

State of Rhode Island

County of Washington

In Hopkinton on the fourth day of December 2017 A.D. said meeting was called to order by Town Council President Frank Landolfi at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833.

PRESENT: Frank Landolfi, Thomas Buck, Sylvia Thompson, David Husband; Town Solicitor Kevin McAllister; Town Manager William McGarry; Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin.

Absent: Barbara Capalbo.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER RIGL SEC. 42-46-5(A)(7) FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AND/OR CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO THE INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS WHERE THE PREMATURE DISCLOSURE WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

POLL VOTE:

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

Council President Landolfi reported no votes were taken in Executive Session.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR BUCK TO SEAL THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

The meeting was called to order with a moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

PY '17 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and vote on whether to apply for PY '17 CDBG funds for Housing Rehabilitation and adopt related Resolution. Geoffrey Marchant, the Community Development Block Grant Coordinator, was present. Mr. Marchant indicated that the State had put a moratorium in place effective August 1st through September and they opened the program back up in early October with the availability to apply all of the housing and rehabilitative set aside for single family. The Community Development Consortium made some announcements on July 31st, prior to the State shutting the program down, that brought in a little bit of a pushback. They are going to run the set-aside program with housing redevelopment being the first. There are two other ones, affordable housing and economic development. At the present time there are no forms available to apply for those funds, only for the single family rehabs and the rundown set asides for “x” amount of months and then they will open up general applications for a total of a million dollars for that general application; that is what they are being told. Mr. Marchant is asking the Council to approve an application for an estimated \$75,000 in housing rehab money. Mr. Marchant indicated that we are not bound by that number like in the old days, they are just using this number as an estimate until they do the environmental review to release the funds. First, a person fills out a simple three-page application, then if approved they will receive a contract and have an account set up. As the jobs are approved, the Community Development Consortium will go to HUD who will go to the set-aside fund and put money into that project, job by job, until they open the general fund. Council President Landolfi confirmed that once they are approved, they apply for the \$75,000, and then they backfill each application. Councilor Thompson questioned Mr. Marchant by asking what if an individual

has multiple problems with his house, how would they start the process? Mr. Marchant responded by stating that the individual obtains an application and fills it out. Councilor Thompson questioned further, what if the individual just needs some general repairs and doesn't know what to list on the application? Does the staff then go and help him? Mr. Marchant responded that they use a simple three page application. Their first concern is the income factor and household size to determine if the person is eligible. They thereafter have an inspection form and their program inspector goes out to the house. He goes through the property and finds deficiencies. The inspector fills out a report and that goes to the owner. Mr. Marchant indicated that this is the same process that they have had for years. Councilor Thompson asked if the applicant had to provide proof of ownership of the property and Mr. Marchant indicated they did and they also checked to assure that the property taxes and insurance were current. He indicated that there were some cases where the applicant did not have property insurance in the beginning of the process, but they did require it in the end. Councilor Buck asked if these were loans or grants. Mr. Marchant indicated that they do loans in Town with the exception that if HUD requires a homeowner to do work that they did not ask for, such as if lead was found, then that goes in as a grant. The contract with the State of Rhode Island requires them to lien the property for the amount of time defined by the amount of money going into the grant. The balance is a loan. It can be 0% revolving, 2% revolving, we have done 0% deferred and 1% simple interest involving septic systems. The Town is participating in the septic system loan program now. If someone can't obtain one of those loans they will give a loan at 1% simple interest, a deferred loan, which is the same rate as the septic system loan program. Councilor Buck asked when the person pays the loan back, who do they pay it to, the State or the Town? Mr. Marchant indicated that they paid it to the Town and that it becomes program income. Councilor Buck questioned administrative fees. Mr. Marchant explained it was operating that they are eligible to receive up to 20% during the course of the job for operating expenses. It used to be by right, but now you have to prove that you have spent that money in advance before you can get it. You have to keep time sheets, inspections, inspection fees, lead based paint fees, everything, and it adds up in the end.

Council President Landolfi questioned why this was only for single family homes and not rental homes. Mr. Marchant indicated that they opened this program as a single family program. It seems to him that the only thing lacking to access multi-family rental rehab money are the forms. He's asked for the forms but has not received a response. Mr. Marchant indicated that there is a draft Resolution which they are asking the Council to approve in order for them to proceed and request a release of funds. There is a 15 day federal comment period after which they can access this money. There are some jobs hanging because of the moratorium.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO APPROVE THE AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION; Councilor Thompson read the Resolution:

This is certified as a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Council of the Town of Hopkinton at a meeting held on 12/4/17.

