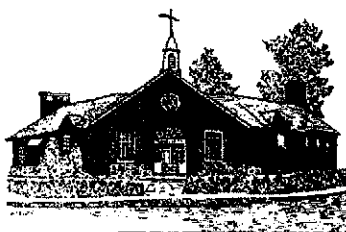


# TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

## Office of Town Clerk

Louise R. Phaneuf  
Town Clerk



TOWN BUILDING  
HARRISVILLE, R.I.

Telephone: (401) 568-4300 ext. 124

FAX: (401) 568-0490

E-mail: [townclerk@burrillville.org](mailto:townclerk@burrillville.org)

RI Relay 1-800-745-5555 (TTY)

## **BURRILLVILLE TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BALLOT QUESTIONS #3 GREEN ECONOMY AND CLEAN WATER BOND**

- WHEREAS, If approved, State Ballot Question #3 in the November 2018 General Election would authorize a Green Economy and Clean Water bond investing in water quality, land cleanup, farmland, recreational facilities, open spaces, and much more to ensure Rhode Island remains a wonderful place to live, visit, and raise a family; and
- WHEREAS, Investments in clean drinking water, recreation, bikeways, open space, farm land, and coastal resiliency are fundamental to preserving and improving quality of life in Burrillville and throughout Rhode Island; and
- WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond will provide \$7.9 million to ensure our state's drinking and recreational waters are clean and safe; and
- WHEREAS, By utilizing matching funds, the initial \$7.9 million investment will unlock close to \$40 million in federal funds and an additional \$150-\$200 million in private capital for water treatment upgrades, storm water quality improvements, combined sewer overflow abatement projects, water distribution system upgrades, and repairs to aging sewers; and
- WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond will provide an additional \$5 million for wastewater treatment facility resilience, helping to ensure our water quality and protecting facilities from flooding, higher tides, and major storm events; and
- WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond will provide \$12 million of investment in bikeways, local recreation, and open space; and
- WHEREAS, Rhode Island's bikeways, waterways, and open spaces are vital to the state's economy and ability to attract visitors, new residents, and businesses; and
- WHEREAS, Protected open spaces and parks are the cornerstone of our tourism and outdoor recreation industry, attracting visitors and supporting businesses and employment in Burrillville; and
- WHEREAS, Access to quality green space improves health outcomes, promotes stronger social ties, and enhances residents' sense of satisfaction and pride in their communities; and

- WHEREAS, According to the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation in Rhode Island supports 37,000 jobs, \$1.2 billion in wages, and nearly \$300 million in state and local tax revenue annually; and
- WHEREAS, Expanding the state's network of bike paths will enhance connections between communities, workplaces and parks, promote health and fitness, and increase Rhode Island's appeal as a tourist and outdoor recreation destination, further boosting our economy; and
- WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond will provide \$2 million of investment to preserve working farms and Rhode Island's growing network of local farmers; and
- WHEREAS, Protecting and preserving agricultural land in Rhode Island is critical to providing healthy locally grown food for our residents, supporting our farmers markets, providing community gardens accessible to every resident, and building a stronger and more equitable local food system; and
- WHEREAS, Rhode Island leads the nation in food-system planning and innovation – spurred on by growing consumer demand for fresh, locally grown food; and
- WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond will provide \$4 million to clean up former industrial sites, known as “brownfields,” removing environmental hazards and returning them to productive use; and
- WHEREAS, Funding for remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites in Burrillville will create jobs, protect and enhance public health, and help to revitalize our neighborhoods by transforming underused or abandoned properties into productive places generating increased local tax revenue; and
- WHEREAS, Since 1995, hundreds of brownfield sites have been cleaned in Rhode Island, leading to over \$630 million of private investment and creating thousands of jobs; and
- WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond will provide \$5 million to restore and improve the climate resilience of vulnerable coastal areas, as well as river and stream floodplains; and
- WHEREAS, With our nearly 400 miles of coastline, and with over 400 miles of river ways, many marine-based businesses, and strong local maritime history, it is of the utmost importance that Rhode Island ensure that our coastal areas are preserved and able to withstand sea-level rise as well as greater storm frequency and intensity; and
- WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond will invest \$7 million for dredging sections of the major rivers in downtown Providence, supporting economic development, enhancing tourism opportunities, and improving water depths for boating, recreation, and climate resilience; and

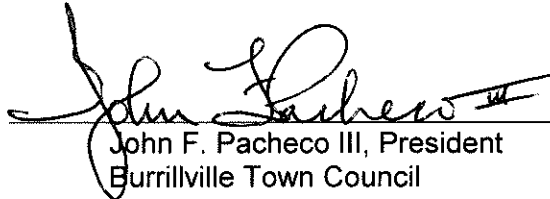
WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond will provide \$4.4 million to repair dams throughout Rhode Island, protecting people, property, and communities; and

WHEREAS, The people of Rhode Island have consistently and overwhelmingly expressed their support for similar bond questions in the past, including the 2012 Farmland, Open Space Conservation, Parks and Bay Restoration Bond; the 2014 Clean Water, Open Space and Healthy Communities Bond; and the 2016 Environmental and Recreational Improvement Bonds; and

WHEREAS, The Green Economy and Clean Water bond is an investment in Rhode Island's environmental and economic future that will ensure that our community remains a clean, green, and thriving place for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Town Council of the Town of Burrillville expresses its strong support for the Green Economy and Clean Water bond proposed by State Ballot Question #3 in the November 2018 General Election and encourages all residents of Burrillville to vote Yes on Question #3.

Adopted as a resolution this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October 2018.

  
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John F. Pacheco III, President  
Burrillville Town Council

ATTEST:

  
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Louise R. Phaneuf, Town Clerk

