

**Town of Jamestown
Jamestown Town Council**

**Work Session
August 29, 2002**

A work session of the Jamestown Town Council was called to order at the Jamestown Philomenian Library, 26 North Road at 7:05 PM by Council President Guy J. Settipane. The following members were present:

David A. Swain, Vice President
Kenneth G. Littman
Norma B. Willis
David J. Long

Also present were:

Maryanne Crawford, CPA, Town Administrator/Finance Director
Arlene D. Kalooski, Town Clerk
Douglas R. DeSimone, Esq., Town Solicitor
Thomas P. Tighe, Police Chief

Town Council President Settipane noted that although the Town has a Noise Ordinance, there are no established standards.

The Town Solicitor informed the Council that in order for this ordinance to be enforceable, the noise levels must meet the requirements of the American National Standards Institute (A.N.S.I.).

Police Chief Tighe reported that the Police Department has logged 67 noise complaints. Following is a list of complaints by the hour reported and types of complaints filed:

<u>Time of Complaint</u>	<u># of Complaints</u>
12:00 PM - 6:00 AM	23
7:00 AM - 3:00 PM	12
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	3
8:00 PM - 11:00 PM	29

Type of Complaint

music from residence	verbal arguments
general noise	fishing boats
fireworks	loud radios
playground	generators
motor vehicles	animal noise
barking dogs	gun shots
lawnmowers	

The Town Administrator reported that East Greenwich hired Brooks Acoustics Corporation as their consultant. Brooks Acoustics Corporation also assisted with training of officers as well as writing of reports.

The Council reviewed the letter sent from Carolyn A. Mannis, volunteer attorney for the Rhode Island Affiliate, American Civil Liberties Union. It was noted that this letter was sent upon receipt of a complaint from a Jamestown resident regarding the proposed noise ordinance.

Council President Settupane opened the workshop to public comment:

Donna Mignella, Union Street, reviewed the East Greenwich Noise Ordinance, as well as the Liquor Control Administration rules; specifically, #21, which states no loud noises, music, amplified or not, or other nuisance shall be permitted to annoy and disturb nearby residents or persons on adjoining streets or sidewalks. Such noise shall include but shall not be limited to the disposal of trash. Ms. Mignella also commented that several communities do not allow any outside entertainment.

Michael Swistak, Narragansett Avenue, suggested that the Police Chief or Council hold a workshop for business owners and residents so that they would be able to listen to measured decibel levels to gain a better understanding of what levels are allowable.

Robert Enton, Bayview Condominium, stated that if there were a live jazz band under your window, it wouldn't matter what the decibel level is.

Jane Miner, East Shore Road, requested that the Council take into consideration the existing businesses and their ability to do business.

George Tournas, owner of property located on Narragansett Avenue expressed great concern regarding the loud outdoor music from the restaurants.

Eileen Hall, Deck Street, suggested that the Council put together a community-based committee.

The Council discussed the need for an enforcement procedure. Additionally, they discussed the need to establish what the penalties or fines would be.

It was the consensus of the Council that the Town Administrator would provide a list of consultants. There was Council discussion that the next workshop should be with a consultant.

There being no further discussion, the workshop ended at 8:30 PM.

Attest:

Arlene D. Kalooski
Town Clerk