WHEREAS, funds are available under the Rhode Island Community Development Block Grant Program, administered by the Executive Office of Commerce, Office of Housing and Community Development; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Rhode Island has authorized the Chief of said Department/Office to disburse such funds; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the citizens of the Town of Hopkinton that application be made to undertake a local Community Development Block Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON, That the filing of application(s) for the annual estimated amount of \$75,000 to implement residential rehabilitation program activities is hereby authorized and that Frank Landolfi (Chief Executive Officer) is hereby authorized and directed to file application(s) with the Office of Housing and Community Development, to provide any additional information or documents required by said office, to make any assurances required in connection with this program, to execute an agreement with the State of Rhode Island and to otherwise act as the Representative of the Town of Hopkinton in all matters relating to this application and any award which may be based upon this application.

The Council motion and vote follows.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED

BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO APPROVE THE AUTHORIZING
RESOLUTION.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

CDBG NEW CONSORTIUM

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and possibly vote on joining a new Consortium which will be housed at the Washington County Community Development Corporation.

Council President Landolfi reported that Mr. Marchant would be retiring at the end of January and he asked him to explain what the Town's options were. Mr. Marchant indicated that he had been serving in this capacity for 30 years and founded the Consortium in March of 1996 originally in North Kingstown and they moved to East Greenwich in 1999. He noted HUD has gotten a lot more complicated. Originally you could have 10 or 12 activities that were exempt and be on one piece of paper with one signature. Now, each exempt activity requires 3 pages of boiler plate and 4 pages of attachments per each activity. If you make a mistake, they want their money back; it's complicated stuff. The small towns don't have the staff or desire to get involved in this sort of stuff. Mr. Marchant indicated that it was his recommendation that the Town join the Consortium and he will assist with training and technical assistance. They are going through a hiring process for a new Director at the CDC. He indicated that the Town's choices are to take his recommendation and go forward as a member of the consortium, obtain their own consultant, have the staff do it, or don't participate. Mr. Marchant indicated that what he is looking for is an indication of where the Town thinks it might want to go after the end of January. Council President Landolfi indicated that from his perspective if we don't participate in the CDC we won't be a part of the program and in the last 10 years the Town has received almost a Million and a Half Dollars of CDBG money. This is very specialized type of funding and he would just prefer to have someone else do it, as long as they were trained by Mr. Marchant. If the Town doesn't participate they won't get the money. Council President Landolfi feels this is very specialized because

he has seen some of the forms. Councilor Thompson asked Mr. Marchant to tell them a little about the Washington County Community Development Corporation that are willing to take this over. Mr. Marchant responded that they were formed in 2005 by himself, Geoff Gofton, Henry Oppenheimer, who was on the Richmond Council and Chris Duhamel, who is on the Westerly Council. They have done some regional and formal housing studies and planning. There was a nonprofit previously called the Community Housing Corporation of Washington County who was legally alive but functionally dead and they owned property scattered around the county. The people who wanted to refinance or sell their homes couldn't because the Community Housing Corporation of Washington County owned the land where their houses were located. So the Washington County Community Development Corporation's first official action was to identify all those scattered sites and they transferred the land to the Statewide nonprofit Community Housing Land Trust. Now the people had somebody to go to if they wanted to refinance. This is a way to stabilize the operating expenses for the program.

No decision was made at the request of Mr. Marchant who wished to provide more information to the Council at a later date after the hiring process concludes.

HEARINGS

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO SIT AS A LICENSING BOARD.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

Class B V Liquor License Transfer

The Council opened a hearing on an application for the transfer of a Class BV Liquor License filed by ABK, LLC, 2247 West Shore Road, Warwick, RI for property located at 15A Frontier Road, Ashaway, RI 02804 owned by Frontier Road Properties, LLC, Raymond J. Quinlan, President & sole member, 401 Main Street, Ashaway, RI 02804 d/b/a Pavilion Steakhouse.

Frank Manni, Esquire and George Comolli, Esquire were present. Fees were billed and notice posted.

