

Board of Warden and Burgesses
Minutes of Board Meeting ~ August 18, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

- Warden Jeffrey Callahan called the Board Meeting of the Borough of Stonington Warden and Burgesses to order in the Borough Hall at 7:30 PM. Present were Burgesses Michael Blair, Sibby Lynch, Howard Park, Robert Scala, and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman. Burgesses Michael Adair and Amy Nicholas were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, acceptance of the minutes from the Board Meeting held on July 21, 2014 was unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT (PERRY):

- Received July tax collections: \$125,000.00, and \$397,405.78
- Received Town FY 14/15 disbursement: \$175,700.00

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT (COLEMAN):

- I will be out of town February 16, 2015 and will need someone to take minutes for that meeting. As well, I will need to sign checks before my trip or have another burgess sign on my behalf.

REVIEW OF BILLS:

- The 7/21/2014 through 8/15/2014 report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Bills for the period totaled \$57,600.14

REVIEW OF PROFIT/LOSS STATEMENT:

- The July 2013 through June 2014 Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual Report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of August 15, 2014 is \$61,701.67.
- The July 2014 through August 15, 2014 Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual Report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of August 15, 2014 is \$431,951.45.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Informational:

- None

Requests:

- United Church: request to post sign for 8/23 event (given to Burgess Lynch)
- Stonington Players: notification of cancellation of theater in park on 8/12-8/14
- Mark & Joanne Higinbotham: request for curb cut modification at 11 Bayview
- Jim Taylor: Calvary Church Fish Bake banner

Other:

- Don Vail: email offering to serve on P&Z Commission
- Dr. Michael O'Brien: email requesting resumption of application for 1 hour parking on lower Water Street

Invitations/Meetings:

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Jesse Diggs suggested signage on Water Street indicating “two way traffic ahead” be put under the “pull over for oncoming traffic ahead” sign and a second sign on Water Street at Diving Street curb to “pull over for oncoming traffic ahead” and “two way traffic ahead.” Burgess Park stated has had discussions with Warden Callahan regarding painting arrows on the road indicating two way traffic.

Resident Jesses Diggs reported an email survey sent out to 100 emails regarding vendors at the Point. Of the fifty replies 54% wanted no vendors at the Point. 46% wanted vendors with limitations. He suggested a cease and desist on vendor currently there. Burgess Blair suggested putting vendors at the Point on the agenda in October 2014.

Resident Jesse Diggs suggested a placard at the Point that indicates what the viewer sees in the distance (e.g., Fisher’s Island)

WARDEN’S REPORT:

- Worked with Battle Bicentennial Committee for August commemoration. Participated in events on Sat/Sunday August 9-10.
- Responded to residents who expressed concerns about the food truck at the Point. I asked the operator to move to a different location near the East Lawn, and I asked the Borough Fire Marshal to inspect it. Fire Marshal Brennen reported that the vehicle has a full fire suppression system.
- Received firm quote from EMCOR to replace steam boiler in Borough Hall; asbestos testing in boiler room by Mystic Air Quality occurred on 24 July. Samples were negative.
- Continued working with Borough Attorney on agreement between fire company and Borough
- Participated in discussions with Stonington Police Chief and Town Public Works Director on resolving issues at dog park adjacent to Borough sewage treatment plant.
- Signed and returned project certification report related to FEMA emergency assistance funds (\$11,546) received following the January 2011 blizzard.
- Witnessed sound level measurements around Stonington Commons cooling tower. Commons have made a number of improvements in the tower in order to reduce radiated noise, but levels at several locations still exceed state maximums for nighttime.
- Marched in Blessing of the Fleet parade on July 27th.

SANITATION/UTILITIES REPORT

- Ash Street seaweed removed by Hasted Bros on 22 & 23 July and taken to Coogan Farm on Route 27 in Mystic and other farms. Ten truckloads were hauled away.

BOROUGH CLOCK

- No activity

STREETS (BURGESS PARK):

- The highway crew has been very busy again this month with lawns and garbage heavy in this routine. They feel that there has been an unusual amount of trash in the baskets this summer.
- Crosswalks. All of the Water Street crosswalks have been repainted. There was a new cross walk painted in on Main Street and all others but one have been painted. The crosswalk on Main Street near St. Mary's church is on hold until Broad St. has been repaved. My intention is to remove the stone crosswalk on Broad and Main, and move it to East Broad and Main. As it is now it is a problem for the snow plows. I am also hoping to expose some cobbles at the gutter on Broad St.
- The yellow line on Main St. leading to the intersection of Broad St is to be painted in September.
- The crew replaced the "20MPH" sign on upper Elm St because the removed sign had been vandalized by spray-painting it white.
- Repaired street sign at Elm and Bayview Ave.
- Repaired chain link fence on Wayland's Wharf
- Replaced bulb in Wadawanuck Square
- Picked up yellow bags left behind by Sauckuk when the refuse truck driver skipped Wall St.
- Picked up leaves on Main St.
- New yellow curb painted on the corners of Broad St and Gold And High St and Gold.
- 3 1/2 loads of brush picked up. Still getting plastic bags.
- Made ready for BATTLE of STONINGTON celebration with extra trash baskets and flags for the whole weekend.
- Checked outflows in anticipation of the heavy rain in the middle of this past week.
- After the storm, the crew did a great job picking up seaweed from E. Grand St.
- Kyle still spraying and started painting yellow curbs. He has also been helping with lawns. He also pulled weeds, sprayed and cut at Wayland's Wharf.
- The new self-propelled mower was picked up.
- The 90 catch basins in the borough are scheduled to be cleaned out September 18th
- I have been in contact with Hastedt Brothers about paving the two roads that have had their water mains replaced. No firm date set to start but early September is expected.
- The highway crew was super good sports to dress up and join the end of the Stonington bicentennial parade to pick up the mess left behind.
- Kyle's last week is coming up. Roger will be on vacation next week.
- Burgess Blair commented on bicyclists not observing "traveling with traffic" laws. He will report his concerns to Burgess Nicholas.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (BURGESS BLAIR):

