

**Borough of Stonington
Board of Warden and Burgesses
Regular Monthly Meeting – May 16, 2022
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

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 Amy Nicholas, Kevin Rogers, and Amanda Barnes; and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman. Burgess Shaun Mastroianni was absent.

Warden Callahan announced that long time Administrative Assistant for the Borough, Barbara Perry, died this week.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Burgess Barnes, seconded by Burgess Rogers, the minutes of the regular meeting of April 18, 2022, were unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Sandy Fromson, request to place bench in Wad Square.
- b. OCCC, request to use Wad Square for two movie nights
- c. Bruce MacKinnon, request to be reappointed to Harbor Management Commission.
- d. Michelle Cady, request to conduct a “Pup Fest” on Wad Square and various Borough streets.

MEETINGS/HEARINGS: None

OTHER: None

OUTGOING: None.

REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER: NONE

REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIAL REPORT

Bills for the period April 16, 2022 through May 20, 2022 totaled \$22,075.67. Net income as of May 20, 2022 is \$221,165.60.

WARDEN’S REPORT

1. Attended April SCCOG monthly meeting
2. Attended Zoom meeting with Eversource concerning EV charging stations.
3. Met with Lisa Tepper Bates and Kevin Bowdler regarding comfort station project
4. Local Covid statistics: New London County hospitalizations have increased compared to last month, while total deaths now total 660. State positivity rate has continued to increase; now at 13.7 %
5. Submitted ARPA annual Project and Expenditure Report.
6. Met with CLA Engineers regarding of storm water infrastructure assessment.

BOROUGH CLOCK – None

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Streets & Sidewalks (Callahan)

1. Conducted monthly brush pickup.
2. Water/Denison paving projects slightly delayed by Covid
3. Continued spring streets cleanup
4. Patched potholes
5. Cleaned up parks

Fire & Emergency Management (Nicholas/Hoadley)

SBFD responded 9 Alarms in April 2022, they were as follows:

- 1) 4-4-22 2:42pm Wires down IFO 91 Water St. (cable tv wire)
- 2) 4-6-22 3:05am Fire Alarm Activation 5 Coveside Lane (faulty batteries, detector)
- 3) 4-6-22 3:53pm Box Alarm 17 Hancox St. (oven fire)
- 4) 4-15-22 2:50pm MVA Harbor View Terrace @ Rt. 1 (west end) (truck vs cyclist, 1 injury to hospital)
- 5) 4-19-22 2:26am Fire Alarm Activation 5 Stonington Commons (water coming through smoke detector 2nd floor, high winds)
- 6) 4-19-22 9:00am Tree & wires down 181 Wamphassuc Pt. Rd. (high winds, EVERSOURCE enroute)
- 7) 4-19-22 10:49am Wires down IFO 29 Water St. (cable tv wire, high winds)
- 8) 4-26-22 3:37pm Smoke coming from 180 Flanders Rd. (pellet stove)
- 9) 4-30-22 9:57am Structure Fire 28 Summit St. (discarded cigar)

Police Incident Report (Nicholas)

None. The CSOs are starting around June 1st. CSOs can write parking tickets.

Parks, Trees & Rights of Way (Barnes)

No report.

Public Buildings (Mastroianni)

Jeff and I met with Jerry Olivetti who was recommended by the utility company for the charging stations on Saturday morning. Jerry was great and very knowledgeable. He explained that at each site we should consider having both option, level 2 and high speed. This would increase our grant opportunity by \$20k for each site. We review two sites, one new the fire station (church parking area) and two near the proposed comfort stations. Jerry is going to research these two locations for use to determine if they are valid. A few notes from the meeting: Each unit will be able to charge two cars, once the car is fully charged we can have an ideal fee to encourage people to move their cars, and we can have a rate for Borough residents and another for everyone else.

In addition, the Ocean Chamber grant committee met and awarded grants, but there is still money left, so there will be a round two. We awarded: Indulge Coffee and Sandwiches \$2k, Roberta Freitas Antiques \$2k, Maggie Lee Designs \$2k, Custom Planned Interiors/Repertoire \$2k, Stonington Garden Club \$2k, and Carolyn Yost Antiques \$2k. We have \$7k left to award.

Utilities & Sanitation (Rogers)

Eight yellow bag notices were given this month.

Warden Callahan asked Burgess Rogers to get back to Teresa Jackman regarding redundant utility poles.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Status of COVID-19 in region and State

See Warden’s Report above

Discuss memorial plaques, trees etc.

Will be discussed in New Business

Cannabis use on public/Borough property

Tabled

Art Walk (9/17) request from Stonington Borough Merchants Association

A motion by Burgess Barnes, seconded by Burgess Rogers, to approve the Art Walk on September 17, 2022 from 10 am to 3 pm, was unanimously approved. Water Street will be closed to traffic between Pearl and Church Streets; police are required to direct traffic and proof of insurance is required.

Discuss Ordinance enforcement mechanism --Tabled

NEW BUSINESS

Consider requests to use Borough property

Sandra Fromson request to place bench on Wad Square in memory of her husband, Howard.

Tabled until a policy on memorials has been adopted.

A motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to approve the request by Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce to use a portion of Wad Square for movie nights on July 26th and August 9th, was unanimously approved.

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Rogers, to approve the request by Michelle Cady to use Wad Square and various streets for a “pup fest” on Saturday October 1, 2022 from 12-3 pm, was unanimously approved. A police officer or animal control officer is required at the end of the parade for safety.

A motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to reappoint Bruce MacKinnon to the Stonington Harbor Management Committee with the term ending June 30, 2025, was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Naming of a Subcommittee for the Comfort Station building

Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Rogers, moved to appoint a subcommittee of the comfort station building committee. Members: Lisa Tepper Bates, Kevin Bowdler, Janet McClendon Vaskas, Deb Norman, and Shaun Mastroianni. The purpose of the subcommittee is to assess resident support for and financing options to construct the comfort station on Wadawanuck Square, following the design developed last fall. Motion was unanimously approved. Warden Callahan will notify all sub committee members.

Traffic Committee Report

Megan, Allen Vaskas, Jesse Diggs, Kevin Rogers, Judy Spillman have met and will meet again May 19th.

Discuss EV Station

There are grants available through Eversource from the State of CT to municipalities that want to install EV Stations. Warden Callahan and Burgess Mastroianni have met with Jerry Olivetti of Inovis Eneer about potential locations. Olivetti suggested two locations with one level two and one super charging station at each location. Up to two cars per station. Waiting for Olivetti to get feedback from EverSource.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Burgess Barnes, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, adjournment of the meeting at 8:18 p.m., was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa M. Coleman
May 24, 2022