Attorney Frank Manni was present on behalf of ABK, LLC regarding the transfer of the Class BV liquor license from Pavilion Steakhouse. His client closed on the property on November 29, 2017. Attorney George Comolli was also present on behalf of his client, Frontier Road Properties, LLC. Attorney Manni indicated that his clients have a restaurant in Seekonk and one in Warwick. Councilor Husband asked when they anticipated opening the restaurant and Attorney Manni indicated that they hoped to have it open by the Super Bowl, so end of January or early February of 2018. Councilor Husband questioned the Application for Transfer of Beverage License that was completed in that it did not list officers of ABK, LLC and Attorney Manni indicated that they were a limited liability company which did not have officers, only members. He indicated that there were two members of the LLC, William Beggs and Carnig Ashchian, who were present. Councilor Husband mentioned that they would be keeping the driving range and the mini-golf open and this was confirmed. Councilor Buck asked if they would be having the cruise night. Carnig Ashchian questioned whether this was crucial to have on a Friday night. Council Buck said no, that would be up to them, but it was a big event. Attorney Manni handed out menus to be distributed. Council President Landolfi indicated that the local high school has a culinary program so if they needed any staff they might consider them. Attorney George Comolli representing Frontier Road Properties, LLC, wished to compliment the comments from the Council and he wished to acknowledge that both principles have been very responsive through this whole process. There were no comments from the public.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF THE CLASS BV LIQUOR LICENSE TO ABK, LLC, 2247 WEST SHORE ROAD, WARWICK, RI FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15A FRONTIER ROAD, ASHAWAY, RI FORMERLY OWNED BY FRONTIER ROAD PROPERTIES, LLC, RAYMOND J. QUINLAN, PRESIDENT DBA PAVILION STEAKHOUSE.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

Victualling License

The Council opened a hearing on an application for a Class A Victualling License filed by ABK, LLC/Boneyard BBQ, 15A Frontier Road, Ashaway, RI.

Council Husband asked about the different classes of Victualling licenses and Town Clerk, Elizabeth Cook-Martin indicated that the classes were based on seating capacity.

There were no comments from the public.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO GRANT APPROVAL TO THE LICENSE IN QUESTION SUBJECT TO ALL STATE AND TOWN REGULATIONS BEING MET AND ALL TOWN TAXES CURRENT PRIOR TO ISSUE.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

Holiday Sales Licenses

The Council opened a hearing for two new applications for Holiday Sales Licenses. One Holiday Sales License was filed by ABK, LLC/Boneyard BBQ, 15A Frontier Road, Ashaway, RI. There were no comments from the public.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR BUCK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO GRANT APPROVAL TO THE HOLIDAY SALES LICENSE FOR ABK, LLC/BONEYARD BBQ SUBJECT TO ALL STATE AND TOWN REGULATIONS BEING MET AND ALL TOWN TAXES CURRENT PRIOR TO ISSUE.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

A second Holiday Sales License application was filed by Jimmy's Junk, LLC, James McGovern, 17A Alton Bradford Road. There were no comments from the public.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR BUCK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO GRANT APPROVAL TO THE HOLIDAY SALES LICENSE FOR JIMMY’S JUNK SUBJECT TO ALL STATE AND TOWN REGULATIONS BEING MET AND ALL TOWN TAXES CURRENT PRIOR TO ISSUE.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO ADJOURN AS LICENSING BOARD AND RECONVENE AS COUNCIL.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

PROPOSED ORDINANCE

The Council opened a hearing on a proposed ordinance identified as “Registration and Maintenance of Vacant and/or Abandoned Property” introduced and sponsored by Council President Landolfi. The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect residential, commercial, manufacturing, industrial and mixed use real property in the Town of Hopkinton from being blighted, as a result of inadequate maintenance and lack of security at vacant and/or abandoned properties and to strengthen the Town’s ability to respond to nuisance and/or hazardous properties to protect the health, safety and welfare of residents. In addition, the Town intends this Ordinance will hold accountable all owners and other individuals and entities with an ownership interest in -- and or with control of -- each such individual parcel of vacant and/or abandoned real property for failing to comply with its mandates. The draft ordinance includes the following sections:

Definitions, Vacant & Abandoned Property Database, Registration of Properties, Registration Fees, Maintenance Requirements, Security Requirements, Enforcement Actions, Removal from the Vacant & Abandoned Property Database. There also is a Notification of Vacant and/or Abandoned Property Registration Form and a notification of Vacant and/or Abandoned Property Local

