

REGULAR SESSION

APRIL 13, 2026

At a REGULAR SESSION of the Town Council of the Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, in the State of Rhode Island held at the Town Hall, in and for said Town on the 13th day of April 2026 at 6:33 PM.

PRESENT: Rory H. McEntee, President
Michael K. Marran, Vice President
Patricia A. Alley
Deborah D. Bergner
Jay G. Wegimont

1. A. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to recess to Closed Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss and/or act upon matters pertaining to collective bargaining, pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public (Proposed addition to Union Fire District Station 3, 36 School Street; and potential acquisition/disposition of other real property), and pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) - litigation - **25-30-WW (Veolia Water Rate Case)**, discussion and action.

Regular Session is reconvened at 7:39 PM.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to seal the minutes of Closed Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss and/or act upon matters pertaining to collective bargaining, pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public (Proposed addition to Union Fire District Station 3, 36 School Street; and potential acquisition/disposition of other real property), and pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) - litigation - **25-30-WW (Veolia Water Rate Case)**, discussion and action.

Amy Goins, Town Solicitor, notes that one vote was taken in Closed Executive Session.

Emily R. Houle
Town Clerk

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At a REGULAR SESSION of the Town Council of the Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, in the State of Rhode Island held at the Town Hall, in and for said Town on the 13th day of April 2026 at 7:42 PM.

PRESENT: Rory H. McEntee, President
Michael K. Marran, Vice President
Patricia A. Alley
Deborah D. Bergner
Jay G. Wegimont

2. REGULAR SESSION

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance is given.

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

The Land Acknowledgement Statement is read.

3. ROLL CALL

Roll Call is taken and all members are present.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A. Work Session: UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: that the minutes of the Work Sessions held on March 12 and March 17, 2026, are accepted, approved and placed on file.

B. Regular Session: UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: that the minutes of the Regular Sessions held on March 18 and April 6, 2026, are accepted, approved and placed on file.

5. INTERVIEWS

A. The Town Council interviews Joseph Nuzzolillo relative to his interest in being reappointed to the Waterfront Advisory Commission.

B. The Town Council interviews Arlene Hicks relative to her interest in being reappointed to the Zoning Board of Review.

C. The Town Council interviews Robert John Cagnetta relative to his interest in being reappointed to the Zoning Board of Review.

D. The Town Council interviews Justin Coutu relative to his interest in being appointed to the South Kingstown Housing Authority.

E. The Town Council interviews Derek Cook relative to his interest in being appointed to the

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South Kingstown Housing Authority.

F. The Town Council interviews Lucienne Andrew relative to her interest in being appointed to the South Kingstown Housing Authority.

6. APPOINTMENTS

Council President McEntee announces that advertising for Boards and Commissions vacancies was recently resumed and no appointments will be made until after the first advertising cycle is complete.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to approve the Consent Agenda as indicated by (CA) on same.

(CA) A. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant a Holiday Sales License for the year beginning December 1, 2025, to The Purple Cow Company d/b/a The Purple Cow, 205 Main Street, Wakefield, RI 02879. Application by Malinda Witham, President. Renewal; License No. 83170.

(CA) B. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant a Victualler License for the year beginning December 1, 2025, to A&A Sandwich Shop Inc d/b/a Subway, 684 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, RI 02879. Application by Khalid Amri, Owner. Renewal; License No. 59619.

(CA) C. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for Order of Notice a Public Hearing relative to an application for transfer of a license to keep and sell alcoholic beverages in South Kingstown in accordance with General Laws of 1956, as amended, as follows:

CLASS B VICTUALLER LIQUOR LICENSE

Transfer of a Class B Victualler Liquor License from Filippou's Twisted Pizza Wakefield d/b/a Filippou's Twisted Pizza, 28 Old Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI 02879 by Effie and Anthony Lopez, Owners to Sipan, LLC d/b/a Twisted Pizza Wakefield by Unsal Urda, Managing Member for the dining rooms and bar area in accordance with a Special Exception granted by the Zoning Board of Review on September 19, 1990; and as further defined in a site plan on file in the Town Clerk's office.

(CA) D. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for Order of Notice a Public Hearing relative to an application for a license to keep and sell alcoholic beverages in South Kingstown in accordance with the General Laws of 1956, as amended, as follows:

CLASS J CONVENTION HALL LICENSE

Application for a Class J Convention Hall Liquor License by Global Spectrum LP d/b/a Oak View Group, 1 Keaney Road, South Kingstown, RI by Brian Rothenberg, Officer for liquor concession sales at the Boss Ice Arena; and as further described by a site plan on file at the Town Clerk's office.

