

**Borough of Stonington
Board of Warden and Burgesses
Regular Meeting – January 18, 2022
MINUTES**

Warden Jeffrey Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Borough Hall and also by way of Zoom conferencing video. Present in Borough Hall in addition to Warden Callahan were Burgesses Kevin Rogers, Amy Nicholas, and Shaun Mastroianni. Burgess Amanda Barnes was absent. Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman participated via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Burgess Rogers, the minutes of the regular meeting of December 20, 2021, were unanimously approved.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Preparing W-2s and other tax documents

CORRESPONDENCE

SVIA, request for ARPA funding

NESS, request for ARPA funding

Stonington Free Library, request for ARPA funding

PHGS, request for ARPA funding

Stonington Historical Society, request for ARPA funding and request to use Borough property to install interpretive signage

Anastasia Taylor, request for ARPA funding

John Burke, forwarding final Parking & Access Evaluation

CLA Engineers, proposal to conduct assessment of Borough storm water system

Email from Lori Hopkins-Cavanaugh re: masks

OUTGOING: NONE

REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER

None

REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIAL REPORT

Bills for the period December 17 through January 14, 2022 totaled \$19,502.72. Net income as of January 14th is \$525,552.19. Revenue is now about \$30,000 over budget.

WARDEN'S REPORT

1. Town Hall department head meeting for January cancelled
2. New Borough website has gone live. Go to STONINGTONBOROUGHCT.GOV

3. Received nine ARPA grant requests from local NFPs
4. Local Covid statistics: New London County hospitalizations have remained at over 100 for the past week, while total deaths have increased to 543. Stonington Town deaths are 45 and total cases equal 2406.
5. Completed 2022 CRS recertification report
6. Received storm water study proposal from CLA Engineers
7. Helped distribute Covid test kits at fire house
8. Preliminary 2020 census count for Borough is 976, the first increase in decades.

BOROUGH CLOCK – None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Streets & Sidewalks (Callahan)

1. Conducted monthly brush pickup and weekly Christmas tree pickups
2. Cleaned outfall at Harbor Edge
3. Plowed and sanded for January 7th snow fall
4. Cannon Square flagpole broken by overnight storm of 1/17/2022
5. Issued 2 dumpster permits
6. Town public works installed 2 new viaduct lights this month. Five more expected by April.

Fire & Emergency Management (Nicholas/Hoadley)

Police Incident report

During the month of December 2021 there were 44 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 9 Medical Assists, 6 Parking/Motor Vehicle Complaints, 3 Accidents none with Injuries, 3 Burglar Alarms 2 of which were false, 3 Business Check/Check Building, 2 911 Misdials, 2 Larceny, 2 Suspicious Activities, and 2 Assist Citizen. There was one incident each of Request Patrol, Welfare Check, Disturbance, Transport, Bolo (be on the lookout for), Pistol Permit, Landlord/Tenant Dispute, Assist Other Agency, Community Policing, Fire Alarm, Animal Control and Forgery.

There were 2 arrests. One related to the MV accident on Trumbull Street and one related to the disturbance on Water Street.

Fire

We responded to 6 Alarms in December 2021, 4 of which were in the Borough. They were as follows:

- 1) 12-4-21 1:45am MVA IFO 17 Trumbull St. (multiple vehicles & houses struck)
- 2) 12-4-21 7:45am Medical assist with SAC 2 Grand St. (lift assist)
- 3) 12-9-21 9:04am Fire Alarm Activation 32 Water St. Ston. Commons (workers)
- 4) 12-9-21 3:09pm Odor of propane 122 Elm St. (nothing found)

- 5) 12-24-21 8:33am Electrical panel issue 522 Stonington Rd. Stonington Shell (panel melting down)
- 6) 12-24-21 4:32pm Fire Alarm Activation 152 Elm St. Stonington Town Hall (fuel overflow alarm going off)

For all of 2021, SBFD responded to 124 Alarms of which 74 were in the Borough.

Breakdown is as follows:

Stonington Borough.....	74 alarms
Stonington Fire District.....	39 alarms
Lord's Point.....	8 alarms
Wamphassuc Point.....	1 alarm
Mutual Aid.....	2 alarms
Total.....	124 alarms

In 2020 SBFD responded to 142 calls. In 2019 SBFD responded to 126 calls.

Parks, Trees & Rights of Way (Barnes) - None

Public Buildings (Mastroianni)

The flat roof on the Borough Hall has been repaired by Pawcatuck roofing on Jan 13th.

Utilities and Sanitation (Rogers)

Five letters this month. Asked about where to put the letters. From now on, he will mail the letters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lori Hopkins Cavanaugh spoke at length about her dislike of masks and the Borough public building mask policy. She is particularly concerned about the effect of masks on children. She praised Chief Hoadley for his efforts as fire marshal. She mentioned her concern about parking at Noah’s.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Status of COVID-19 in region and State. See Warden Report

Discuss memorial plaques, trees, etc. Tabled. SVIA is discussing a proposed approach.

Cannabis use on public/Borough property (SBO-08). Tabled.

Borough traffic and parking. Final report has been received. The traffic engineer will be presenting to the Board and general public in March .

Discuss venue for next W&B meeting.

February 2022 meeting will be a hybrid meeting – in person and Zoom. We may need to reschedule the annual fire house inspection.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider requests to use Borough property

A motion by Burgess Mastroianni, seconded by Burgess Rogers, to approve Stonington Historical Society’s request to use Borough property, i.e., Wadawanuck Square, Stonington Point, Cannon Square, Denison Ave, Wall Street lot (details to be approved by Board representatives) Spring – Fall 2022 for interpretive signage for the Borough History Trail, passed unanimously.

Consider funding NFP grant requests - \$60,000 in requests. The discussion was about the Warden and Burgesses meeting via ZOOM with all the Not-for-Profits to explain the process and answer questions. Burgess Mastroianni asked the question about the dollar amounts in each funding category. The consensus is to take our time in making decisions. Tabled.

Consider accepting storm water system study proposal from CLA Engineers

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to accept the storm water system study proposal (\$30,400) from CLA Engineers, passed unanimously.

Discuss ordinance enforcement. The Board agreed it is important to be able to enforce Borough ordinances regarding health and safety, e.g. parking, yellow bags, maintenance of sidewalks, etc. Warden will ask Borough attorney to begin drafting an ordinance on enforcement including a hearing process for appeals of citations.

Present annual progress report for Borough Hazard Mitigation Plan. The four-page Borough Hazard Mitigation Plan progress report was distributed to all Burgesses and posted to the Borough website.

OTHER BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Burgess Mastroianni, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, adjournment of the meeting at 7:50 p.m., was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa M. Coleman

January 25, 2022