Agent Form. The ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Council President Landolfi reported Town Manager William McGarry and Town Solicitor Kevin McAllister worked tirelessly on numerous drafts of this ordinance. Town Manager McGarry indicated that they had been through about 13 drafts and this has been reviewed on at least two occasions by the Town Solicitor and reviewed by the Building and Zoning Official who had written the first draft. The reason for this ordinance is that the Town needs to have some enforcement provisions in place to force the owners or the controlling entities to maintain their property when it is vacant or abandoned in town. There have been about 6 to 12 residential properties in Town that have gone through the foreclosure process, tax sale process or just plain old residences that are vacant and abandoned and are not properly maintained by the owners. In the past what we have done is asked them to clean up their property and sometimes they have complied and other times not, but we have had to ask because we do not have any enforcement provisions available to us. We checked with a lot of other cities and towns and came up with this draft ordinance. If we receive a complaint, the Building and Zoning Official will go to the property and make a decision as to whether or not it is vacant and abandoned. The policy indicates that if the property is vacant we give them 45 days before we actually classify that as being abandoned. Once the 45 days goes by and the property is considered abandoned, we send the owner a letter and place them on notice that they have 30 days to register the property, pay the registration fee and bring it into proper maintenance order. If they don't do this within 30 days we send them a notice of violation and tell them that if they don't clear this up in an additional 30 days then we will take it to Municipal Court. This gives the Town the enforcement power to send that documentation to the owner, where hopefully they will register the property, pay the fee and maintain the property. If this ordinance passes we will have the legal authority to assure that the owners are responsible for their properties. Councilor Buck asked if this was really a big problem in town and what if the property was set back in the woods. Sherry Desjardins, Assistant Building and Zoning Inspector was present. She indicated that they have received numerous

complaints on several properties. She stated, in the past their only option was to get in touch with the mortgage company who has required that they have to speak with the owner but the owner has been gone for five years and they get no action. This ordinance will force them to register the property and provide the office with the designation of a local agent who we can contact if there are concerns. Right now she is bound by the Rhode Island Property Maintenance Code which addresses health, safety and sanitary issues but there is no way to enforce this. They will also maintain a database and once a property becomes occupied again, it will come out of the database. Councilor Buck asked who registers the property, at what point in time do they register the property, and also what is the fee? Ms. Desjardins indicated that there was a fee schedule in the ordinance. She hoped this would be incentive to the mortgage companies to get these properties back on the market. She explained upon a foreclosure they will send a letter to the mortgage company with a copy of the new ordinance. Councilor Husband asked if we can't get a hold of anybody or get no response, can the Town go in and clean up the property and put a lien on the property. Ms. Desjardins indicated yes, this is what has been done in the past. Councilor Husband asked about lots that had no buildings on it that was filled with garbage. He asked if the ordinance applied to empty lots. Mr. McGarry referred to the purpose section of the ordinance and indicated in the affirmative that this would be considered real property. Councilor Buck was concerned about someone who was not very well off and unable to afford repairs, but it was indicated that the property wouldn't be considered abandoned if someone was occupying it.

There were no comments from the public.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO CLOSE HEARING AND SET A DATE TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE ORDINANCE.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

The Council set December 18, 2017 as the date to render a decision.

CONSENT AGENDA

The November 20, 2017 Town Council Meeting Minutes were removed from the Consent Agenda as some of the pages were missing. They will be placed on the December 18, 2017 Consent Agenda for consideration.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda which led to discussion: Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin reported she had received a question on page 5 of the November 6, 2017 Town Council Meeting Minutes under Council President’s Report regarding who the individuals, Lyd and Paul, he mentioned were. Council President Landolfi thought that he was thanking Councilor Buck for contacting Paul Stasiuk from National Grid as it has to do with the October 29, 2017 storm. The minutes will be amended to read on the second line, that he wanted to thank Councilor Buck for calling Paul Stasiuk.

Discussion ended and the Council would go on to vote as follows:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2017 with changes; Set January 2, 2018 as the first Town Council Meeting in January due to New Year’s Day Holiday; Set January 16, 2018 as the second Town Council Meeting in January due to Martin Luther King Day Holiday; Approve refunds resulting from the Motor Vehicle Phase-Out Program and a refund due to a Tax Assessor abatement submitted by the Tax Collector; Approve abatement due to motor vehicle adjustment submitted by the Tax Assessor.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during the first public forum.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT

Council President Landolfi reported on November 21, 2017 he attended the Environmental Assessment meeting hosted by RIDOT held at the Chariho Middle School regarding the tolls. He indicated this was not very informational and was

disappointing. Councilor Thompson added the meeting was not held in the auditorium as advertised so any people who came late did not know where to go.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Manager William McGarry had the same matter on his report which was addressed under the Council President Report.

OLD BUSINESS

SET WORKSHOP RE: DRAFT WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM ORDINANCE

This matter was set down to consider scheduling a workshop regarding the draft Wind Energy Conversion System Ordinance.

