

Town Council
March 13, 2024
Town Council Chambers
Executive Session Minutes

Part #1 met under *Exemption #3: Collective Bargaining (Police, Fire, Public Works, Facilities, Library)* - *To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares.*

Councilor Mercer called the executive session to order at 8:14 PM and stated the Town Council would not go back into open session to adjourn.

Minutes for Part #1 are withheld until the purpose for confidentiality has expired.

Part #2 - under Exemption #1: *To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or Individuals.*

In Attendance: Councilors: Thomas Mercer, Robert Dellorco, Glenn Jones, Debbie Pellegrini, Brian Chandler, Melanie Hamblen, Cobi Frongillo, Patrick Sheridan, Ted Cormier-Leger. **Town Staff:** Jamie Hellen - Town Administrator, Amy Frigulietti - Deputy Town Administrator, Mark Cerel - Town Attorney, Karen Bratt - Human Resources, Robert "Brutus" Cantoreggi - DPW Director (currently on unpaid leave).

Councilor Mercer called the executive session to order at 9:41 PM

Town Administrator Hellen reminded all in attendance that this executive session is for the purpose of discussing recent incidents involving DPW Director Robert "Brutus" Cantoreggi and that all items discussed hereinafter must be kept confidential until the minutes are released to the public, which he indicated was our intention to be proactive and release them.

Town Administrator Hellen presented the attached PowerPoint to the Town Council. After the PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Cantoreggi read an apology to the Town Council and expressed his sincere regret for the recent ethics violation, recognizing the impacts of his decisions. Each Town Councilor expressed their individual concerns regarding Mr. Cantoreggi's ethics violation. TA Hellen laid out Mr. Cantoreggi's discipline. While individual members' opinions varied on the discipline, the TC expressed support for everyone to work collectively to support TA Hellen's decision to reinstate Mr. Cantoreggi. HR Director Bratt briefly discussed the Town's progressive discipline policy and that this is a common practice across all cities and towns. DTA Frigulietti briefly touched upon a positive meeting with DPW staff and their desire to have Mr. Cantoreggi back to work. Mr. Hellen acknowledged upcoming challenges for all involved - Mr. Cantoreggi,

Town staff, and the community - concerning this matter, but stated based on the facts and community input on hand, he believes the community will also support Brutus receiving a second chance after the two decades of progressive leadership he has brought to the community.

The Town Council **adjourned** the executive session (***VOTE: 9-0***) at **10:57PM**.