(CA) E. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for Order of Notice a Public Hearing relative to an application for a license to keep and sell alcoholic beverages in South Kingstown in accordance with the General Laws of 1956, as amended, as follows:

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CLASS B LIMITED LIQUOR LICENSE

Application for a Class B Limited Liquor License by Off One Brewing, LLC d/b/a Tower Hill Brewing, Co., 25 Village Square Drive, Wakefield, RI by Brian D. Hubert, Partner for the tap room liquor service area; and as further defined in a site plan on file in the Town Clerk's office.

8. LICENSES - None

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – 30 Minutes

Council President McEntee invites residents to come forward with comments.

Bob Trager comments on the Board and Commissions interviews, the Budget Public Hearings, and the state of the world.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mark Russo, Director of Facilities, introduces a presentation by Good Energy LP detailing the Community Electricity Aggregation Program summer rates and Good Energy representatives Rafidah Rahman and Dawn Euer.

Rafidah Rahman, Sustainability and Engagement Strategist at Good Energy, reviews a program update summary, electricity market changes, new summer rates, historical program pricing, program impact, next steps including consideration of other discounted energy programs, and the recommendation not to extend the contract with NextEra.

Discussion ensues relative to the NextEra contract term and extension, notification to residents of new rates, and energy costs.

The Town Solicitor recommends that the Town Council pursue a discussion in Closed Executive Session.

Discussion ensues relative to Good Energy's decision not to pursue a contract extension, the ability for residents to opt in or out of the program, Good Energy's obligation to maintain the same rate despite the number of participants, and market review to determine long term program savings.

The Town Manager reviews a recent conversation with the CEO of Good Energy and recommends discussion in Closed Executive Session to deliberate early program termination, providing opt-out instructions to residents, and to pursue further research on steps forward.

Further discussion ensues relative to the potential passage of a Federal energy relief plan and its impact on the program.

B. Michael Stach, Harbormaster/NRO, reviews a request for a parking lot expansion at Marina Park.

Discussion ensues relative to maximizing green space, potential to charge parking fees, and pedestrian safety.

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UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize an award of contract to D'Ambra Construction, 80 Centre of New England Blvd., Coventry, RI, for Marina Park Lot Expansion in an amount not to exceed \$49,000 including \$3,250 in contingency, funded through Harbor Patrol/NRO CIP and Marina Park Common Area Maintenance Fund, as further described in a memorandum from the Harbormaster / NRO to the Town Manager dated March 23, 2026 entitled, "Award of Contract – Marina Park Lot Expansion."

C. The Director of Facilities reviews a request for Peace Dale Library parking lot renovation.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize an award of contract to True North Civil LLC, 805 Nooseneck Hill Rd, West Greenwich, RI for Peace Dale Library Parking Lot Renovation, in an amount not to exceed \$229,500.00, including contingency, funded through the Peace Dale Library Community Learning Center Services Expansion Grant Project, as further described in a purchasing recommendation from the Director of Facilities to the Town Manager dated March 25, 2026 entitled, "Peace Dale Library Parking Lot Renovation."

D. Theresa Murphy, Director of Leisure Services, reviews a request for a sidewalk replacement at Riverwalk Park.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize an award of contract to True North Civil, LLC, 805 Nooseneck Hill Road, West Greenwich, RI for asphalt pathway replacement in accordance with all bid specifications, in an amount not to exceed \$32,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund, and as further described in a memorandum from the Director of Leisure Services to the Town Manager entitled, "Riverwalk Park Sidewalk Replacement."

E. Lucas Murray, Deputy Town Manager/DOAS introduces Kate Turner, LeftField.

Kate Turner reviews Change Orders Alternate #2A and Alternate #3B for ceramic tile throughout corridors in lieu of painted drywall.

Discussion ensues relative to drywall durability, increased noise in corridors due to the ceramic tile, and the potential addition of solar panels to the building.

Ms. Turner responds, noting that the building has been designed solar ready.