Councilor Thompson indicated that Cynthia Drummond of the Westerly Sun informed her that on December 11th and 12th anyone that is interested may want to go to a URI forum called the Southern New England Offshore Wind Energy Science Forum. There will be people there that have been researching the Block Island wind energy system off the coast. There will be a variety of people there to talk about the effects on the habitat, marine life, everything. She asked Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin to send out notice to the Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Council. You need to register by calling Jennifer McCain at (401) 874-6127 in order to attend and it is free. Councilor Thompson would ask that anyone attending that meeting bring back to the Town as much literature as possible so we can disburse it to others. Councilor Thompson indicated that she would like to see the matter of wind turbines postponed; that she wasn't sure if the Town Council wants to see wind turbines in Town at 415 feet in height. She is not sure the Council even wants it. She is hoping that the Council has time before the workshop to see if this is wanted in the Town before they establish an ordinance. Councilor Husband thanked Mr. Buford for all the information he provided. The Council set Monday evening, January 22, 2018 as the date for a workshop beginning at 6:30 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

COUNCIL CONTINGENCY DONATION TO ASHAWAY FREE LIBRARY

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and vote to consider an appropriation/donation to the Ashaway Free Library from Town Council Contingency Line Item #5065-001.

Councilor Buck indicated that there is approximately \$4,000 in the contingency fund available and he suggested giving the library a one-time donation. Councilor Thompson suggested waiting until further into the year in the event it was needed. Councilor Buck commented they have never used it. Councilor Husband indicated that he had read an article in the Westerly Sun that indicated they had received \$200,000 from one grant entity but they are still \$50,000 short. He is concerned that there are two libraries in Town and he is sure that Langworthy Library would like to make some improvements. Councilor Thompson indicated that they are considering an addition also. Council President Landolfi indicated that Fran Cohen from the Ashaway Free Library had contacted him to obtain some names of people who might be interest in donating so he had invited her to come to last meeting to explain the project, which she did and Councilor Buck had indicated that he thought it might be a nice gesture for the Town to donate towards this project. Councilor Husband indicated that he didn't want the Langworthy Library to feel slighted. Councilor Thompson indicated that by donating Ashaway Free Library \$1,000 there would be still money in the fund. Councilor Buck added that Ashaway Library is out there actively working for donations.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR BUCK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE ASHAWAY FREE LIBRARY OF \$1,000 FOR THEIR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO COME OUT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL CONTINGENCY LINE ITEM #5065-001.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

NATIONAL GRID/VERIZON PETITION - JOINT POLE LOCATION ON EGYPT STREET

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and possibly vote to approve a Petition of National Grid & Verizon for a new joint pole location on Egypt Street.

Council President Landolfi indicated that usually this would be in the Consent Agenda but he chose to list this separately but given the fact that this is National

Grid he wished to keep it separate to keep track of the record. The reason for the pole is there is a wire in a tree that is dead and should be cut down. Councilor Buck indicated that there are numerous double poles. He received a list from Verizon and the number of double poles does not seem to go down. National Grid puts in the poles and Verizon has to take them out. He did go and visit the site because he was ready to say no, but he agrees this should be done.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR BUCK TO APPROVE THE PETITION OF NATIONAL GRID AND VERIZON FOR A NEW JOINT POLE LOCATED ON EGYPT STREET.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

COUNCIL COMMENTS TO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Council comments to the PUC regarding the October 29-30, 2017 storm and related power outages. On December 12th the PUC is having a hearing to hold National Grid accountable for their inadequate response to the storm. Council President Landolfi indicated that he heard on talk radio that once people had their power restored they just forgot about this problem. He believed that there were some comments made at the last meeting; and he thought it would be a good idea to put a letter together from the Council expressing our dissatisfaction with how things were handled. He suggested he would work with Town Manager McGarry and Town Clerk Cook-Martin put something together to send to the PUC.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Recreation Commission

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and vote to accept the resignation of Kevin Ryan from the Recreation Commission who had moved out of Town.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO ACCEPT KEVIN RYAN'S RESIGNATION

FROM THE RECREATION COMMISSION WITH REGRET.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

PUBLIC FORUM

Thomas Gentz was present to answer any questions the Council may have about the status of the conversion of street lights to LED. Town Manager William McGarry was interested in when they were going to be done with street lights. Mr. Gentz anticipates that being on or about December 20, 2017. They have a commitment to get that done and reported the lights were being installed on Route 216 and Route 91 and that they are on track.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR BUCK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON TO ADJOURN.

SO VOTED

Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin

Town Clerk