executive Session

Consent Agenda Items:

**(CA) AA. Submission of Minutes - Boards and Commissions**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to receive and place these items on file"**

(CA) AA1. Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes - March 3, 2026

(CA) AA2. Planning Board Meeting Minutes - March 5, 2026

(CA) AA3. Bristol County Water Authority Board Meeting Minutes - March 26, 2026

(CA) AA4. Bristol Fire Department Meeting Minutes - May 4, 2026

(CA) AA5. Zoning Board of Review Meeting Minutes- April 6, 2026

**(CA) BB. Budget Adjustments**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to approve these adjustments"**

**(CA) CC. Financial Reports**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to receive and place these items on file"**

(CA) CC1. Town Treasurer Carulli - YTD - Budget Actuals for May 2026

**(CA) DD. Proclamations, Resolutions & Citations**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to adopt these Proclamations, Resolutions and Citations as prepared and presented"**

(CA) DD1. Proclamation - Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month (signed)

**(CA) EE. Utility Petitions**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to approve these petitions"**

**(CA) FF. City & Town Resolutions Not Previously Considered**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to receive and place these items on file"**

(CA) FF1. Town of Charlestown - Joint Municipal Statement - RI Municipalities on the 2025 State Affordable Housing Laws

(CA) FF2. Town of Charlestown - Resolution Concerning Senate Bill S2275 Relating to Comprehensive Permit Review and Affordable Housing Unit Accounting

(CA) FF3. Town of Charlestown - Resolution Identifying Shortcoming in the Housing 2030 Element of The RI State Guide Plan

(CA) FF4. Town of Charlestown - Resolution Concerning Municipal Authority Over Land Use and Housing Decisions

(CA) FF5. Town of Exeter Resolution 2026-14 - Requesting Parity in Ambulance Service Reimbursements for Services Provided on State-Owned Property

(CA) FF6. Town of Exeter Resolution 2026-12 - In Support of House Bill H-7446 and Senate Bill S-2691

(CA) FF7. Town of Exeter Resolution 2026-13 - In Support of Interstate Enforcement of Boating Laws on Beah Pond and Improved Public Safety

(CA) FF8. Town of Exeter Resolution 2026-11 - In Support of House Bill 2025 - H5202

(CA) FF9. Town of Exeter Resolution 2026-16 - In Support of House Bill H-8029

(CA) FF10. Town of Exeter Resolution 2026-15 - In Support of Senate Bill S-2917 and House Bill H-8015

**(CA) GG. Distributions/Communications**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to receive and place these items on file"**

- (CA) GG1. Rhode Island Energy Presentation to RILCT- April 14, 2026
- (CA) GG2. Use & Access Agreement - Town of Bristol and Bristol Theatre Company (Guiteras School) (signed)
- (CA) GG3. Bid 1024 - Emergency Medical Services - Thomas Carroll, Paramedic Systems, Inc. - Paramedic Renewal
- (CA) GG4. Town Administrator Contente - Letter of Recognition and Appreciation, Bristol Sewer Department

Teixeira/Sweeney-voted unanimously to receive and file

Prior to the vote being taken, Town Administrator Contente presented a letter of appreciation and recognition for the Bristol Sewer Department following the April 24 sewer force main break along Annawamscutt Drive. He explained that Sewer Department employees Tyler McCain and John Cordeiro discovered the issue during routine inspections, immediately notified supervisors, and initiated a rapid response that resulted in repairs being completed and the system restored to operation the same day.

Administrator Content noted that, while some sewage entered Mount Hope Bay, department staff acted quickly, professionally, and in accordance with established procedures. He emphasized that the Town continues to invest significantly in sewer infrastructure improvements and that the failure of the 41-year-old force main appeared to be an unforeseen pipe defect rather than the result of neglect. He further expressed his appreciation for the dedication and vigilance of the Sewer Department employees and stated that the recognition was intended to acknowledge their efforts and defend them against public criticism suggesting the incident was preventable.

Chairman Calouro thanked the Administrator for publicly recognizing the employees and agreed that their efforts deserved acknowledgment.

- (CA) GG5. Portsmouth Town Council to Bristol Town Council - RI Turnpike and Bridge Authority
- (CA) GG6. Town Administrator Contente - Arbor Day 2026 - Letter of recognition to The Bristol Conservation Commission and Our Lady of Mount Carmel School

- (CA) GG7. AZJ - John St. LLC, Jeffrey Quinlan, Zack King, Andrew Tuchler d/b/a Aidan's Pub 5 John Street - Consent Order (signed)
- (CA) GG8. Town Clerk Cordeiro to Representatives Donovan and Speakman regarding concerns regarding House Bill 2026- H7676
- (CA) GG9. Town Administrator Contente to True North Civil, LLC - Bid Award No. 1086 - Bristol End of Roadway Improvements

**(CA) HH. Distributions/Notice of Meetings**  
(Office copy only)

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to receive and place these items on file"**

- (CA) HH1. Bristol Planning Board Technical Review Committee Agenda- April 22, 2026 (10:00)
- (CA) HH2. Bristol Planning Board Technical Review Committee Agenda- April 22, 2026 (10:30)
- (CA) HH3. Planning Board Comprehensive Plan Meeting Agenda - April 23, 2026
- (CA) HH4. Bristol Fourth of July Committee Old Fashion Days Sub-Committee Meeting - April 30, 2026
- (CA) HH5. Bristol Fourth of July Committee Souvenir Sub-Committee Meeting - April 30, 2026
- (CA) HH6. Recreation Board Meeting - April 29, 2026
- (CA) HH7. Fourth of July Committee Macaroni Supper Sub-Committee Meeting - May 5, 2026
- (CA) HH8. Bristol 250th Commission Meeting - May 7, 2026
- (CA) HH9. Bristol Planning Board Technical Review Committee Meeting - April 30, 2026
- (CA) HH10. Planning Board Meeting - May 14, 2026
- (CA) HH11. Historic District Commission Meeting - May 7, 2026
- (CA) HH12. Historic District Commission Meeting - May 1, 2026

- (CA) HH13. Harbor Commission Meeting - May 4, 2026
- (CA) HH14. Planning Board Meeting - May 14, 2026 Amended
- (CA) HH15. Fourth of July Committee Promotions Subcommittee Meeting - May 7, 2026
- (CA) HH16. Conservation Commission Meeting - May 5, 2026
- (CA) HH17. Bristol Christmas Festival General Committee Meeting - May 11, 2026
- (CA) HH18. Fourth of July Committee General Committee Meeting - May 12, 2026

**(CA) II. Claims (Referrals)**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to refer these items to the Insurance Committee and at its discretion to the Interlocal Trust"**

- (CA) II1. Monica Bailey, 7 Harrison Street - Claim
- (CA) II2. John Patton, 36 Acacia Road - claim for damages

**(CA) JJ. Miscellaneous Items Requiring Council Approval**

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to approve these items"**

- (CA) KK. Curb cut petitions as approved by the director of public works

**Approval of consent agenda = "motion to grant these curb cuts per the recommendation of, and conditions specified by, the Director of Public Works"**

**There being no further business, upon a motion by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilman Teixeira and voted unanimously, the Chairman declared this meeting to be adjourned at 9:00 pm.**

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**Melissa Cordeiro, Town Clerk  
Council Clerk**

DRAFT