



Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes - August 19, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER

Warden Jeff Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order at Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m. Present were Burgesses Amanda Barnes, Shaun Mastroianni, Amy Nicholas, Bergin O'Malley, Kevin Rogers and Karen von Ruffer Hills. Tiffany Cook, Clerk-Treasurer, was absent and Burgess O'Malley took the minutes in her absence.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Burgess O'Malley, seconded by Burgess Rogers, the minutes of the regular meeting held July 15, 2019 were unanimously approved.

3. REPORT OF ADMIN ASSISTANT

Received July property taxes from town: \$15,000.00 & \$758,912.07

Received Town road disbursement: \$206,885.00

Received Fire Protection Service fees payment from Lord's Point : \$26,861.00

Received CIRMA Member's Equity: \$2,210.00

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Other: SCWA: letter for representative appointments

Hefel Masonry: seawall repair proposal at Wayland's Wharf

Requests: None

Meetings: None

5. REPORT OF CLERK TREASURER

Nothing to report this month--Clerk was absent at meeting.

6. REVIEW of BILLS/YTD FINANCIAL REPORT

\$116,577.33. Bills are large due to Stonington Free Library donation, worker's comp, fire department bills. Net income of \$625,035.

7. WARDEN'S REPORT

1. Completed follow up after FEMA Verification Visit on June 26
2. Worked with zoning officer and chair of P&ZC on revisions to zoning regs
3. Marched in Blessing of the Fleet parade
4. Arranged for new Borough sign on viaduct
5. Prepared and mailed annual fee invoices to contract fire districts
6. Arranged for new swim ladder at Wayland's Wharf float.
7. Drafted ethics policy



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BOROUGH CLOCK

United Church remains in danger of closing. Future of property is unknown.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

a. Streets and Sidewalks (Callahan)

1. Continued mowing lawns
2. Filled potholes on Water Street, Grand Street, etc
3. Painted crosswalks and other street striping
4. Removed large fallen limbs and debris around willow tree in Wimpfheimer Park
5. Began Harmony Street Project
6. Contractor repaired stormwater outfall on NW Street

b. Fire & Emergency Management (Rodgers)

There were a total of 11 Alarms in July 2019, they were as follows:

1. 7-3-19 7:44am MVA Palmer & N. Main St. (pole down,no injuries)
2. 7-5-19 8:21am Medical assist with SAC, SHYC 32 Water St. (medical in a boat)
3. 7-16-19 6:26am Strong odor of oil 46 Broad St. (parking lot oiling next door)
4. 7-18-19 2:11am Fire Alarm Activation 80 Water St. (faulty smoke detector)
5. 7-20-19 9:46am Tree down IFO 23 Briar Patch Rd. (power lines down,road blocked)
6. 7-20-19 11:25am Fuel spill Broad & Gold St. (MV leaking Gasoline)
7. 7-20-19 5:35pm Fire Alarm Activation 212 Flanders Rd. (faulty smoke detector)
8. 7-21-19 1:40pm Smoking MV, SAC 84 Alpha Ave. (faulty battery in ambulance)
9. 7-28-19 12:56am Odor of gas 223 Wamphassuc Pt. Rd. (nothing found, skunk ?)
10. 7-29-19 7:30am Tree on wires IFO 52 Briar Patch Rd. (Eversource responded,fixed)
11. 7-31-19 8:53am Dumpster Fire Stonington Town Dock (accidentally ignited)

Chief Hoadley reported that mechanical contractor EMCOR installed a software system that allows remote monitoring of fire house heating system status. If building temperature drops below 55 degrees or the boiler shuts down in winter, the Chief and the Warden will receive alarms on their smart phones.

c. Parks, Trees & Rights of Way (Barnes)

Nothing to report

d. Public Buildings (Mastroianni)

Started the generator project for Boro Hall. The Fire House was weeded.

e. Public Information (O'Malley)

Received request from resident for street closure for Halloween, and a speed sign near Chesebro Lane. I passed along to Burgess Nicholas and sent the resident the form for event requests.