Discussion ensues as to grant funding availability and the loss of renewable energy tax credits due to Federal policy changes.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Manager to execute change orders to the AIA A133-2019 Contract with Gilbane Building Company, 7 Jackson Walkway, Suite 2, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, in connection with Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Agreement #2 for the South Kingstown High School Replacement Project, specifically Alternate #2A (Ceramic Tile Throughout Common Corridors in Lieu of Painted Drywall) in the amount of \$189,699 and Alternate #3B (Ceramic Tile Throughout Classroom Tower Corridors in Lieu of Painted Drywall) in the amount of \$168,401, as further detailed in a memorandum from the Deputy Town Manager to the Town Manager dated April 7, 2026, entitled, "Authorization to execute change orders associated with corridor finish upgrades for the South Kingstown High School Replacement Project."

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F. Kate Turner reviews a Grant of Easement and Pole Petition between the Town, The Narragansett Electric Company, and Verizon New England, Inc., on School Street to support the South Kingstown High School Project.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Manager to execute a Grant of Easement with The Narragansett Electric Company (Rhode Island Energy), and to approve and sign a Municipal Pole Petition submitted by The Narragansett Electric Company and Verizon New England Inc., for the installation of permanent electrical distribution infrastructure, including the installation of a new utility pole along School Street, in support of the South Kingstown High School project, as further described in a memorandum from the Deputy Town Manager to the Town Manager dated April 7, 2026, entitled, "Authorization to Execute Easement Agreement and Pole Petition for Permanent Electrical Service – South Kingstown High School." Book 6, Page 34.

Town Manager's Report A is brought forward.

A. Kate Turner gives a brief update on building cleanout progress at the Curtis Corner Middle School and the scheduled demolition.

Mark Moore, Gilbane, reviews construction activities, noting that the steel work is complete, concrete pouring is ongoing, and underground utilities are being installed.

Discussion ensues relative to nighttime concrete pouring progress.

New Business is brought back.

G. The Town Manager reviews the reallocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Discussion ensues relative to total ARPA funds received and spent, Main Street Cohort progress and member training, improvements to the Peace Dale Rotary business district, and assistance from State Senators to obtain Federal grant funding.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the reallocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in the amount of \$350,000 for pedestrian lighting, water service, and electrical service improvements at Saugatucket Park, \$40,000 for improvements to the Lake Avenue Right-of-Way dinghy/kayak storage area, \$10,000 for repainting of the Main Street comfort station, and \$20,000 for safety enhancements and improvements at the Nancy Brown Playground, as further described in a memorandum from the Town Manager to the Town Council dated April 7, 2026, entitled, "Reallocation of ARPA Funds for Saugatucket Park Infrastructure, Lake Avenue ROW Improvements, Comfort Station Repainting, and Nancy Brown Playground Enhancements."

H. The Town Manager reviews a proposed addition to the Union Fire District Forest Fire Service Station for ADA bathroom compliance and additional bunk rooms.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Manager to grant the Union Fire District construction of a 416 square foot addition to the UFD Forest Fire Service Station, 36 School Street, Wakefield, in accordance with the plans prepared by Aharonian & Associates, Inc. and Joe Casali Engineering, Inc., and in accordance with the terms of the lease agreement, as further described in a memorandum from the Building Official to the Town Manager dated April 7, 2026, entitled, "Forest

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Fire Station; 36 School Street – Addition.”

Brian Mahoney, Union Fire District Administrator, thanks the Town Council for the partnership of the Town.

11. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

C. The Town Manager reviews upcoming Town Council meetings, the new Perryville EMS Building ribbon cutting ceremony, and the South Kingstown High School topping off ceremony.

The Town Solicitor notes that a settlement with Veolia pending approval by the Public Utilities Commission may be disclosed.

B. Richard Bourbonnais, Director of Public Services, introduces a pavement management plan by Beta Engineering.

Tony Garro, Senior Vice President, reviews the benefits of pavement management, the program goals and objectives, integration of image-based automated technology with qualified engineer review, and displays representative examples of road scoring.

Discussion ensues relative to the rubric used to score roads and the cost of the program.

Mr. Garro continues relative to an existing conditions analysis performed throughout Town and demonstrates the Manage My Roads program.

Discussion ensues relative to how road maintenance progress was tracked prior to this software tool and making ranking data accessible to residents.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Continued

Council President McEntee invites residents to come forward with comments.

David Ciochetto comments on the Good Energy Electricity Aggregation Program and the importance of keeping costs low.

13. COMMUNICATIONS

A. The Counsel reaches consensus to discuss emails received from South Kingstown residents requesting funding support for South Kingstown schools at the Budget Public Hearings on April 14 and April 15, 2026, at the South Kingstown High School.

Discussion ensues.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adjourn at 10:27 PM.

Emily R. Houle
Town Clerk