

**Borough of Stonington
Board of Warden and Burgesses
Regular Monthly Meeting - October 15, 2018**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Warden Jeff Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order in Borough Hall at 7:00p.m. Present were Burgesses Robert Scala, Amanda Barnes, Shaun Mastroianni and Michael Adair.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Robert Scala, seconded by Amanda Barnes, the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 17th were unanimously approved after making one correction. Item 5 should read Williams Fund instead of Waldron Fund.

3. REPORT OF ADMIN ASSISTANT

Received property taxes from Town: \$5,633.81
Received Fire Protection Services fee from Stonington District: \$63,965.
Processed and filed quarterly reports to state.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

From Albert Kausch: email regarding honoring Charlie Holland

5. REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER:

No report.

6. REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIALS

Bills for period totaled \$41,901.57
YTD Financials – Net income through October 11th = \$682,873. Reserve fund is approximately \$296,000

7. WARDEN'S REPORT

1. Worked on annual FEMA Repetitive Loss (from flooding) report
2. Attended Storm Water Task Force meeting
3. Attended meeting with Town Engineer and others to discuss drainage issues at Velvet Mill
4. Participated in conference call with LED streetlight consultants, Tanko Associates
5. Met with Town Engineer to discuss MS4 progress
6. Worked on annual warden's letter to residents

BOROUGH CLOCK – None.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

a. Streets (Callahan)

1. Completed paving on Bayview Ave
2. Continued weekly park mowing.
3. Cleaned catch basin grills after heavy rains

b. Fire & Emergency Management (Adair/Hoadley)

Things quieted down in September with 7 Alarms as follows:

- 1) 9-2-18 3:24pm Fire Alarm Activation 5 Main St. (burnt food)
- 2) 9-2-18 6:25pm Mutual Aid to Weq. FD for a Structure Fire at 1 Whewell Circle (Cove Ledge Marina off Rt. 1, gutted one hotel unit)
- 3) 9-4-18 3:34pm Leaking Transformer IFO 16 Cutler St. (notified Eversource)
- 4) 9-5-18 6:28pm Structure Fire 22 Elm St. (Exhaust fan motor in bathroom wall)
- 5) 9-24-18 8:15am Fire Alarm Activation 20 North St. Wamp. Pt. (nothing found)
- 6) 9-28-18 11:26pm Medical Assist with SAC 48 Collins Rd. (lift assist)
- 7) 9-29-18 9:01pm Fire Alarm Activation 77 Collins Rd. (nothing found)

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

Bartlett will be pruning trees at the corner of Church and Main Street and in front of 80 Water Street on Friday, October 19th. It's possible trees at 8 Pearl Street will be pruned the same day. The tree that needs pruning near the Hungry Palette will be pruned on a Monday at the end of the month.

I completed my third three-hour class in Tree Warden Certification on Thursday, October 11th. We will take the exam on Thursday, November 1st. It has already been an extremely valuable experience.

Doug Rice has expressed interested in creating a sculpture park in Wimpfheimer Park near the Velvet Mill in Stonington Borough. There is one in Hodge's Square in New London, and he has just put in an installation at the Westerly Train Station. This may bring interest to that underused park and the area.

d. Public Buildings (Mastroianni)

SNS Electric will be at Borough Hall on Friday October 19th to gather info for generator proposal.

e. Sidewalks (Scala)

New sidewalk completed on east side of footbridge.

f. Police (Nicholas)

During the month of September 2018 there were 56 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 17 Check Building/Business Checks, 5 Medical Assists, 3 Accidents, 3 Animal Control Complaints, 2 Assist Citizens, 2 Assist Other Agency, 2 Suspicious Activities, 2 911 Hang ups/Misdials, 2 Burglar Alarms, 2 Fire Related Calls, 2 Welfare Checks, 2 Larceny, and 2 Welfare Checks. There was one incident each of Pistol Permit, Motor Vehicle Abandoned, Disturbance, Harassment, Keys in Vehicle, Criminal Mischief, Juvenile, Alarm Not Registered and Phone Scam.

There is no update to issue of speeding at intersection of High and Main Streets.

g. Sanitation and Utilities (von Ruffer Hills) Away—no report.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Errichetti of 32 Water Street spoke. He is former chair of Borough P&Z and was a member of the Charter Revision Commission. He commented on planning & zoning-related issues that were not fully addressed by the Commission, since they can be resolved by the Board of Warden & Burgesses through changes to ordinances or through the budget process. Chris stated that community service needs in the area of zoning, in particular, are not adequately addressed at present due to the limited hours of the part-time zoning officer (4 hours per week). One way to resolve this would be to have the Town planning office handle Borough zoning matters, but this is complicated by the fact that Town and Borough zoning regulations are different, not to mention that the Town might not be willing to take on this responsibility. Another approach is for the Borough to hire a part time planner who could work during regular office hours several days a week, an idea he strongly recommends. Warden Callahan stated that he would consider implementing such a plan during the budgeting process next spring.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Town Dock Playground: tabled pending receipt of equipment cost estimates from Town.
- b. On the matter of using Borough facilities (Borough Hall and Fire House) by the general public, discussion is tabled until November meeting, when Burgess Adair anticipates having a revised draft of a policy document.
- c. On the issue of speeding on Main Street at corner of High Street, no new information is available.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. There were no requests to use Borough property
- b. Recognition of Charlie Holland. Prof. Albert Kausch addressed the Board and proposed that Mr. Holland, who at 93 is a well-known figure in the Borough, be recognized for his musical contributions to Borough life, by “electing” him “honorary mayor.” The Board supported the idea, but made clear this is not an official action by the Board and it does not formally established such a position in the Borough. Dr. Kausch intends to undertake this activity on his own, posting signs and installing ballot boxes in establishments along Water Street.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

Warden Callahan announced the annual call from the Town for Capital Improvement Projects, and encouraged the burgesses to submit ideas to him by October 19th. He intends to submit a request for funds to perform an engineering assessment of the 25-year old structure, repair obvious problems such as the detached concrete above the Amtrak tracks, and paint the entire structure.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

Submitted,

Jeffrey Callahan, Warden
October 18, 2018