

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE
JOURNAL – SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021
CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.
145 TAUNTON AVENUE-CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
EXECUTIVE SESSION: CONFERENCE ROOM A

RECONVENING OPEN SESSION WILL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Council:
Council President, Robert Britto - Ward 1
Council Vice-President: Bob Rodericks - At Large
Councilwoman Anna Sousa - Ward 2
Councilman Nate Cahoon - Ward 3
Councilman Ricardo Mourato - Ward 4

City Solicitor, Michael J. Marcello
Assistant City Solicitor, Dylan Conley
City Clerk, Samantha N. Burnett

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be both in person and virtually, through an application called, "Zoom".

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY, USE THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

By phone:

Call the toll free number: 1-877-853-5247 (audio only) and enter the following information:

MEETING ID: 993-0796-0324

You do not need a meeting passcode.

By computer or smartphone (this is the audio and video option):

To participate visually (with audio) you will need to log into the following from your computer or smart phone, go to: www.zoom.us

Enter the following information when prompted

MEETING ID: 993-0796-0324

You do not need a meeting passcode.

Once entered, you will be able to join the meeting. At the appropriate time for public comment the moderator will allow you to provide comment at the meeting.

The meeting will also be available live on our city website, located at:

http://www.clerkbase.com/RI_EastProvidence_Live_CityCouncil.html

REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENT


In addition, written public comment on any agenda item can be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 29, 2021 in the following delivery methods:

Email the City Clerk at: sburnett@eastprovidenceri.gov

Deliver your written comment in person to the City Clerk

Location: City Hall 145 Taunton Avenue East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

IF YOU WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC COMMENT VIA ZOOM, YOU MUST USE THE "RAISE HAND" FUNCTION VIA ZOOM NO LATER THAN 7:15 P.M. TO BE RECOGNIZED BY THE MODERATOR OF THE MEETING.

I.  Call to Order/Roll Call
Council President Britto calls the meeting to order. The City Clerk, Samantha Burnett, produces a roll call. All member of the Council are present.

II. Executive Session

1. The City Council may vote to go into executive session pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (5) regarding discussion or consideration related to the acquisition of real property for public purposes related to the potential taking of property located at 500 Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence 02914, formerly known as Metacomet Golf Club. (MAP 107/BLOCK 15/PARCEL 1) by Eminent Domain and potential litigation and process to do so. *Councilwoman Sousa makes the motion to invoke Executive Session. Councilman Cahoon seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously, 5-0. The Council leaves the Chambers to meet in Conference Room A for Executive Session.*

Council Member	Aye	Nay
Sousa	X	
Cahoon	X	
Mourato	X	
Rodericks	X	
Britto	X	


III.  Reconvene in Open Session Immediately Following Executive Session
Council returns to Open Session. All Council members are present. Attorney, Harris Weiner, sits alongside City Solicitor, Michael J. Marcello for this meeting. Attorney Weiner is independent counsel regarding Eminent Domain for the City Council.

a. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session
Motion to seal the minutes from Executive Session made by Councilman Cahoon. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Sousa. Motion passes unanimously, 5-0.

Council Member	Aye	Nay

Sousa	X	
Cahoon	X	
Mourato	X	
Rodericks	X	
Britto	X	

IV. Continued New Business

- a. City Council discussion and potential vote related to pursuit or termination of Eminent Domain proceedings for property located at 500 Veterans Memorial Parkway, East Providence 02914, formerly known as Metacomet Golf Club. (MAP 107/BLOCK 15/PARCEL as a result of completion of formal appraisal and presentation of re-development plan as presented by Marshall Development at the previous City Council meeting; Special Legal Counsel Harris Weiner 

Attorney Weiner addressed the public regarding Eminent Domain, including releasing the appraised amount of this property. Malcolm Moore, Finance Director for the City, answered question regarding available sources of funding to pay for additional costs. Moore stated that there was \$6 million available in the Capital Fund currently, and the Charter states the Capital Fund is solely based for Capital Funding Projects. The definition of what is used for "Capital Projects" cannot be for any repayment of bonds.

Motion to release the appraised value of Metacomet to the public was made by Councilman Cahoon. Motion seconded by Councilman Mourato. Motion passes unanimously, 5-0.

Council Member	Aye	Nay
Sousa	X	
Cahoon	X	
Mourato	X	
Rodericks	X	
Britto	X	

The value appraised number is released to the public: \$8.23 million based of the "Highest and Best Use" under the current zoning designation of 0-1.

The Council discussed the options further, including what the scenario would look like financially for the City, should they pursue Eminent Domain over the Metacomet property.

After much discussion and vetting, the motion was made by Councilman Cahoon not to pursue Eminent Domain at this time. The motion was seconded by Council Vice President Rodericks. The motion passes 4-1.

Council Member	Aye	Nay
Sousa		x
Cahoon	X	
Mourato	X	
Rodericks	X	
Britto	X	

V. Public Comment on items related to this agenda only.

NAME	COMMENT FORMAT	FOR OR AGAINST EMINENT DOMAIN
DAVID O'CONNELL	IN PERSON	AGAINST
DELMAR CONDINHO	ZOOM	AGAINST
JIM CUNNINGHAM	IN PERSON	FOR
CHRISSEY ROSSI	IN PERSON	FOR
GREG OLSON	IN PERSON	FOR
DERRECK MENDOZA	IN PERSON	FOR
PJ DOPPKE	ZOOM	AGAINST
TRACY MCGOWAN	ZOOM	FOR
RUARRI MILLER	ZOOM	AGAINST
RICK LAWSON	EMAIL	AGAINST
CHERYL MAYER	EMAIL	AGAINST
DIANE PETRELLA	EMAIL	FOR
CARL HELMETAG	EMAIL	FOR
MARILYN WALSH	EMAIL	FOR
CHRISTOPHER GRAHAM	EMAIL	AGAINST
BERNARD MANCHESTER	EMAIL	AGAINST
PATRICIA PITA	EMAIL	AGAINST
RAYMOND PITA	EMAIL	AGAINST
GLENN ALMQUIST	EMAIL	AGAINST
PETER HAYES	EMAIL	AGAINST
CATE MCQUAID	EMAIL	FOR
OTIS BROWN	EMAIL	AGAINST
MICHAEL BURKE	EMAIL	AGAINST
JEANNE SHENNING	EMAIL	FOR
PAULA M. CARROLL	EMAIL	FOR
JAMES H. HAHN	EMAIL	AGAINST
BEN SKRABAK	EMAIL	FOR
MB DWYER	EMAIL	FOR

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Cahoon. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Rodericks. Motion passes 5-0. Meeting adjourns.

Council Member	Aye	Nay

Sousa	X	
Cahoon	X	
Mourato	X	
Rodericks	X	
Britto	X	

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