

**Board of Warden and Burgesses
Minutes of Special Meeting ~ February 22, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Jeffrey Callahan called the regular meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order at the Borough Fire House at 7:30 PM. Present were Burgesses Michael Blair, Howard Park, Robert Scala, Amy Nicholas, Amanda Barnes, and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman. Burgess Michael Adair was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, the minutes from the Board meeting held on January 19, 2016, were unanimously approved.

With regard to the discussion in the minutes of the possible removal of the maple tree in Wadawanuck Square, resident Richard Easton stated that his recollection of what he said at the December 2015 meeting differed from that of the Warden's. Mr. Easton said that he did not believe that he suggested that the Tree Commissioner consult with Brad Painter or any other specific arborist, and he asked that his differing recollection be noted in the minutes of the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT (PERRY):

- Received Tax collection payment: \$2,373.45
- Received State Road Aid Grant payment: \$7,762.20
- Processed 1099 forms & filed report
- Compiling a list of all Wardens of the Borough since 1801

Correspondence:

Other:

- Ed & Carol Sauers: email regarding P&Z permit application for bar/restaurant in the Velvet Mill. **Note-- taken care of by zoning officer**
- Robert & Virginia Montgomery: email regarding removal of linden trees at 68 Main St

Request:

None

Meetings:

None

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT (COLEMAN):

- None.

REVIEW OF BILLS:

- The 1/19/2016 through 2/18/2016 report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Bills for the period totaled \$19,209.59.

REVIEW OF INCOME AND EXPENSES:

- The July 2015 through February 18, 2016 Income and Expenses Budget vs. Actual was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of February 18, 2016 is \$400,909.05.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Resident Richard Easton questioned why we don't record our Warden and Burgesses meetings. Warden Callahan will speak with Borough Attorney about recording the meetings.

WARDEN'S REPORT:

- Dog Park: Attended D/P committee meetings on February 3 and 17.
- Took part in trip to Appleton, WI to inspect new Borough fire engines being assembled by Pierce Manufacturing. Vehicles should be delivered in early March.
- Town has been awarded a grant of \$150,000 for "resiliency planning" based on the application submitted by the Town Planner with assistance from the climate change task force. Grant will be managed by the Town Planner and Town Engineer.
- Contacted SVIA to inquire about sharing cost of cannon carriage wheel repairs.
- Attended Southeastern CT Water Authority Representative Advisory Board meeting in Montville.
- Continued work on 2016-17 Borough budget.
- Fire Chief search committee has been appointed. Members are: Warden Callahan, Fire Commissioner Blair, Chief Hoadley; Fire Dept members Rob Palmer, Peter Victoria, and David Buck; WPA President Charles Danis; and Borough resident Kathryn Burchenal.

SANITATION/UTILITIES REPORT: none**BOROUGH CLOCK: none****STREETS (BURGESS PARK):**

- The highway crew had only a few plowing days but more than the usual, early morning salting snow removal though always tiresome, was made more difficult by improperly park cars and individuals throwing snow back out into the street from their sidewalks. A notice was printed up for sidewalk shovelers and several cars were towed. During the first snow storm I personally saw a police officer helping an individual move her car, after notifying her it was illegally parked, by clearing off her windshield.
- Two loads of brush, weekly garbage, and pothole filling were most recent activities for the crew.
- They also changed the flags at the point and Cannon Sq.
- They spread some gravel at the point and will follow up when the supply of gravel thaws out.
- The crew worked with the WPCA and T10 and fire truck to open the out flow at North West Street.
- Diving Street outflow has had to be dugout twice and this could be a result of the up-stream pipe, which might have a couple of breaches. We have addressed one earlier in the fall but we might have to revisit this issue.
- Catch basins throughout the borough need repair, most notably on Water Street NW side, Front Street between High and Broad St. Corner of Water and Diving SE corner.
- Roads that are in need of attention are High St. between Main and Cliff St., Cliff St. between Temple and High Street, Front Street, Orchard Street, and Church Street east of Main St.
- Crew continues to maintain our equipment by making adjustments on the spreaders on the 09 and 14 trucks or repairs, such as making a bracket for the plow switch on 14 truck. With that in mind we will need six tires for 09 truck (\$1350.00 all inclusive) and we need to think about replacing the street sweeper. This unit is old and has too many repairs to mention.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (BURGESS BLAIR/CHIEF HOADLEY):

1-1-16	3:34 P.M.	Electrical fire 60 Langworthy Ave. Lords Pt.
1-11-16	8:56 A.M.	Fire Alarm Activation 455 Stonington Rd.
1-17-16	1:20 A.M.	Fire Alarm Activation 2 Quanaduck Rd.
1-19-16	10:05 A.M.	Fire Alarm Activation 455 Stonington Rd.
1-20-16	8:52 A.M.	Propane Gas leak 252 North Water St.
1-24-16	4:45 P.M.	Fire Alarm Activation 235 North Water St.
1-27-16	8:44 A.M.	Lift assist 14 Quanaduck Cove Ct.
1-30-16	11:12 A.M.	Fire Alarm Activation 530 Stonington Rd.