There were nine alarms in July 2014. They were as follows:

7/3/14 11:29 a.m.	MVA Route 1 at Adm. Fife Property
7/8/14 12:13 p.m.	Fire Alarm Activation 103 Main Street
7/11/14 2:24 p.m.	Fire Alarm Activation 84 Water St
7/17/14 2:48 p.m.	Structure Fire 15 Collins Road
7/19/14 5:17 p.m.	Life Assist 107 Water St.
7/20/14 8:00 a.m.	Fire Alarm Activation 17 Eli hue Island Road
7/26/14 2:19 p.m.	Fire Alarm Activation 225 Wamphassuc Point Road
7/28/14 7:15 p.m.	Reported Smoke Showing Lamberts Lane

7/31/14 12:02 a.m. Truck into a house 16 Church St.

- The twin lobster's annual fundraiser had 50% attendance due to incimate weather.
- There is a mutual aid agreement with Wequetequock and Pawcatuck Fire Departments between 7 am and 5 pm Monday through Friday of any reported structure fire.

PARKS, TREES, AND RIGHTS OF WAY (BURGESS LYNCH)

- A resident of Denison Avenue has offered to pay for the purchase and planting and watering of a new Sycamore tree to fill in an empty spot in the row. It was noticed that the tips of the leaves many of the sycamores in town appear to be crisp and moldy. We are investigating the problem. A young Horse Chestnut to the west of the library is also showing dried leaves.
- This fall many street trees will get a trim where they are reaching for roofs.
- The grass in Wadawanuck Square has taken a beating this summer and needs aeration.
- Burgess Park has a list from Susan to send letter to residents who continue to use black plastic bags for lawn waste.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (BURGESS ADAIR):

- None

SIDEWALKS (BURGESS SCALA):

- Contractor will begin repairs tomorrow, August 19th, on Post Office sidewalk.
- Second notice has been sent to 7 Main Street and 9 Main Street regarding previous sidewalk repair letter.

POLICE, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, AND COMMUNICATIONS (BURGESS NICHOLAS):

- **Police Incidents Report**
During the month of June 2014, there were 77 incidents in the police report for the Borough. This included 10 Suspicious Activity calls, 7 Medical Assists, 7 Animal Control Calls, and 4 Larceny calls. There were 5 Parking/Motor Vehicle Complaints, 4 Accidents including one hit and run, and a Motor Vehicle Stop. There was one called related to a Domestic Disturbance and one case of Vandalism. The Speed Monitor has been placed on the Viaduct, which should help calm the traffic.
- **Website/Communications**
No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parking on Lower Water Street

- Comments by Michael O'Brien requesting that Warden and Burgesses reconsider a designated parking sign that was previously removed.
- A motion by Warden Jeff Callahan, seconded by Burgess Park, to not put a parking sign on Water Street in front of Dr. O'Brien's office was passed unanimously.

Fire Department Ordinance/Fire Company Agreement

- A motion by Warden Jeff Callahan, seconded by Burgess Blair, to approve the revised Fire Department Ordinance, SB014, was passed unanimously.

Warden Callahan will question the Borough Attorney on future changes to this ordinance as they may affect the charter.

- A motion by Burgess Blair, seconded by Warden Jeff Callahan, to approve the new agreement between the Borough and the Fire Company, was passed unanimously.

Firehouse Repairs

- Burgess Blair has finished the “Scope of work” statement. He will send Warden Callahan the final version. Bid package to be advertised in the newspaper. Contractors must walk through the location.

Borough Hall Heating System

- A motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Blair to accept the proposal of \$25,000 by EMCOR to remove the old steam boiler, install the new steam boiler, and have it operating, was passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider following applications for use of Borough Property

- None
- Barbara is modifying the application to include a space where specific conditions and limitations can be listed.

Consider Curb Cut Modification on Bayview

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park to approve a curb cut modification by three feet at 11 Bayview Ave., with the stipulation that the curb be granite, was passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- A motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Blair to approve the purchase of the pole brackets used for the Bicentennial on the viaduct, in the amount of \$650.00 (approximately), which will be subtracted from the \$2,500 budgeted for the Bicentennial Event, was passed unanimously. Burgess Scala abstained.
- A motion by Warden Jeff Callahan, seconded by Burgess Scala, to approve the request for a banner for the annual Calvary Church Fish Bake was passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, adjournment of the meeting at 8:51 PM was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman
Clerk-Treasurer
September 3, 2014