

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES-WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2026

The council met on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, and called to order at 7:00 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
Town Solicitor, Andy Teitz, Esq
Town Sergeant, Archie Martins

The Pledge of Allegiance

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

Motion RE: Consent Agenda - To Approve the Consent Agenda

Teixeira/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as prepared and presented.

A. Submission of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

A1. Town Council Meeting Minutes - June 24, 2026

Sweeney/Parella- motioned to approve these minutes as prepared and presented. Voting in favor Calouro, Parella, Sweeney, and Ley. Abstaining Teixeira

B. Public Hearings

C. Ordinances

D. Licensing Board - New Petitions

D1. Adolfo Escoto, Don Taco & Tequila, 468 Hope Street request one day Liquor License extension of hours on August 15, 2026, to 1:00 AM

a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police

b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Fire Chief

c. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Community Development

Teixeira/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to approve the request of a one day Liquor License extension of hours on August 15, 2026, to 1:00 AM

D2. Travis Brassard, Stone Soup Kitchen, LLC, 676 Hope Street request for Victualling License

a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police

b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Fire Chief

c. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Community Development

d. recommendation - Town Administrator and Water Pollution Control

Teixeira/Parella-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

E. Licensing Board - Renewals

E1. Private Investigator License Renewals 2026-2027 for:

- Charles Galligan, 83 Fales Road
- Veronica Ramos, 23 Fernwood Road
- Stephen Payne, 124 Windward Lane
- Charles Camara, 17 Dixon Avenue

- a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police

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. Dog Kennel License Renewals 2026-2027 for:

- Matthew Dame, A Dog's Life-36 Spring Street
- Donna Olivo, All Paw's Inn- 185 Bayview Avenue
- Allison Barr, Allison's Pampered Pets - 7 Michael Drive
- Ashley Preite, Ashley Preite Grooming, LLC - 629 Metacom Avenue
- Karen McCarthy, Courteous Canine- 1 Vasta Lane
- Erin Meyer, Crate Escape Doggie Day Camp - 15 Gooding Avenue, Unit 17 & 18
- Erin Meyer, Crate Escape Doggie Day Camp - 64 Ballou Blvd
- Karl Correia, East Bay Kennels-47 Broad Common Road
- Kali Cordes, Kali's Cottage Pet Boarding- 10 Hampden Road

- a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police (Animal Control)

- b recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Community Development

Teixeira/Sweeney-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. Maria Semeraro-Bellanca, 43 Bayview Avenue, Unit #2F, request for Accessible Parking Space in the Vicinity of Residence **(review/2nd Reading)**

a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police

b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Public Works

c. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police **(Updated)**

d. (Draft) 2nd Reading Resolution - Resolution No. 2026-7-29-F2

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

F2. Richard and Monica Chartier, 36 Platt Street request a traffic sign installment and 4-way stop at the intersection of Coggeshall Avenue and Platt Street

a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police

b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Community Development

c. recommendation - Town Administrator and Department of Public Works

Sweeney/Teixeira- Voted unanimously to refer this matter to the Town Solicitor to draft ordinance language for Council consideration at the August 19, 2026 Town Council meeting, and to request that the Town Administrator work with the Department of Public Works to review the existing traffic signage and install speed limit and dead-end signs, as needed.

F3. James Crouch, 139 Bradford Street, Unit 1F requesting a Mobile Food Event Permit on August 16, 2026, at Independence Park from 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM for post Wedding Breakfast

a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police

b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Fire Chief

c. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Parks & Recreation

d. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Public Works

Sweeney/Teixeira-Voted unanimously to grant a one-day Mobile Food Event Permit for a post-wedding breakfast to be held the parking lot near Quito's, as recommended, on August 16, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., with the event limited to one (1) mobile food establishment 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

F4. Gregory Pastore, 44 Church Street request for the removal of an accessible parking space located in front of residence **(1st Reading)**

a. recommendation - Town Administrator and Chief of Police

b. recommendation - Town Administrator and Director of Public Works

Teixiera/Parella- Voted unanimously to consider this action to constitute the first reading of a request for an accessible parking space and to continue the said matter until august 19, 2026 for second reading and adoption of resolution.

