

**Board of Warden and Burgesses
Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting ~ October 19, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

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

Warden Callahan opened the meeting by noting the tragic death of Nick Reardon, long time resident of Stonington. Nick was a true son of the Borough, born and raised here. More than that, he contributed to the beauty of the Borough by caring for its trees for many years. He was a man of few words, but all of us knew him and will miss him.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- On a motion by Burgess Adair, seconded by Burgess Barnes, the minutes from the Board meeting held on September 21, 2015, were unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT (PERRY):

- Received Tax collection payment: \$4,903.98
- Received VFIS Insurance Claim: \$17,660.60
- Processed quarterly reports

CORRESPONDENCE:

Other:

- Town of Stonington: notice of public hearing on 11/4 and proposed regulation amendment
- Town of Stonington: notice of public hearing on 11/17 and proposed regulation amendment

Request:

- SVIA: application for Christmas Stroll/Tree Lighting/Carol Sing
- Bernard/Tary: curb cut request for 77 Main Street
- United Church of Stonington: request to post sign for 10/24 Craft Bazaar

Invitations/Meetings:

- SCWA: Representative Advisory Board meeting on 10/15

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT (COLEMAN):

- None

REVIEW OF BILLS:

The 9/21/2015 through 10/16/2015 report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Bills for the period totaled \$103,532.55.

REVIEW OF PROFIT/LOSS STATEMENT:

The July 2015 through October 16, 2015 Budget vs. Actual P&L Report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of October 16, 2015 is \$595,754.03.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

WARDEN’S REPORT:

- Dog Park: The Town has been notified that the residents whose house abuts the dog park intend to sue the Town and numerous individual employees. The Borough is not named in the notice.
- Worked with PURA and EverSource to accelerate removal of redundant utility poles. Borough fire alarm boxes and wires need to be moved from two poles.
- Attended annual legislative breakfast at SCCOG. Major concern over Governor’s budget rescissions, especially Municipal Aid. Town of Stonington lost \$20k, but Borough not affected.
- On October 27th there will be a drill to test the ability to evacuate Fishers Island in the event of a major incident at Millstone. The New London ferry will go to F.I. about 0730, pick up a token number of passengers, then bring them to the fishing dock in Stonington Harbor, where they will arrive about 0900. This exercise is done every two or three years.
- Worked with Tree Commissioner, Brad Painter, and Tom Moore to coordinate installation of new trees on Main Street.
- Coordinated with architectural consultant on historical building survey to be done in the Village October 20 - 23. Met with survey leader, Kelly Wittie, from Goodwin & Associates, Inc., on October 5th.

SANITATION/UTILITIES REPORT

- Reported street light outage on High Street

BOROUGH CLOCK

- None

STREETS (BURGESS PARK):

- The crew repaired a few potholes, repainted handicap parking spot on Water Street, and placed notices on Gold Street, reseeded and fertilized Cannon Square. They opened the outflow on Diving Street, cleared the grates of the catch basins after the heavy rain and cleaned up the seaweed on East Grand St. Picked up branches on Wadawanuck Square and Pearl St. Replaced broken globe on Wad Sq. Fixed twisted sign post and moved “dead end” sign on Broad Street.
- The leaf vac was worked on in preparation for annual leaf pick up and bucket placed on tractor. Both mower decks have had blades sharpened.
- Gold Street has been paved and sinkholes on Hancox St. scheduled for repair, which can begin anytime after this coming Friday.
- Tree was posted on Main St. between Grand and Elm Streets.

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

- There were 12 alarms in September 2015

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|--------|----------|--|
| 9/7/15 | 10:16 am | Fire Alarm Activation 106 Water St |
| 9/7/15 | 5:17 pm | Tree on Wires Power Out IFO 6 Meadow Ave |
| 9/7/15 | 5:50 pm | Odor of Propane American Velvet Mill |
| 9/8/15 | 4:22 pm | Wires Down McGrath Court |
| 9/9/15 | 3:49 pm | Odor of Gas Shell Station |
| 9/9/15 | 5:50 pm | Odor of Gas Shell Station |

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| 9/12/15 | 7:00 pm | Stand By Stonington Point Boat Taking on Water |
| 9/16/15 | 3:42 pm | Oil Sheen in Water. Breakwater Restaurant |
| 9/16/15 | 4:15 pm | MVA Flanders Road at Shawondassee Dr |
| 9/23/15 | 8:23 am | Fire alarm activation 95 Main St. |
| 9/23/15 | 5:37 pm | Fire alarm activation 455 Stonington Rd. |
| 9/30/15 | 2:40 pm | Box 5 SBFD Set Off by Worker Testing Sprinkler System |

- This Sunday, October 25, SBFD sponsoring the Borough Halloween parade.
- This Monday, October 26, the ladder truck is going out for two weeks for the bodywork. Pawcatuck will cover the ladder truck.