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f. Police and Public Affairs

During the month of July 2019 there were 72 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 11 Parking/Motor Vehicle Complaints, 8 Medical Assists, 7 Animal Control, 7 Assist Citizen, 6 Check Building/Business, 5 Accidents including 3 Hit and Runs, 4 Burglar Alarms all of which were false, 3 Disturbances, 2 Threatening, 2 Motor Vehicle Stops, 2 Damage Not Criminal and 2 Fire Related calls. There was one incident each of Suspicious Motor Vehicle, Assist Other Agency, Welfare Check, Juvenile, Larceny, Nuisance, Found Item, Pistol Permit, Trespass, an Order to Repossess, Suspicious Activity, 911 Misdial and Keys in Vehicle.

We don't have a speeding issue on Main Street. Average is 18mph. Re the Chesebro Lane request: can ask for increased enforcement. Speed bumps not popular with snow plows, neighbors or law enforcement. Burgess Barnes mentioned that speeding is an issue on Elm Street. Burgess Nicholas will request a "children playing" sign on Chesebro and ask for enforcement on Elm Street.

g. Utilities & Sanitation (von Ruffer Hills)

Summer trash reminders sent out, mainly to renters.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Jessica Morrissey 1) Raised the issue of the egress across the tracks on Water street. Asked if the Borough could write a letter to Congressman Courtney and Amtrak to request that a gate be installed so that residents have way to exit over the tracks. Warden Callahan stated he has written to Rep. Courtney and to Amtrak before to no avail. Chief Hoadley has written as well (as far back as the 90s). 2) United Church: asked for the Borough to support the United Church's efforts. Warden Callahan stated, and Burgess O'Malley agreed, that it is not appropriate for the Borough government to get involved in church affairs 3) Dog Park: wanted to know the status of the Dog Park. Warden Callahan explained that the town owns that piece of land and has established policy that dogs can enter on leashes 4) Morrissey had questions about plans to install solar panels at the water pollution control plant, but Warden Callahan stated that this was a town issue as well.

b. Paul Janssens 1) Mr. Janssens raised the issue that cars seem to speed in the morning on Main Street 2) Requested a flashing speed limit sign be installed at the beginning of the viaduct instead of just at the end (Burgess Nicholas will talk to Captain Olson)

c. Pam Mola wondered if there was budget to have heavier gravel or crushed stone (like at the Point) in the Wayland's Wharf parking lot instead of the stone dust there currently. Warden Callahan will check.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Mastroianni, to waive the bid requirement and accept the proposal from Hefel Masonry to repair the west-facing Wayland's Wharf sea wall for \$20,000 was unanimously approved.
- b. Discussion about sidewalk obstructions on Water Street and a possible revision of SBO-01 (Streets and Sidewalks). Several merchants in the audience spoke, after which



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Warden Callahan said he will modify the language and submit for a vote at next month's meeting.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider requests to use Borough property: None.
- b. There was discussion to nominate representatives to the SCWA Advisory Board, but no decision was reached, so this will be voted on at next month's meeting.
- c. A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to appoint Jean Fiore to become a full member of the Planning & Zoning Commission was unanimously approved.
- d. During the FY-18 Borough audit, it was pointed out that the Borough does not have a policy regarding a code of ethics. Warden Callahan has drafted language based on the Town's Ethics Ordinance. Burgesses are asked to review the proposed language prior to a vote at the September meeting.

12. OTHER BUSINESS -

Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Barnes, made a motion to move to executive session to discuss health insurance options. The motion was approved unanimously, and the Board went into executive session at 8:03. Executive session ended at 8:13.

13. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Burgess Mastroianni, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, adjournment of the regular meeting at 8:14pm was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bergin O'Malley, Burgess
August 21, 2019