G. Appointments

G1. Rogers Free Library Board of Trustees - 1 three-year term set to expire January 2029

a. Kaitlyn Carmody, 12 Ellen Street - interested/appointment

b. Christina Palmer, 7 Church Cove Road - interested/appointment

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

Parella/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to appoint Kaitlyn Carmody to the Rogers Free Library Board of Trustees with a term set to expire in January 2029

H. Old Business

H1. Proposed License to Maintain agreement between Town of Bristol and Joseph B & Judy A Jorge, for a strip of land abutting 27 Surf Drive - **continued from January 17, 2024 (~~call for Public Hearing August 19th~~)**

a. memo from Town Solicitor

Teixeira/Sweeney - Voted unanimously to continue the matter to a future Town Council meeting for further consideration.

H2. Review of Municipal Liquor Licensing Practices **(Phased Approach- requested by council continued from April 22nd)**

- a. Compiled Council Recommendations submitted
- b. Councilman Ley - Recommendations
- c. Councilman Sweeny - Recommendations
- d. Councilman Teixeira - Recommendations
- e. Vice Chairwoman Parella - Recommendations

Parella/Sweeney - Voted unanimously to refer the matter to the Town Solicitor

to draft a policy/guidelines reflecting the Council's discussion for consideration at its next meeting

I. Other New Business Requiring Town Council Action

I1. Town Administrator Contente - Brewster Thornton Group
Guiteras School Design Development Update

Sweeney/Teixeira - Voted unanimously to approve the proposed Change of Service for architectural and engineering services related to the renovation of Guiteras School, as presented, and proceeding with bid for the project as a single-phase construction project managed by a general contractor

I2. Town Administrator Contente - Correspondence
Regarding the Town's S&P Global Bond Rating
(Informational)

Sweeney/Teixeira- Voted unanimously to receive and place this matter on file.

I3. Fire Chief DeMello regarding Board of Engineers
recommendation of Residential Recreational Fires

a. Vice Chairwoman Parella - consideration of the
previously proposed 2015 Firepit Ordinance

Parella/Teixeira - Voted unanimously to refer the matter to the Fire Chief, Town Administrator, and Town Solicitor to draft ordinance language for Council consideration at the August 19, 2026 Town Council meeting.

I4. Director Williamson proposed amendment to the Short-
Term Rental Zoning Ordinance

a. (draft) Ordinance

Sweeney/Teixeira - Voted unanimously to refer the matter to the Town Solicitor to prepare proposed zoning ordinance amendments related to short-term rentals for a First Reading at the August 19, 2026 Town Council meeting, with the amendment that the provision requiring a Special Use Permit for properties hosting or advertising short-term rentals for more than seven (7) total nights in a calendar year be revised to fourteen (14) total nights. The motion further authorized the Town Clerk to advertise and publish notice of the Second Reading and Public Hearing in advance, and referred the proposed amendments to the Planning Board for a formal recommendation to the Town Council prior to the Public Hearing.

15. Director Williamson Draft amendment to the Zoning Ordinance regarding the Flood Zones

Sweeney/Teixeira - Voted unanimously to refer the matter to the Town Solicitor to prepare proposed zoning ordinance amendments related to flood zones for a First Reading at the August 19, 2026 Town Council meeting, The motion further authorized the Town Clerk to advertise and publish notice of the Second Reading and Public Hearing in advance, and referred the proposed amendments to the Planning Board for a formal recommendation to the Town Council prior to the Public Hearing.

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

Rachel Averitt, 2 Masterson Lane, appeared before the council to discuss New Goree Signage

J. Bills & Expenditures

J1. Bid No. 1091 2026 Road Resurfacing Project

Sweeney/Parella- Voted unanimously to refer this matter to the Town Administrator and Department of Public Works to act in the best interest of the Town.

Prior to the vote being taken, Clerk Cordeiro presented the following bid tabulations for the bids received, as outlined below:

- T. Miozzi, LLC., in the amount of \$2,221,375.00
- J.H. Lynch & Sons, Inc., in the amount of \$2,442,210.00
- Narragansett Improvement Co., in the amount of \$2,435,225.00
- Vinagno Materials LLC., in the amount of \$1,888,222.00

J2. Bid No. 1092 Property Surveys for Drainage Easements

No Action Taken

Prior to the vote being taken, Clerk Cordeiro noted that no bid were received.