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

- None

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (BURGESS ADAIR):

- **Borough Hall Roof and Chimney:**

On Friday Oct 16, I met with Peter Springsteel and the contractor he has recommended to study the on-site work to be done on both issues. The new drawings were presented and discussed with a copy left with the contractor. The roof, gutters and “puddles” were studied, as was an external evaluation of the chimney and leakage problems along the outside of the elevator shaft and the stove area in the kitchen.

It was agreed to proceed with detailed recommendations and estimates and to meet again on Monday Oct 26 on both issues.

- **The O’Malley Tree Takedown:**

The huge fir on the O’Malley property is scheduled to be taken down on that same Monday Oct 26 by both a crane and perhaps a bucket lift as well. Part of the O’Malley fence will have to be temporarily removed for access by the equipment needed. The O’Malley’s are aware and have agreed to the project as outlined. I will alert Susan and Roger. The project will require temporary closing off of Church Street with cones. I will look into police notification prior to the action.

- **The Firehouse New Furnace Project**

The furnace is truly an art piece in size, design and efficiency. If any of you can go see how different these new systems are compared to the behemoth Titanic style boiler units that we have had in the past, I would encourage all of you to give the firehouse a visit and check it out. It is quite amazing.

- Burgess Park mentioned that there is still a spot in the garage for a generator. He has an offer of a donated gasoline fueled generator. This year’s capital improvement program does not include funds to cover the installation cost, so we will defer this item until next year.

SIDEWALKS (BURGESS SCALA):

- None

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

- **Police Incident Report**
During the month of September 2015 there were 43 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 8 Burglar Alarms (all false), 5 Suspicious Activities, 5 Medical Assist, 3 Assist Other Agency, 3 Fire Alarm Calls, 3 Assist Citizens, 3 Public/General Information Initiations and 2 Nuisance Complaints. There were 3 incidents relating to Motor Vehicles including a Hit and Run Accident. There were one incident each of Animal Control, 911 Hang up, Vandalism, Larceny, Criminal Mischief, Trespassing, Threatening and a Welfare Check.
- **Website/Communications**
No report

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Discuss forming audit committee**
Warden Callahan has approached a couple of residents to be on the audit committee. Warden Callahan and Burgess Nicholas have agreed to be on an ad hoc audit committee.
- **Plans for historical survey of Village, Oct 20-26**
The survey team from New Orleans begins work tomorrow, October 20. The work is being done on behalf of the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Rights-of-Way (ROW) discussion and walk**
Warden Callahan has spent much time reading the 2008 report which is a rehash of the 2001 report, so it is 15 years old. He went on the Town GIS and only four ROWs are shown ROWs. He will talk with Borough attorney about what defines a Right of Way and who owns the rights of ways (Borough or Town). Warden Callahan will talk with Betty Croteau, who was on the last ROW committee.
- **Consider requests to use Borough property**
On a motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, the application from the SVIA to use Wadawanuck Square and Water Street on December 4 from 5:30 -8:30 pm for Holiday Stroll/Tree Lighting/Carol Singing was unanimously approved.
- **Consider curb cut request – 77 Main Street**
On a motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Blair, the application to allow a 20 foot curb cut on the north side of High Street, approximately sixty feet east of the corner of Main and High streets, was unanimously approved.

Burgess Park requested the granite be removed and given to the highway department to use elsewhere.

The contractor will contact Burgess Park.
- **Consider removing failing dogwood tree on Main St.**
Tabled. One notice rather than the two required by the Borough tree policy were posted on the tree. The second notice will be posted.

- **Consider revisions to SBO-7, Garbage and Recycling**
On a motion by Warden Jeff Callahan, seconded by Burgess Adair, changes in SBO-07 were unanimously approved. Changes include changing the title; changing Paragraph 3 to read “The Borough may provide for collection and disposal of leaves, clippings, brush, and other garden materials. Such materials shall be placed at curbside on the appointed days. They shall be contained in paper (not plastic) bags or open containers or in bundles tied with string. The bundles shall be no longer than 4 feet and weigh less than 40 pounds. Material not conforming to these requirements will not be picked up by the Borough Street Department and must be removed by the resident.” Finally, in Paragraph 9, “Flow Control Ordinance” was changed to “Solid Waste Ordinance.”

In November, the highway crew is to distribute a notice of the ordinance change to every homeowner. December is when the ordinance will go into effect.

Burgess Blair asked that in the future the Borough use USPS to distribute the ordinance(s) changes. He will investigate the mailing costs.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Burgess Barnes and Warden Callahan suggest that we replace the last tree Nick Reardon worked on in the Borough (the small tree on Wad Square) and dedicate it to him. Burgess Barnes to tell the family and get wording for what they want on the plaque. Barnes and Callahan will decide where to plant the new tree in Wad Square.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Burgess Park, adjournment of the meeting at 8:35PM was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman
Clerk-Treasurer
October 27, 2015