- Chief Hoadley reported the trucks are expected to leave Wisconsin on Wednesday. They will be in Rocky Hill this weekend. When they were in Wisconsin there two pages of things to be fixed and they will be repaired before they are delivered.
- Chief Hoadley has a verbal offer for the two old fire trucks; they are to go to Albania.
- A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Scala, to accept a \$5,000 offer for the two old fire engines, provided the paperwork is in order, the sale is “as is”, and the payment is made by certified check payable to the Borough of Stonington, passed unanimously.

PARKS, TREES, AND RIGHTS OF WAY (BURGESS BARNES):

- I heard from Damian Reardon and his sister, Sarah Nielsen, about the tree and plaque that will be placed in honor of Nick Reardon. They would like to use a white granite stone if possible like the one in front of the post office dedicated to Billy P. They'd like it to say “In Memory of the Borough's Faithful Arborist - Nicholas M Reardon”
- I also spoke with Alix Ogden. She and I will be meeting in the next week or two to discuss the Ogden's involvement in the tree and plaque honoring Nick and also to talk about the Wad Square tree fund.
- Virginia Montgomery contacted me to request removal of the two linden trees in front of her house at 68 Main Street.
- Email sent to Nicholas at Bartlett to look at the tree on Wadawanuck Square.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (BURGESS ADAIR):

- On behalf of Burgess Adair, Warden Callahan mentioned that while they were away in Wisconsin a couple of the sprinkler heads in the firehouse began weeping but it was caught in time. This is due to the very cold temperatures and wind last weekend. Callahan will speak with the chief about placing a wireless thermometer in the attic.

SIDEWALKS (BURGESS SCALA):

- There are eight sections of sidewalk on the southeast diagonal walk of Wadawanuck Square that should be replaced. Getting two bids.
- Warden Callahan mentioned broken sidewalk across from St. Mary's Church that needs looking at.

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

- **Police Incident Report**
During the month of January 2016 there were 57 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 22 Business Checks, 8 Burglar Alarms (6 of which were false), 5 Motor Vehicle Infractions, 4 Medical Assists, 4 Parking Complaints, 2 Disturbances, 2 Traffic Enforcement/Traffic Service and 2 Animal Control Calls. There was one incident each of Welfare Check, Nuisance Alarm Not Registered, Assist Citizen, Assist Other Agency, Escort, Motor Vehicle Abandoned and a Hit and Run Accident.

Website/Communications

No report

OLD BUSINESS:

Discuss FY 2016-17 draft budget

The most recent draft of the FY 2016-17 was handed out. The big part missing out of this is the final grand list so property tax revenue cannot yet be projected. Burgess Nicholas noted line 104 Worker's Compensation needs to be corrected. Warden Callahan asked the Burgesses to look over the budget and get back to him. The budget that will be presented at the annual meeting will be discussed again at the March meeting.

Discuss condition of wheel on Borough Cannons

Jeff Callahan summarized what has happened since the January 2016 meeting: Howard Park has removed the two wheels from the eastern Cannon. Once he began the work, he found more damage and it is a large task.

Burgess Park contacted two wheelwrights in Pennsylvania who can make the wheels out of rot resistant wood. They will still need to be sanded, painted and prepared once they return. The axel opening will be made larger so they can be turned. The cost for the four wheels will be approximately \$12,000 including the making of the four wheels, the truck, Howard's work and reinstalling the wheels. Warden Callahan suggested we go ahead with replacing two wheels. Burgess Park has been asked to give a quote on the completion of two wheels. David Clapp of the SVIA will be contacted about sharing some of the expense.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consider requests to use Borough property: None

Consider transfer of old Warden and Burgess meeting minutes (1837 – May 1979) to Stonington Historical Society custody.

It was discovered that the earliest meeting minutes are stored in the Borough Hall in a cabinet. Previous meeting minutes (1801 – 1836) were destroyed in the Great Fire of 1836.

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to transfer old Warden and Burgess meeting minutes (1837 – May 1979) to Stonington Historical Society custody and make a \$100 contribution for archival materials, passed unanimously.

Consider removal of two trees at 68 Main Street

Burgess Barnes would like to look at the trees before we decide. She will ask Brad Painter for a replacement suggestion and cost. Painter will also be asked about the feasibility of heavily pruning the existing trees rather than removing them. Matter tabled.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Barnes, adjournment of the meeting at 8:42 pm, was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman
Clerk-Treasurer
March 1, 2016