K. Special Reports

K1. BCWA Tri-Town Monthly Report - June 24, 2026

Teixeira/Sweeney - Voted unanimously to receive and place this matter on file and to request that a representative of the BCWA attend a future Town Council meeting to provide a report to the Council

L. Town Solicitor

M. Executive Sessions

- M1. Town Administrator Contente request for Executive Session Pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-5 (a)(5), acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes.

Teixeira/Sweeney - Voted unanimously to convene in

Executive Session pursuant to RIGL Section 42-46-5 (a) (5) concerning the Acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes at 9:09 PM.

Teixeira/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to resume open session and seal the minutes of the Executive Session at 9:16PM.

Solicitor Tietz announced that no motion was made and no vote was taken 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. Rogers Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - April 16, 2026
- (CA) AA2. Bristol Fire Department Board of Engineers Meeting Minutes - June 29, 2026
- (CA) AA3. Properties Committee of the BCWA Meeting Minutes - May 20, 2026
- (CA) AA4. BCWA Board Meeting Minutes - May 27, 2026
- (CA) AA5. BCWA Annual Meeting Minutes - May 27, 2026
- (CA) AA6. BCWA Finance Committee Meeting Minutes - June 9, 2026
- (CA) AA7. Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes - June 2, 2026
- (CA) AA8. Zoning Board Meeting Minutes - June 1, 2026
- (CA) AA9. Rogers Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - May 21, 2026

(CA) BB. Budget Adjustments

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

- (CA) BB1. Tax Assessor Leadem - Recommended Abatements & Additions for July 2026

(CA) CC. Financial Reports

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

- (CA) CC1. Treasurer Carulli YTD Budget to Actual for month end June 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 - Thomas M. Carrol 2026, Chief Marshal of the Bristol Fourth of July Celebration (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) GG. Distributions/Communications

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

- (CA) GG1. Council Chairman Calouro on behalf of the Bristol Town Council regarding House Bill H7676/Senate Bill S2612 to Rhode Island Senate

- (CA) GG2. Town Administrator Contente regarding Designation of Acting Town Administrator

- (CA) GG3. ACLU Report- Access to Public Meetings - RI City and Town Councils and School Committees

- (CA) GG4. Tupelo Realty Court Street Parking Lot Proposed Lease Agreement (signed)

(CA) GG5. Communication memo from Town Solicitor regarding Newly Enacted Legislation Pertaining to Land Use

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

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

(CA) HH1. Rogers Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting - June 25, 2026

(CA) HH2. Planning Board Technical Review Committee Meeting - June 30, 2026

(CA) HH3. Budget and Declining Enrollment Workgroup Meeting - June 25, 2026 (CANCELLED)

(CA) HH4. Bristol 4th of July Committee Parade Subcommittee Meeting - June 27, 2026

(CA) HH5. Zoning Board of Review Meeting - July 13, 2026

(CA) HH6. BCWA - July Board Meeting Cancelled

(CA) HH7. Planning Board Meeting - July 9, 2026

(CA) HH8. Board of Canvassers Meeting - July 15, 2026

(CA) HH9. Board of Canvassers Meeting - July 20, 2026 (4:30)

(CA) HH10. Board of Canvassers Meeting - July 20, 2026 at (3:30 PM)

(CA) HH11. Bristol Fourth of July Committee General Committee Meeting - July 14, 2026

(CA) HH12. Conservation Commission Meeting - July 14, 2026

(CA) HH13. Bristol Fourth of July Committee Golf Tournament Subcommittee Meeting - July 23, 2026

(CA) HH14. Bristol Fourth of July Committee Four of Diamonds Subcommittee Meeting - July 27, 2026

(CA) HH15. Planning Board Meeting - July 9, 2026

(CA) HH16. Board of Canvassers Meeting - July 20, 2026

(CA) HH17. Rogers Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting - July 16, 2026

(CA) HH18. Planning Board Comprehensive Plan Meeting - July 23, 2026

(CA) HH19. Historic District Commission Meeting - August 6, 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. Nicholas McGaw, 15 Hambly Road, Tiverton - 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 9:16 pm.

Melissa Cordeiro, Town Clerk
Council Clerk